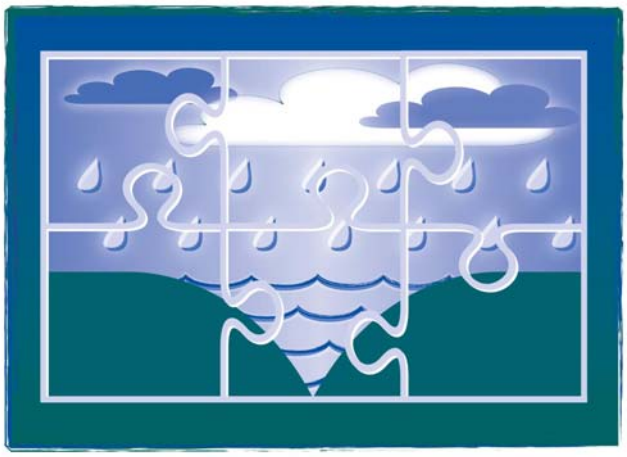

# GUELPH WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN

## PUBLIC FORUM #2 SUMMARY REPORT

March 21, 2006
Holiday Inn
Guelph, Ontario

City of Guelph

This Summary Report was prepared by Lura Consulting. Lura is providing third-party public consultation services as part of the process to develop the Guelph Water Supply Master Plan. This summary captures the key discussion points from the March 21st, 2006 Public Forum #2. It is not intended as a verbatim transcript, and is subject to review by forum participants. If you have any questions or comments regarding the summary, please contact either:


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# GUELPH WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN
# PUBLIC FORUM #2: SUMMARY REPORT

MARCH 21ST 2006, 6:00 P.M.– 9:30 P.M.
Holiday Inn – GUELPH

## 1. ABOUT THE WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN PUBLIC FORUM #2

The March 21st Public Forum was the second hosted by the City of Guelph Waterworks Division to receive feedback from the public as part of the Guelph Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) process. Specifically, Public Forum #2 was designed to seek participant feedback on water supply alternatives, the evaluation of these alternatives, and the draft implementation plan.

This summary report focuses primarily on the feedback and comments provided by the meeting participants. It provides a high level summary of the key presentation points, group discussions and feedback received following the forum. The complete PowerPoint presentation provided by the WSMP project team is available on the project website at www.guelph.ca.

Approximately 120 people attended Public Forum #2, including City of Guelph Councillors, City staff, WSMP Public Advisory Committee members, representatives of adjacent municipalities, University of Guelph students and members of the general public. The forum agenda is attached as Appendix A and the list of participants who registered is included in Appendix B. Appendix C provides detailed participant feedback received at the public forum, and Appendix D includes all additional comments received after the forum.

## 2. WELCOMING AND OPENING REMARKS

**Councillor David Birtwistle, City of Guelph**

Councillor Birtwistle welcomed participants to the meeting and thanked them for coming and for taking the time to contribute their input on water supply alternatives for Guelph. He encouraged everyone to provide their opinions and comments on the water supply alternatives presented. He stated that the City and the project team would listen to participants' comments and take these into account in refining the Master Plan recommendations for presentation to City Council. He added that the results of the forum deliberations will be shared with the neighbouring communities and stakeholders involved in the consultations as part of the Master Plan process.

**Dave Dilks, Lura Consulting, Facilitator**

Mr. Dilks welcomed participants and explained that Lura Consulting has been retained to assist the City and the consulting team with the public consultation and communications components of this project. He reviewed the agenda and meeting materials and indicated that copies of the complete Master Plan report – *Summary of Water Supply Alternatives and Preliminary Evaluation* – are available on request. Mr. Dilks explained that the purpose of the meeting was to present the water supply alternatives and preliminary recommendations and hear participants' views.

Project team member Tony Lotimer reviews display boards with a public forum participant.

## 3. OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

The Earth Tech team, led by project manager John Haasen, provided an overview presentation on the WSMP alternatives and proposed implementation plan.

**WSMP Master Plan Update**

Mr. Haasen provided an update on the Master Plan, which included the project status and how feedback from the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) and the general public had been used to date.

Mr. Haasen stressed that the WSMP is a separate process from the City's Growth Management Strategy and indicated that the project team has made allowances for a number of potential growth scenarios in developing the recommended water supply alternatives and implementation plan.

He reviewed the project's next steps, which are to revise the WSMP based on feedback received from the public forum and stakeholder consultations, and present the alternatives and recommended implementation plan to City Council in April or May.

**Summary of Water Supply Alternatives**

Mr. Haasen provided an overview description of the water supply alternatives, which include: Demand Management/Other Alternatives; Groundwater Alternatives; and Surface Water Alternatives.

The Demand Management/Other Alternatives include:

- Water conservation and demand management - unaccounted for water, pricing controls and education;
- Reuse of water - rain barrels, non-potable system (dual system); and/or
- Limit growth.

Mr. Haasen noted that the "do nothing" alternative was included as required by the EA process as a benchmark from which to measure the other alternatives.

The Groundwater Supply Alternatives include:

- Existing wells – using non-municipal, optimized wells with permits, or wells with treatment;
- New wells – using wells inside and outside the City (subject to collaboration with neighbours); and
- Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR).

The Surface Water Supply Alternatives include:

- Local surface water supply – Guelph Lake reservoir and/or Eramosa River to supplement the groundwater supply; and
- Great Lakes – partial or full supply from Lake Erie via a pipeline.

**Groundwater Alternatives – Tony Lotimer, Lotowater Geoscience Consultants**

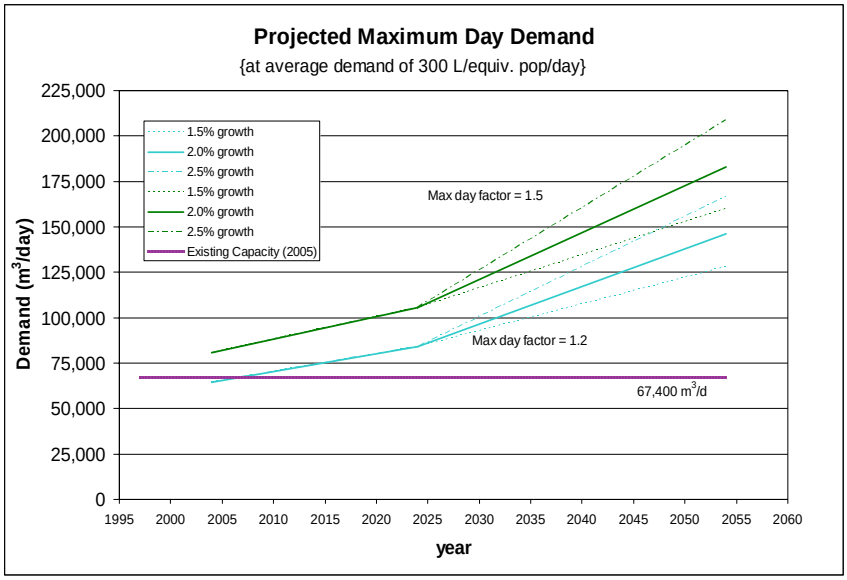
Tony Lotimer provided a more detailed discussion of groundwater supply alternatives. He indicated that the project team's review of groundwater alternatives included an examination of all the available background information including a detailed assessment of existing wells and existing hydrogeological data and two recent studies – the Guelph-Puslinch Study and the Guelph Lime Study.

Mr. Lotimer indicated that the City has an existing well capacity of 66,000 $m^3$/day with a total potential of 75,000 – 90,000 $m^3$/day with the inclusion of additional water from new sources.

Mr. Lotimer reviewed potential new groundwater supply sites both in the city and surrounding area. He stressed that "potential supplies" differ from "probable" or "proven" supplies and require further studies to assess their feasibility. He also noted that environmental impacts and concerns have not been addressed in great detail but would have to be with more detailed environmental studies.

## Projected Maximum Day Demand – John Haasen, Earth Tech

Water demand projections were made to estimate how much water is needed over the course of the 50-year planning period. Mr. Haasen explained there are two key elements to consider with demand projections: the average day demand which is how much water is required during an average 24-hour period, and the maximum day demand which is the average of the highest five days of water use during the year.




In Guelph the Average Day Demand is 300 L/ equivalent population/ day, which includes both residential and non-residential populations.

The Projected Maximum Day Demand figure on the left uses two maximum day factors – the current maximum day factor for Guelph (1.2), and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment Guidelines for the Design of Water Distribution Systems maximum day factors for a city with a population greater than 150,000 (1.5).

The Projected Maximum Day Demand figure also provides three population growth scenarios: low (1.5%); medium (2.0%); and high (2.5%). The lowest scenario uses the projection from the City of Guelph's current Official Plan while the highest is from the Provincial Places to Grow, Better Choices, Brighter Futures 2004 document. The 2% growth scenario presents an option in the middle.

## Surface Water Alternatives – Joe Gemin and John Haasen, Earth Tech

Mr. Gemin explained that in terms of surface water alternatives, the project team considered two main options: aquifer storage recovery (ASR) or continuous takings from local or regional supplies.

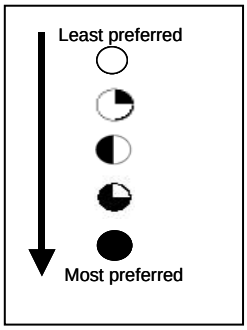
At a local level, surface water supplies include:

- Eramosa River – seasonal taking for ASR without affecting downstream water quality/quantity (150-368 L/sec); and/or
- Guelph Lake reservoir – potential for additional continuous takings of 150 L/sec or seasonable takings for ASR equivalent to 300 - 500 L/sec.

Both of these options would require water treatment to meet water quality standards through screening, pre-treatment, advanced oxidation, chlorination and residuals management. The ASR options would also require hydrogeological studies to confirm feasibility.

The regional surface water option involves examining water supply from Lake Erie. This would involve water intake at the existing Nanticoke Water Treatment Plant and a pipeline providing water to a number of municipalities within the watershed. With this option, Guelph would have to take into consideration the International Joint Commission and Ontario government regulations that prohibit transfers between basins. Guelph would also have to ensure wastewater is released back into Lake Erie as well. The project team looked at both partial and total replacement of Guelph's current groundwater-based system with the pipeline option.

**Environmental Assessment Evaluation Process and Outputs – John Haasen**




Mr. Haasen described the process that was used to evaluate the alternatives. Alternatives were ranked/scored in order of preference using a pie chart with values ranging from 0 to 8 (0 being the most positive, and 8 being the most negative). The ratings were normalized for each criteria grouping to reach a total rating, allowing them to be compared. He showed the participants a sample chart to demonstrate how the evaluation process worked and presented an evaluation output summary.

**Preliminary Implementation Plan Recommendations – John Haasen**

Mr. Haasen provided a brief overview of the short, mid, and long term recommended implementation plan components.

The short term (2006 – 2010) recommendations include:

- Fully implement the City's Water Conservation and Efficiency Strategy;
- Undertake a Water Rate study in 2007 as per Bill 175 requirements;
- Confirm wastewater reuse by 2007;
- Confirm and increase capacity of existing municipal wells;
- Resolve outstanding issues with Arkell Class Environmental Assessment (EA);
- Investigate and confirm treatment requirements for existing wells;
- Initiate further EA work needed to expand existing wells and establish new wells within the City for implementation in 2009;
- Initiate discussions with neighbouring municipalities and relevant agencies to discuss the feasibility of developing new wells outside of the City and/or new local surface water supplies;
- Confirm via technical study the merits and feasibility of ASR; and
- Participate in discussions with municipalities in the Grand River watershed as well as provincial and federal agencies regarding the viability of a Great Lakes Water supply.

The mid term (2010 – 2025) recommendations include:

- Continue water conservation efforts with an objective of achieving a 15% average day reduction;
- Expand the existing water supply system by adding existing wells that require treatment upgrades, adding new wells inside the City boundaries, and adding new wells outside the City boundaries that have been agreed upon with neighbouring municipalities;
- Begin to put in place infrastructure to support new local and/or Great Lake surface water supplies; and
- Revise the Master Plan on a 5 year cycle.

The long term (2025 – 2054) recommendations depend on the decisions made in the next few years about the future supplies of water for the City. Once these decisions are made, infrastructure improvements can begin during the mid-term phase to be ready for implementation in the longer term.

## 4. PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

This section provides an overview of the feedback received from participants at the public forum (small table and plenary discussions and individual feedback from workbooks) and through written comments following the forum. For a detailed compilation of all comments received at the forum, please see Appendix C. For a compilation of written comments received following the forum, please see Appendix D.

**General Questions, Comments and Concerns:**

Immediately following the presentation, and prior to commencing the small table discussions, Dave Dilks asked participants if they had any questions directly related to the presentation. The following identifies the participants' questions (identified with 'Q') or comments (identified with 'C'), with responses from the project team (where provided) in *italics*.

C1: The first forum was not well publicized. I heard about this one but not the first meeting.

Q1: I am concerned about the growth rates used for the Master Plan because City Council has not adopted a position on growth. What input will be used for growth from the City? When will growth management planning happen? Who will be leading that process and how will the public be involved?

*A: The City has a separate growth management study process that will include public consultation. The final growth management strategy and growth rate will be determined with public input. The projections we have used extend to 2025, and that is why we included a number of growth options, so the City can make adjustments if needed when the growth rate is determined.*

Q2: Why has the Guelph/Puslinch groundwater study report been draft since August? I am also interested to know how much water Nestle is using.

*A: Lorrie Minshall of the GRCA responded that there were a large number of questions and comments about the groundwater study report and the consultant is now finalizing the report. She expects to be available to the public in a month or so.*

*Ms. Minshall explained that the water use information in the groundwater study report is based for the most part on field research, while some water use information comes from the MOE and some from water takings information. She was not sure if actual takings are listed for each organization/business but indicated that readers can see relative amounts of water taken for various uses. She indicated that there are other studies which will be released shortly including: an update of the Mill Creek Watershed Study; and further work on the water use estimates takings for whole area.*

Participants provide feedback during the forum

Q3: With the pipeline alternative, there is a large amount of water coming out of Lake Erie for a number of municipalities. What are the chances that the International Joint Commission (IJC) will say no to that option given that we have groundwater supplies and haven't done as much conservation as possible?

*A:* *No doubt the City will have to exhaust conservation efforts first. A permit for water taking has already been given for Nanticoke. There are two issues that will also play a significant role in evaluating this alternative: (1) cost sharing and (2) the return of water to the same source it is taken from, so there are both financial and environmental considerations. At this point, the project team is just pointing out that if City is considering the Great Lakes pipeline alternative at all, then the it should start thinking about it now.*

Q4: The Guelph Puslinch Study (2005) is limited in scope and makes questionable assumptions. The project team has based a lot of information on that report. Did the City also use hydrogeological quadrant studies, the Mill Creek Watershed Study and others to determine groundwater supplies?

*A:* *The WSMP is not an EA, but a master planning process, which is broader in scope. Once the WSMP is approved, there are more detailed studies that need to be conducted to determine the feasibility of the alternatives presented, which will most likely be conducted as a Schedule B or C Class EA.*

*The studies you mentioned were all considered when developing the groundwater supply options. On the maps here, we have just identified large areas where water supply exists and represented them as large circles but the actual area could be much smaller due to land use impacts to be assessed in future detailed studies.*

Q5: The Provincial Policy Statement indicates that headwaters are to be protected; so why is the City considering potential water supplies in headwater zones? And why is the City considering water supplies near the landfill site and associated leachate plum?

A: *As previously indicated, the maps presented at this stage show large areas where further water supply exists. These areas may include headwaters, landfill sites, etc., because the detailed studies have not been conducted to examine in detail the impacts of land uses and regulations. Once these are taken into consideration, the actual areas could be smaller.*

Q6: Have you consulted the Ministry of the Environment (MOE)?

*A:* *The MOE has been included as part of the consultations with agencies and municipalities throughout the master planning process.*

Q7: There is a lot of discussion about the collapse of the Great Lakes ecosystem, and suppose we opt for the pipeline alternative and the Great Lakes ecosystem does collapse. Then what will the City do?

Participant discussions during breakout sessions

C2: Guelph should not consider growing.

Q8: What is the expected population for the City of Guelph in 2025?

*A: The population estimate is 159,000, which includes residential estimates and an equivalent value for industry.*

Q9: Assuming the current plans for residential housing, what is the maximum water the City of Guelph can take?

*A: This will be included in the growth management strategy that will look at footprints.*

Q10: Since the beginning of the study, the project team seems to be intrigued with southeastern corner of Guelph. Why is there no description of research going on around the City of Guelph?

*A: NEED RESPONSE?*

Q11: What percentage of Guelph's water supply comes from Arkell?

*A: Peter Busatto, City of Guelph responded that the Arkell system consists of a number of supplies, and when they are added together, comprise approximately 60% of the City's water on an average day.*

Q12: Why isn't the Arkell supply included in the information today? If Arkell already supplies 60% of Guelph's water and we are thinking about increasing it substantially, then Arkell supplies need to be considered.

*A: Arkell is part of a separate EA process and that is why it is not included in the information here. The City is not ignoring Arkell, but there is no need to do additional work because the EA is already happening.*

## 5. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### 1. What feedback do you have on the water supply alternatives?

The feedback from participants at Public Forum #2 is presented according to the three main categories of water supply alternatives: demand management; groundwater supplies; and surface water supplies.

Participants stressed that conservation should be a top priority for the City, and that the City's efforts in this area need to be intensified and maximized as a first step in water supply planning. Many indicated that there is a need for further studies to determine the feasibility of the groundwater supplies identified. In terms of surface water alternatives, participants raised concern about water quality issues associated with surface sources. Many participants indicated opposition to the pipeline alternative, but some suggested that the City should at least investigate the option at this time. Participants also provided a number of comments about the master plan process emphasizing that cost is a significant factor to be considered, as well as the inclusion of businesses and industry in the solutions put forward. For more detailed participant feedback, see Appendix C.

## COMMENTS ON THE WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES

### Water Conservation and Demand Management

**Conservation:**

- Strongly support conservation and improvements must be made to the City's efforts;
- Conservation and unaccounted water has huge savings potential;
- Maximize conservation, ensure 15% target is met, and encourage incentives for water conservation;
- Adopt an aggressive approach to reduce leakage to 8%; and
- Support living within aquifer capacity.

**Demand Management:**

- Support pricing control and education;
- Support reuse and dual use; and
- Support monitoring industrial and commercial use of water and developing procedures for recording/report water waste.

**Limit Growth:**

- Growth is not inevitable in Guelph; and
- The City administration needs to take a stance on implementing world class energy and water conservation which will drive how growth occurs.

### Groundwater Alternatives

Many participants support ASR, however some indicated ASR should be considered as a last resort once conservation efforts are enhanced. They also raised concerns about risks of contaminating the aquifer.

Participants indicated that water should not be taken from tertiary headwaters, and that wellheads and wetlands need to be protected.

### Surface Water Alternatives

Water quality concerns:

- Need to consider water quality and treatment implications; and
- Need to treat pharmaceuticals in surface water.

Many participants indicated they were not in favour of the pipeline option:

- The City should not be going in this direction at any time; and
- The pipeline has social, economic and environmental problems, so it is not a feasible solution.

Some indicated that the pipeline should be considered:

- We don't think the pipeline is a solution, but will let it stay on the table, recognizing that growth does occur. If it is considered it needs to be managed properly; and
- We do not favour the Great Lakes pipeline option, but the City should start discussions with neighbours about shared facilities.

| COMMENTS ON THE WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES |
|---|
| A few suggested that surface water or pipeline are good alternatives:<br>• The pipeline is the best option because the other alternatives are only stop-gap measures. Our group had concern that the City may lose access to water taking permit if we don't use it. Growth will ultimately occur, so it is better to plan for it.<br>• It's appropriate to pursue the Great Lakes water supply option as part of this study.<br><br>Questions surrounding the pipeline option:<br>• We share the Lake Erie watershed system with the U.S. They don't respect our water standards, so what will protect our water quality?<br>• Lake Erie is shallow, so who will pay to dredge it for the ship carriers we need? |
| **Master Plan Process** |
| • Consultants have used the feedback we have provided, and are suggesting the selection of water supply alternatives is entirely in our community's hands;<br>• Consultants did not take weighting into account and took all criteria equally; and<br>• How can the public make a decision when we don't know how much we are impacted on our taxes? (*Response from John Haasen – the costs are identified on tables for surface water options as costs per m3. with regard to UV there would be additional treatment required for additional supply.*) |

Following the public forum, the project team received a number of additional written comments from the public. The following are some of the key points made by those who submitted written comments.

**Conservation -** Similar to the feedback received at the forum, there was a strong emphasis on water conservation and demand management as respondents indicated that there should be a strong investment in this alternative. Some respondents indicated that the City should adopt a policy to attract industries and businesses that do not require large amounts of water and that the City should attempt to "live within the means" of the water supply. Many indicated that industries need to be included in conservation plans and suggested that the University of Guelph should act as a leader. Respondents suggested many conservation mechanisms that should be pursued by the City.

**Groundwater Alternatives -** A number of respondents supported upgrading existing wells, treating contaminated wells, and searching for new wells within City boundaries. Some respondents indicated that Guelph's water taking should not have a detrimental effect on wells in neighbouring communities, or on the flow of streams and rivers. Many also supported ASR, while others were concerned about the potential for aquifer contamination with this option.

**Surface Water Alternatives -** The majority of comments centered on opposition to the Great Lakes pipeline. Respondents felt that the full costs – including financial and environmental – must be fully considered. A few respondents indicated they support using surface water from Guelph Lake and other sources. Like those attending the session, respondents had a number of concerns about ensuring water quality with surface water alternatives. Pesticides, herbicides, carcinogens and bacteria were all cited as threats to water quality.

For more detailed written comments received following the public forum, see Appendix D.

## 2. What feedback do you have on the draft preliminary implementation plan? In particular, what recommendations do you support and why? What would you do differently and why?

Participants suggested starting with the most easily implementable solutions first. They reaffirmed strong support for conservation measures; limiting growth in Guelph; and opposition to the pipeline. They had a number of suggestions for improving the assessment of alternatives and implementation plan recommendations, including addressing the timeline and costs for alternatives. For more detailed participant feedback, see Appendix C.

### Comments on the Draft Implementation Plan

#### General Feedback on the Draft Implementation Plan

Participants indicated that:

- The plan seems to be looking at the most of the realistic alternatives, so the City should focus on picking low hanging fruit first;
- The City needs to be serious about conservation measures and finance them; and
- There is significant work to be done to get from the current situation to any of the described alternatives.

#### Supported Recommendations/Alternatives

**Conservation**

- Participants expressed strong support for conservation and suggested that the City include: banning lawn watering; promoting low flush or dual flush toilets; promoting the use of cisterns; and wastewater recycling for industrial use instead of use in homes or recharge.

**Groundwater**

- Develop new wells in area in city and outside city boundaries; and
- Support recommendations that allow us to live within our current water capacity.

**Limit Growth**

- Participants emphasized a need for a responsible growth management strategy, recognizing that growth is not beyond our control.

**Pipeline**

- Participants generally opposed the pipeline or identified it as a lower priority.

#### Suggested Changes

Participants suggested that the implementation plan include:

- Costs of the various options;
- Options that can start now;
- Growth plan numbers;
- Monitoring of industrial water use;
- Gravel landscaping; and
- Aquifer recovery rate and assess whether it is normal or not.

Following the public forum, the project team received a number of additional written comments from the public. The following are some of the key recommendations made by those who submitted additional comments.

- The City should avoid privatization of water services in Guelph;
- The City's development strategy (particularly in regards to residential housing) should be an integral part of the Water Supply Master Plan;
- Pesticide use should be considered in the Water Supply Master Plan;
- The City should be encouraging conservation and long term sustainability of our local water supply
- The WSMP should provide information on water volumes and relative percentages used by each of the ICI sectors (industrial, institutional, commercial), including:
    - total (approx) water usage, and % of the whole, by industry;
    - total (approx) water usage, and % of the whole, by commercial enterprises; and
    - total (approx) water usage, and % of the whole, by the University, hospitals and schools;
- The WSMP should indicate that the City (or Earthtech) has maintained a record of written public input received that is available for viewing upon request.

For more detailed comments received following the public forum, see Appendix D.

## 6. NEXT STEPS

David Dilks thanked everyone for their participation and feedback at the forum and noted that advice will be incorporated into a report to be circulated to all participants.

Dave Belanger expressed appreciation on behalf of the City of Guelph and project team for the ideas and feedback provided by participants at the forum.

# APPENDIX A: AGENDA

## City of Guelph Water Supply Master Plan:
## PUBLIC FORUM #2

**Tuesday, March 21st, 2006, 6:00 – 9:30 p.m.**
**The Holiday Inn, 601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph**

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*Meeting Focus: To receive feedback from the public on water supply alternatives and the draft preliminary implementation plan for the City of Guelph Water Supply Master Plan.*

### AGENDA

| | |
|---|---|
| 6:00 p.m | Open House<br>Opportunity for participants to view displays and meet informally with City staff and consultant team |
| 7:00 p.m. | Welcome and Opening Remarks – City of Guelph |
| 7:10 p.m. | Meeting Purpose and Agenda Review – Dave Dilks, Facilitator |
| 7:15 p.m. | Update on the City of Guelph Water Supply Master Plan<br>– John Haasen, Earth Tech |
| 7:25 p.m. | Summary of Alternatives and Draft Preliminary Implementation Plan<br>– John Haasen, Earth Tech<br>• Water supply alternatives<br>• Evaluation of alternatives<br>• Draft preliminary implementation plan and recommendations |
| 7:55 p.m. | Question and Answer Period |
| 8:10 p.m | Health Break |
| 8:20 p.m. | Roundtable Discussion<br>Thinking about the information presented by the Project Team…<br>1. *What feedback do you have on the water supply alternatives?*<br>2. *What feedback do you have on the draft preliminary implementation plan? In particular, what recommendations do you support and why? What would you do differently and why?* |
| 8:55 p.m. | Roundtable Highlights and Plenary Discussion |
| 9:25 p.m. | Closing Remarks – City of Guelph |
| 9:30 p.m. | Adjourn |

# APPENDIX B: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The following is a list of participants who signed in at the Public Forum #2:

| NAME | ORGANIZATION | NAME | ORGANIZATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| Daron Abbey | | Bruce Lowe | |
| Francois Alatier | Golder Associates | Stephanie Mackellan | Guelph Mercury |
| Brian Auim | | Kevin Mackenzie | Golder Associates |
| Ben Bennett | Residents for Sust. Dev. | Nancy Madter | Gartner Lee |
| Michael Bradon | | Dan Maitland | |
| James Brydges | | Lorrie Marshall | Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) |
| Susan Buchanan | Anishnebey Outreach | Bill McAdams | Retired |
| Kristi Channing | | Robert Mercler | |
| Eric Coulombe | Waterloo Hydrogeologic | Bill Mungall | |
| Ray Culver | | Mike Nagmy | |
| Danna Danielli | Halton Compass | Graham Naucekivell | |
| Dow Davidson | | Jean Nichol | |
| Caesar De Bernardi | Golder Associates | Randy Norris | |
| Goretty Dias | | John Phillips | |
| David Dorion | | Larra Phillips | |
| H. Dumoulin | Resident | Mike Pirie | |
| Lorne Emery | Kortwright Hills | Helen Purdy | Mill Creek Subwatershed Community Liaison Team (CLT) |
| C. Ferraro | Resident | Anne Secord | Puslinch resident |
| Christine Furlong | Triton Engineering | Dave Sharpe | |
| Mark Goldberg | | Judy Sharpe | |
| Bill Gurrie | | George Sousa | GRCA |
| Judy Gurrie | | Fred Stahlbaum | Mill Creek Subwatershed CLT |
| Chris Hanel | KMK Consultants Ltd. | Jean Stahlbaum | Mill Creek Subwatershed CLT |
| John Hart | | Chris Stee | |
| Ellen Higgins | | Susan Verjpagen | |
| Jim Hoane | Clairfields neighbourhood group | Merle Giffen | |
| Eric Hodges | | Bruce Watson | |
| Nick Hodges | Gartner Lee | Don Weiss | |
| David Hopkins | ICT Burnside | Rendir Westerhoff | |
| Frank Jackson | | Barry White | |
| Alde Jong | | Kathy White | |
| Jan Jotriet | | Hugh Whiteley | School of Engineering - |
| David Knight | | Bev Wozniak | Mill Creek Subwatershed CLT |
| Judy Kovach | | Chris Wren | Resident |
| Ed Kruis | | Sam Zieman | Reyven of Waterloo |
| Dan Lane | | | |
| Dulie Lane | Maltby resident | | |

| PAC MEMBERS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Robert Barron | Council of Canadians | Ken Hammill | Friends of Guelph |
| Ralph Billings | North Halton resident | Dave Hume | Puslinch Twp. resident |
| Peter Chisholm | Guelph resident | Laura Murr | Green Plan Steering Committee |
| Astrid Clos | Guelph District Homebuilders Assoc. | | |
| **CITY OF GUELPH COUNCILLORS** | | | |
| Laura Baily | | Rocco J. Furfaro | |
| David Birtwistle | | Peter Hamtak | |
| Lise Burcher | | Maggie Laidlaw | |
| Cathy Downer | | Dan Moziar | |
| Ray Ferraro | | Dan Schnurr | |
| **NEIGHBOURING MUNICIPAL/REGIONAL COUNCILLORS** | | | |
| Dick Visser | Councillor, Puslinch Township | | |
| Matthew Bulmer | Councillor, Puslinch Township | | |
| **CITY OF GUELPH STAFF** | | | |
| Dave Belanger | | Paul Graeffing | |
| Peter Busatto | | Martin Lavictoire | |
| **CONSULTING TEAM REPRESENTATIVES** | | | |
| John Haasen | Earth Tech | Dave Dilks | Lura Consulting |
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# APPENDIX C: DETAILED PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

The following is detailed feedback received from participants at the public forum.

## 1. What feedback do you have on the water supply alternatives?

*In general, participants supported water conservation efforts, especially demand management and reuse options. They supported limited growth, and encouraged the City to include industry and the commercial sector in water efficiency initiatives. Participants felt that groundwater supplies needed further study to determine feasibility and address the impacts of land uses. Local surface water alternatives were considered, as long as water quality issues were addressed. There was strong opposition to the pipeline, although a number of participants indicated it should at least be considered in greater detail.*

*The * indicates that more than one person identified this point.*

### Water Conservation and Demand Management

**General Conservation**

- Conservation is the most important alternative*
- Promote education*
- Subsidize conservation and price high consumption, incentives to reuse water*, or tiered system based on family size
- Promote use of low flow, dual flush or composting toilets
- Ensure we meet 15% target
- Put Guelph on the forefront of conservation
- Room for improvement
- Seek advice from Turf Grass Institute to match landscaping with water usage
- Need to look at modifying building code to allow grey water utilization
- promote xeriscaping
- East less meat – save huge amounts of water if beef
- The City administration must take a stance on mandating world class conservation and energy management for Guelph.

**Reuse**

- Promote reuse*
- Promote dual use*
- Use cisterns*
- Promote rainwater harvesting

**Demand management***

- Use pricing control*
- Reduce leakage*
- Use efficient dual flush toilets*
- Set limits for water use*
- Insulate pipes

**Industrial/commercial**

- Monitor commercial use of water
- Include much more industrial/commercial conservation – currently no plan?
- Support improvement of infrastructure for re-using non-portable water – especially in industry and high density areas

- Encourage industrial with low water needs
- Develop procedures for reporting water waste – protect recharge areas in every development
- Limit industry which has potential to export "huge" quantities of water from watershed

**Wastewater**
- If limited waste capacity, how dispose of all the extra volume of Lake Erie pipe?
- Water discharge must be harnessed for energy

**Growth**
- Limit growth*
- Live within aquifer/ bio-region*
- The City has not made a decision on a policy growth rate
- Growth figures are questionable
- Current growth higher than C.N Watson estimates
- Need to consult the people on growth first, then the alternatives can be discussed seriously
- Recommend City Council curb population growth – it should not exceed its ability to provide sustainable supply of water
- Be realistic in terms of high population growth projections as significant growth will come to this part of southern Ontario

## Groundwater Alternatives

**Existing Wells**
- Treating existing wells
- Optimizing existing wells
- Use City wells but address concern about septic system inspections and contaminants

**New Wells**
- More aggressive pursuit of new wells*
- Stop private wells being constructed
- Pursuing upgrading existing wells and new in City wells
- Area B is of concern for the following reasons
    a. proximity to known VOC groundwater contamination from leachate plume at Puslinch landfill site.
    b. potential to impact Cranberry Oil Well Bog and Little tract wetland complexes
    c. Proximity to proposed heavy industrial uses at proposed hanlon Creek Business Park. And relation of any new wells to five year travel time and DNAPL's used by new industries. ?well head protection issues not properly addressed in this report.
- Area A is a concern based on the comments from Puslinch Township
- Speedvale and Edinburgh – should not consider a well so close to the known TCE contamination at the Blount Site, Hanlon and Stone Road have salt contamination concerns; and Clair and Gordon is located on the truck route to the business park which is also susceptible to salt contamination.
- I am against pumping the McCurdy well this has already been identified in the Hanlon Creek Watershed Study as having the potential to dry up the Hanlon Creek.

**ASR**
- Support the ASR*
- No ASR because it will contaminate the aquifer*
- Pursue further studies on ASR – ask how much impact will it have on lake and river levels

- ASR recovery requires more money from the City

**Impacts**
- Ensure no impact on wetlands and recharge areas*
- Ensure well head and tertiary headwaters protection*

**Other**
- Should have MOE approval on proposed rural well sites
- How is ground water capacity estimated?
- Need to know Puslinch's projected growth water needs and also what would the limit be for the permit capacity on rural wells?*
- The aquifers outside Guelph should be left for those residents. Then they can support the current population and possibly support population growth – divert that growth from Guelph
- Consider permits to remove water from the aquifer (ie. Aberfoyle Springs) as this water does not re-enter/recharge the groundwater.

## Surface Water Alternatives

**Local**
- Support use of surface water from Eramosa and Speed Rivers*
- Use new surface water only as a last resort
- No further water takings should be allowed from the Eramosa or the Speed Rivers until watershed studies have been completed for these two rivers
- Do not agree to surface water takings because too significant environmental impacts
- Does this create draw down at Eastview Landfill site?
- Use Arkell Springs as a backup*
- GRCA has informed the City (and the public, at the E.A. Mtg for the Wastewater plant) that the speed river will allow only 20-25% more total phosphors, then it "hits the wall". No technology available to get around this. So, the city should tell the people there are limits to growth, or read about it in the paper

**Great Lakes**
- No pipeline*
- Great Lakes water use OK
- Great Lakes pipeline has serious social, environmental and economic problems and is not sustainable development
- Immediately start a reserve for Lake Erie pipeline and discussions with neighbours about shared facilities
- Recommend studying Great Lakes option but with caution: esp. concerned about jurisdiction. How high would our treatment costs be if the U.S. does not share our waste water standards
- Given the current direction/outlook of Guelph City Council regarding growth, the Great Lakes Supply option seems unavoidable
- It is mandatory to plan for the Great Lakes pipeline. The City should start acquiring funds for the inevitable
- Factor in the environmental benefits of water pipelines*

**Other**
- Treat pharmaceutical contamination in water
- Need to consider water safety for surface water (e.g. cryptosporidium) and conduct risk assessment

### Other

- New building requirements for rooftop collection and cistern systems
- Quit fooling around with solutions that will ultimately prove inadequate and put our money to the final solution
- If we don't use our share of the water taking permit we will lose it.
- How come we are so far behind on the studies required to prove the assumptions on available water supply? Is there enough time to do the recommended studies by 2010?
- Improve county/township/Guelph relations
- The proposed alternatives have been made without having all necessary information available. Specifically the GRCA is soon to complete a report which will tell us just how much water is being taken
- The City has approved mega-paving type projects such as Walmart stores. These type of paving over of land hinder surface water collection dramatically
- To what extent have climate change scenarios been incorporated into projected capacity of ground and surface waters?*
- Need to factor in water quality, ground water vs. surface water
- Scoping the alternatives is difficult without accounting for wastewater assimilation
- The public needs to view the Golder Guelph Puslinch Groundwater Study before we give final comments on the WSMP
- The final report needs to include the recent research emerging from the USGS on EC's or emerging containments in surface waters and groundwater
- Integration is needed!
    - first, wastewater limitations
    - then, growth strategy
    - then, turn back to water supply

## 2. WHAT FEEDBACK DO YOU HAVE ON THE DRAFT PRELIMINARY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN? IN PARTICULAR, WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS DO YOU SUPPORT AND WHY? WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY AND WHY?

*Participants suggested starting with the most easily implementable solutions first. The reaffirmed a strong support for conservation measures; limiting growth in Guelph; and opposition for the pipeline. They had a number of suggestions to improving the alternatives and implementation plan including addressing the timeline and costs.*

*The * indicates that more than one person identified this point.*

### Feedback

- Pick low hanging fruit first*
- Plan seems to be looking at the most of the realistic alternative
- A lot of work needs to be done to get from where we are now to any of the alternatives
- Need to get Arkell well situation resolved
- How can we implement reuse?
- We need growth plan numbers
- Be serious about conservation measures and put the money into it

### Supported Recommendations / Alternatives

**Conservation***

- Ban lawn watering out right!

- Promote low flush  or dual flush toilets
- Catch water off roof store in cistern
- Promote wastewater recycling for industrial use instead of use in homes or recharge

**Groundwater**
- Develop new wells in area in the City and outside city boundaries
- Support recommendations that allow us to live within our current water capacity

**Limit Guelph growth***
- Limit growth in the City to what current water supplies can support.
- Need a responsible growth management strategy
- Growth is not beyond our control – it is ultimately a political process.
- Groundwater vs. surface water quality is a major factor. The lack of a weighing system doesn't take account the fact that groundwater is much better quality than surface water, so any surface water options are much less desirable

**Pipeline**
- Opposed or lower priority for pipeline*

**Changes**

Include:
- The costs of the various options including direct costs to tax payers and industry/developers*
- Timetable needs to speed up and start on some new wells now
- Monitoring industrial water use* – investigate possibilities of reducing the amount of water bottled water industry takes (that isn't put back into our watershed – much of it is transported to the States for consumption)
- Is their political action that can be taken to curb bottled water industry? How much are they taking anyway?
- Gravel landscaping
- Impacts of gravel/aggregate mining below water table on supply and quality
- Look at developer at front – loading of the wastewater return pipe, as Milton did
- The aquifer recovery rate - What is it? Is it normal?
- Formation of a watershed-based regional water board (maybe derived from SWP Committee) and start talking about regional issues

At the end of the roundtable session, participants were asked if they had additional questions or comments they would like to raise.  These comments are presented in the table below.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

- Has anyone consulted Great Lakes eg. Peter Loucks, specialists on the problems of draining surface water from Lake Erie with climate change events that will impact water levels there already.
- The WSMP should enshrine the principle that all living things have the right to water and water is a basic human right and need.
- Great process.