



# GUELPH WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN

## AGENCY AND MUNICIPALITY WORKSHOP #1 DRAFT SUMMARY

January 26, 2005  
River Run Centre – Canada Company Hall  
Guelph, Ontario

City  
of  
Guelph

This workshop summary 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 January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Agency and Municipality Workshop #1. It is not intended as a verbatim transcript, and is subject to review by workshop participants. If you have any questions or comments regarding the summary, please contact either:

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# GUELPH WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN AGENCY AND MUNICIPALITY WORKSHOP #1

JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2005, 1:00 P.M.– 4:00 P.M.  
River Run Centre – Canada Company Hall, GUELPH

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## 1. ABOUT THE WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN AGENCY & MUNICIPALITY WORKSHOP

The Agency and Municipality workshop was hosted by the City of Guelph Waterworks Division to introduce the Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) and seek participant feedback on key process elements. The Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) forms an integral part of the overall Water Supply Strategy that was initiated in 1999. The WSMP will identify a number of options including the development of additional groundwater supplies and will identify alternative municipal supplies. Its aim is to map out a path to supplement the existing supply for the next 50+ years following the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process.

Specifically, the Agency and Municipality workshop was designed to:

- 1) Introduce participants to the WSMP project; and
- 2) Seek feedback/input on: (a) issues and opportunities arising (b) purpose statement, (c) evaluation criteria and methodology, and (d) alternative solutions.

Prior to the workshop, a Draft Workshop Discussion Paper was circulated to all those who registered to attend. Approximately 30 people attended the Agency and Municipality workshop. The workshop agenda is attached as Appendix A and the list of participants who registered is included in Appendix B.



Roundtable discussion

## 2. WELCOMING AND OPENING REMARKS

### **Councillor David Birtwistle, City of Guelph**

Councillor Birtwistle thanked all participants for coming and stated that the City and the project team will listen to participants' comments and incorporate the feedback received from this workshop into the Master Plan process.

### **Dave Dilks, Lura Consulting, Facilitator**

Mr. Dilks welcomed all participants to the event and explained that Lura Consulting has been retained to assist the City and the consulting team with the public consultation and communications component of this project. Mr. Dilks indicated that the City of Guelph was keen to ensure agency and municipal stakeholders are both informed about the WSMP and engaged early on in the WSMP process. Mr. Dilks indicated that Lura's role as a neutral third-party is to facilitate a constructive, mutually respectful process.

Mr. Dilks reviewed the agenda and materials available for participants and indicated the workshop would provide more information about the WSMP process, discuss next steps, and then provide an opportunity to hear participants' views on the purpose statement, alternative solutions, and evaluation criteria and methodology.



**Councillor Birtwistle welcomes participants**

## 1. OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

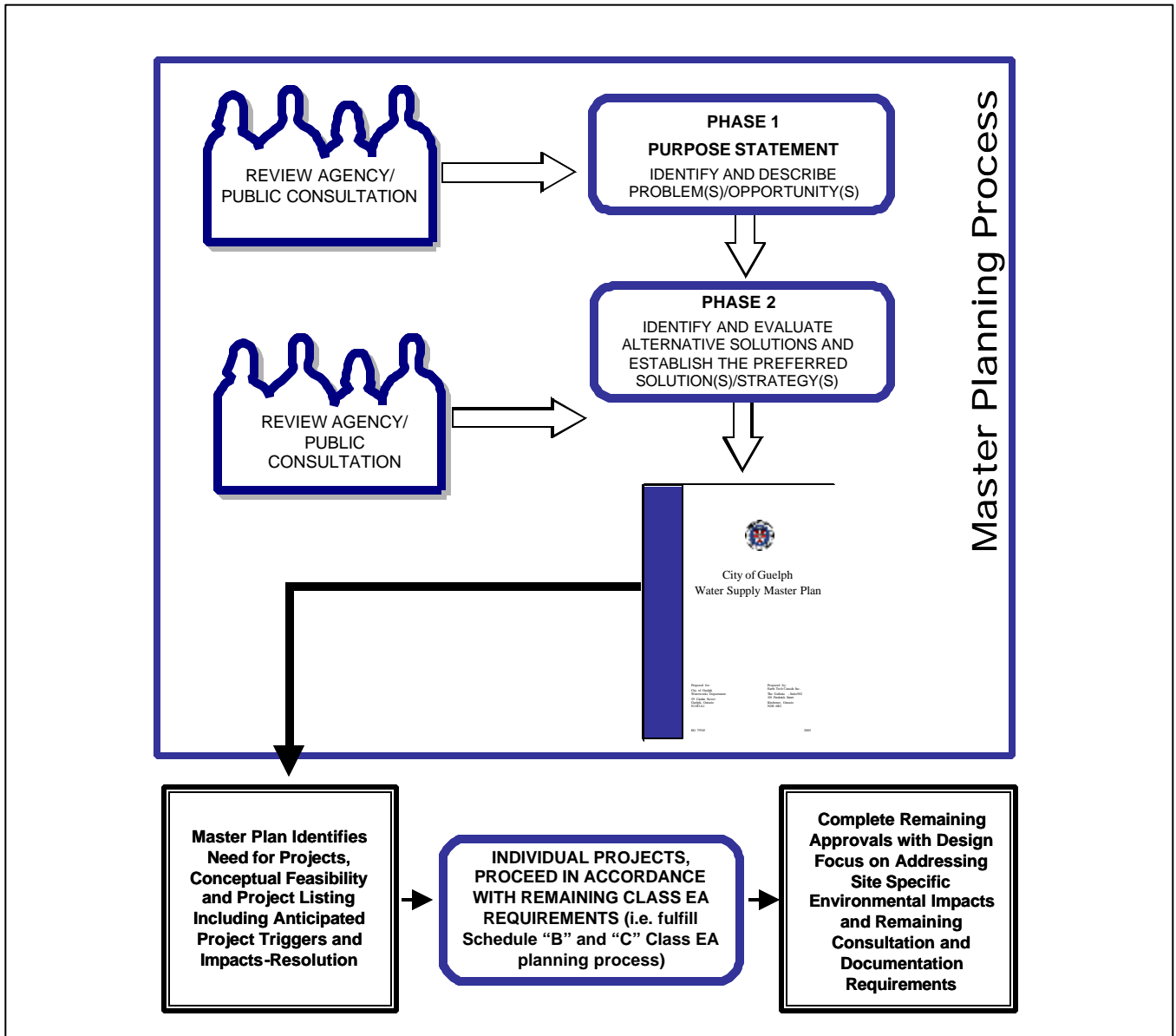
John Haasen, Project Manager of Earth Tech provided an overview presentation on the WSMP process.

### **Why Develop A Water Supply Master Plan?**

The WSMP's primary goal is to identify alternative solutions for Guelph's water supply for the next 50 + years. The WSMP will serve as both Phase 1: Purpose Definition/Statement and Phase 2: Alternative Solutions of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA).

### **The Master Planning Process**

In General, master plans are broad in scope and focus on the analysis of a system, in this case water supply, to develop a framework that will guide future work and development. Master plans fit into the Class EA process as they are designed, for the most part, to satisfy the requirements of Phase 1 and 2 of the process. Master plans clearly define a 'suite' of projects that are housed within the plan that may be implemented over the planning period (2004 to 2054).



**WSMP Consultation and Communications Activities**

Susan Hall of Lura Consulting described the public consultation and communications initiatives that have been included in the WSMP. Ms. Hall emphasized that public consultation and communication initiatives form a key component of the process and are designed to keep stakeholders, agencies and the public informed and involved in determining how and when the City’s water supply system should be improved; incorporate the knowledge and insight of City of Guelph and area residents, stakeholders and businesses; and exceed Class EA consultation requirements.

Through preliminary interviews with key stakeholders, the public consultation component was refined to ensure that the public consultation is a comprehensive, transparent and inclusive process.

The Public Consultation and Communications program includes the following components:

Public Consultation	Communications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Advisory Committee formation &amp; meetings</li> <li>• Technical agency and Municipality workshops</li> <li>• Public meetings</li> <li>• Additional Consultation As Required:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stakeholder meetings</li> <li>○ Focus groups with high user groups</li> <li>○ Meetings with City and Area Councils</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising and Public Service Announcements</li> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Project Newsletters (3)</li> <li>• Communications with agencies, municipalities and stakeholders               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Events</li> <li>○ Launch event</li> <li>○ Water Forum (to be determined)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Speaking engagements</li> <li>• Media plan</li> </ul>

### **The Current Water Supply System**

John Haasen provided an overview of the current water supply system in Guelph. Key highlights of his presentation indicated that:

- Guelph relies exclusively on groundwater;
- The water supply system includes production wells installed in the Guelph-Amabel bedrock aquifer and the Arkell Springs Ground collector system; and
- In 2004, of 23 production wells 17 were operated on a near continuous basis.

### **Water Supply Issues and Options**

Mr. Haasen discussed the objectives of the WSMP:

- Provide a planning framework to develop the water supply to accommodate future demands;
- Build on previous City water supply initiatives;
- Aim to provide an adequate and sustainable water supply to meet current/future needs of customers;
- Include review of a few demand scenarios to evaluate impacts on water supply;
- Identify additional sources of water to supplement the existing supply; and
- Examine alternatives including developing additional groundwater supplies and alternative municipal supplies.

A more in depth discussion of the current water supply system, and issues and options for Guelph were provided to all participants in the Draft Discussion Paper.

## **Draft Purpose Statement, Alternative Solutions and Evaluation Criteria**

Mr. Haasen briefly reviewed the purpose statement, alternative solutions, evaluation criteria and methodology indicating that this is in draft form and that the purpose of the workshop is to receive agency and municipal input and feedback on these elements.

### **The Draft Purpose Statement:**

*The City of Guelph has experienced population growth that is expected to continue over the next 25 years and beyond. The existing water supply system has performed satisfactorily but has reached limitations with respect to meeting peak and long-term demands and reliability.*

*Climatic conditions, well interference, regulatory constraints and water quality degradation have reduced the yield of the existing municipal water supply system. The City is committed to managed growth as it continues to develop a strategy for water supply enhancement. The goal is the provision of an adequate and sustainable supply of water to meet the current and future needs of all customers.*

*The municipality must have sufficient capacity to supply the water demands of its residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional customers. A community's water demands has hourly, daily and seasonal fluctuations which must be considered in predicting future water demands and assessing water supply requirements and infrastructure improvements.*

*Recent studies confirmed the inability of the existing system to meet future demands, particularly from the residential and industrial sectors, which could place constraints on the future, long-term growth of the City.*

*It is, therefore necessary to carry out a study to identify alternatives to improve the capacity of the City's existing water system to ensure that an adequate amount of water can be provided in a safe and cost-effective manner to satisfy long-term municipal demand requirements. The study will also consider water conservation/efficiency measures to extend the life of the existing supply capacity.*

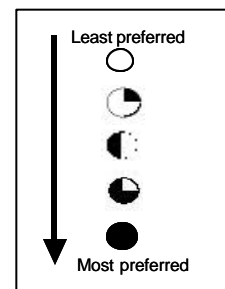
Mr. Haasen indicated that there are currently five main categories of alternative solutions including:

1. Water conservation/demand management
2. Expand the existing water supply system
3. Establish new surface water supply
4. Limit growth
5. Do nothing

Mr. Haasen noted that the "Do nothing" alternative represents what would likely occur if none of the alternative solutions were implemented and is a mandatory alternative according to the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Mr. Haasen indicated that in thinking about the types of evaluation criteria to be employed to determine the final recommendations, the group should consider the six categories below.

1. Public Health and Safety
2. Natural/Environmental
3. Social/Cultural
4. Economical/Financial
5. Legal/Jurisdictional
6. Technical



The consulting team proposed the use of a qualitative evaluation methodology that considers the suitability of alternative solutions/strategies based on significant advantages and disadvantages. In this type of evaluation, comparisons are made between alternatives, which form rationale for the identification of the preferred solution or water supply strategy. In this system, alternatives are ranked in order of preference as indicated by the legend on the right. However, the method of evaluation (i.e. qualitative vs. quantitative) and how applied was put forth as a point of discussion and feedback.

A detailed assessment of each water supply alternative is completed by the consulting team with consideration of input received from the public and other stakeholders and based on evaluation components and criteria. This assessment is used to generate a short-list of alternatives that are then ranked and carried forward for more detailed evaluation. This process can involve both primary criteria (e.g. inability to meet regulations, excessive costs, technical feasibility, unacceptable environmental or social disruption), and secondary criteria (e.g. mitigable impacts such as construction truck traffic) criteria.

A more in-depth description of the alternative solutions, evaluation criteria and methodology are found in the Draft Discussion Paper.

## 2. PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

This section provides an overview of the feedback received from participants at the Agency and Municipality workshop. This summary is a collection of comments obtained from table discussions and individual feedback provided through workbooks. For the detailed compilation of all comments received, please see Appendix C.

### **General Questions, Comments and Concerns:**

Immediately following the presentation, and prior to commencing the small table discussions, James Etienne, Director of Environmental Services at the City of Guelph asked participants if they had any or comments directly related to the presentation. The following identifies the participants' questions (identified with 'Q') or comments (identified with 'C'), are listed below with responses from the project team in *italics*.

- Q1: This is a two-phase study and the final master plan won't have concrete answers but will provide a range of strategies to address water supply in Guelph. At what point do you say 'yes' or 'no' to the alternatives?
- A: *We are looking at both short and long term management of the water supply. Short term will include those solutions within the next 5 to 10 years, while the transition period will be from about 10-30 years and the long term are those that are more than 30 years into the future. The plan will also be reviewed every 5 years to ensure that the proposed strategies are applicable and to provide an opportunity to say 'yes' or 'no' to the alternatives put forward.*
- C1: There seems to be agricultural issues missing from the plan. Water upstream affects downstream.
- A: *People, industry, animals and the agricultural sector use water, so they should be included.*
- C2: Ensure that the information pamphlets, etc. are available to municipalities outside of Guelph. The City will need to respect Township guidelines for public notices, and ensure a long lead-time. Should also have the option to receive information in advance of meetings if interested.

# 1. Issues and Opportunities

**As you think about the Water Supply Master Plan project, what major opportunities or benefits do you see resulting from the project? What pressing issues or concerns will the project need to address?**

The most commonly identified opportunities, benefits and concerns are presented in the table below. Participants agreed that the WSMP provides a good opportunity to **educate the public about water supply issues and create trust amongst the public**. The group expressed concern about **the lack of linkages to wastewater and the potential linkages to growth**. For more detailed participant feedback, see Appendix C.

MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES/BENEFITS
<p>Participants felt the WSMP provides an opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create public awareness around water supply issues</li> <li>• Begin the process of creating a water conservation culture in the City</li> <li>• Create trust amongst the public and provide them with a great level of understanding concerning the municipality’s plans</li> <li>• Determine what water sources exist within and around the City</li> <li>• Involve the public throughout the process if it remains open</li> <li>• Educate the public about water supply issues</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WSMP shows that the City is not being reactionary, but rather taking a proactive approach to water management for the future</li> <li>• The WSMP will also provide spin-off benefits to neighbouring municipalities</li> </ul>
PRESSING ISSUES/CONCERNS
<p>Participants identified the following as pressing issues and concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is concern that the process of developing the WSMP would be used as a mechanism to regulate growth</li> <li>• There is a need to link both the process and final wastewater master plan to the WSMP</li> <li>• The security of groundwater is questionable</li> <li>• Implications of provincial programs such as ‘Places to Grow’ and the ‘Greenbelt Legislation’</li> <li>• If there is consideration of a Great Lakes pipeline for water supply, then there should also be consideration of a return pipe for wastewater</li> <li>• There is a need to recognition the importance of geopolitical issues around these sites</li> <li>• There is a need to address socio-cultural understanding of the water supply issue</li> <li>• Water supply should be a key consideration for urbanization</li> </ul>

## 2. Purpose Statement

**Looking at the draft purpose statement (Discussion Paper, pages 10-11), what would you change or add (if anything)?**

The group examined both wording and content and there was a clear consensus that the **purpose statement was too long and the language too technical**. The group also suggested a number of additional changes to the content to **ensure that the statement reflects a variety of priorities including sustainability, environment and agriculture**. The recommended changes are presented in the table below. For more detailed participant feedback, see Appendix C.

COMMENTS ON PURPOSE STATEMENT
<p><b>WORDING:</b></p> <p>The statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is too long and needs to be shortened</li><li>• Is too technical and needs more reader-friendly language</li><li>• Should include sustainability and environment</li></ul>
<p><b>CONTENT:</b></p> <p>The statement should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An acknowledgement that the management of water supply has impacts to the natural environment as well as to human users</li><li>• More emphasis on agriculture</li><li>• A focus on sustainability and innovation</li><li>• An indication that the WSMP is designed to be sustainable for neighbouring communities as well</li></ul>



Roundtable discussions

### 3. Evaluation Criteria and Methodology

**Looking at the draft evaluation criteria (Discussion Paper, pages 12-14), what would you change or add (if anything)? Do you have any comments on the proposed methodology (e.g. the suggestion that the evaluation not be based on a numerical ranking system, but rather on a descriptive or qualitative approach; Discussion Paper, page 15)?**

The most commonly identified changes and comments on the evaluation criteria and methodology are presented in the table below. **The majority of evaluation criteria comments related to natural environmental and legal/jurisdictional considerations.** For more detailed participant feedback, see Appendix C.

COMMENTS ON EVALUATION CRITERIA
<p><b>NATURAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:</b></p> <p>The natural environmental criteria needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Include a benchmark to determine cumulative environment impacts</li><li>• Recognize that there is already an impact from current water takings</li><li>• Indicate that some alternatives could have positive environment impacts</li><li>• Include mineral resources</li><li>• Include groundwater</li></ul>
<p><b>SOCIAL/CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS:</b></p> <p>The social/cultural criteria needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Include land use impacts</li></ul>
<p><b>LEGAL/JURISDICTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:</b></p> <p>The legal/jurisdictional criteria needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Include geo-political considerations</li><li>• Include agriculture</li><li>• Clarify the difference between bullets 1 (location inside vs. outside City boundaries and associated jurisdictional issues) and bullet 4 (consideration towards Political Boundaries)</li></ul>
COMMENTS ON EVALUATION METHODOLOGY
<p>Participants in general were in agreement that the approach is satisfactory.</p>

## 4. Alternative Solutions

**Looking at the “long list” of alternative solutions (Discussion Paper, pages 11-12), do you have any comments? For example, what alternatives do you see as priorities? What alternatives (if any) should not be considered? Why?**

The most common comments on the alternative solutions are presented in the table below. The group identified **water conservation and demand management as the number one priority**, followed by expansion of the existing system, and establishment of a new surface water supply. For more detailed participant feedback, see Appendix C.

COMMENTS ON ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS
<p><b>Water Conservation/Demand Management</b></p> <p>Participants indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continuous monitoring requirements should be included</li><li>• There should be more emphasis on water reuse and detail on reuse options</li><li>• Water reuse system description should also indicate considering both potable and non-potable water options</li></ul>
<p><b>Establish New Surface Water Supply</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants suggested that the Great Lakes pipeline be a separate alternative</li></ul>
<p><b>Do Nothing</b></p> <p>Participants indicated this is not a preferred alternative while recognizing that it is included as an alternative as part of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment requirements.</p>

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.

GENERAL COMMENTS
<p>The majority of additional comments were related to the discussion of alternative solutions and participants raised a number of other related ideas and suggestions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alternative solutions need to identify that there are connections to adjacent municipalities and that growth will influence alternatives and impact neighbours</li><li>• Water conservation to date in Guelph has been good, and should be recognized</li><li>• Reiteration that there is a need for the WSMP to be linked to a Wastewater Master Plan</li><li>• WSMP alternative solutions should be considered during the development of subdivision design and address high density solutions</li><li>• Recommend that industrial policies for water use not based on per capita use</li><li>• Recommend the WSMP take into consideration best practices from other municipalities</li></ul>

## 5. NEXT STEPS

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

James Etienne expressed appreciation on behalf of the City of Guelph and project team for the ideas and feedback provided by participants at this workshop.



Round table discussions

## APPENDIX A: AGENDA

### City of Guelph Water Supply Master Plan: Agency and Municipality Workshop #1

1:00 – 4:00 p.m., January 26, 2005

River Run Centre – Canada Company Hall, 35 Woolwich Street, Guelph

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## AGENDA

*Meeting Purpose: To introduce the Master Plan process to agency and municipal representatives and seek early feedback on key process elements.*

- 1:00 p.m.     **Welcome and Opening Remarks** – City of Guelph
- 1:05 p.m.     **Agenda Review and Introductions** – Dave Dilks, Facilitator
- 1:15 p.m.     **Introduction to City of Guelph Water Supply Master Plan**
- i)     Overview of the Master Plan Process – John Haasen, EarthTech
- ii)    Community Consultation and Communication Plan – Susan Hall, Lura Consulting
- 1:45 p.m.     **Water Supply Issues and Options** – John Haasen, EarthTech
- 2:00 p.m.     **Break**
- 2:15 p.m.     **Roundtable Discussion**
- Issues and Opportunities
  - Purpose Statement
  - Evaluation Criteria and Methodology
  - Alternative Solutions
- 3:40 p.m.     **Advice on Format of Upcoming Public Meeting**
- 3:50 p.m.     **Next Steps** – Dave Dilks
- 4:00 p.m.     **Adjourn**

## APPENDIX B: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The following is a list of participants who signed in at the Agency and Municipality Workshop #1:

Name	Affiliation
Stan Denhoed	Township of Puslinch/Harden Environmental
Tina Dufresne	MOE – Guelph
Mel Iovio	Town of Milton
Councillor Barry Lee	Town of Milton
Councillor Teresa Gibson-Smye	Guelph/Eramosa Township
Lee Anne Jones	Region of Halton
Mayor Clint Martin	Guelph/Eramosa Township
Lorrie Minshall	Grand River Conservation Authority
Reg Russwurm	Regional Municipality of Waterloo
Barb Ryter	MOE – Western Central Region
Aldo Salis	County of Wellington
Janice Sheppard	Guelph/Eramosa Township
Mark Smithson	MOE – Central Region
George Sousa	Grand River Conservation Authority
Mike Stone	Ministry of Natural Resources
Art Timmerman	Ministry of Natural Resources
Larry Van Wyck	Guelph/Eramosa Township
Mayor Brad Whitcombe	Township of Puslinch/County of Wellington
John Yan	Wellington Dufferin Guelph Health Unit
<b>City of Guelph</b>	
Councillor David Birtwhistle	City of Guelph
Peter Busatto	City of Guelph
Dave Belanger	City of Guelph
James Etienne	City of Guelph
Brian Pett	City of Guelph
<b>Consulting Team</b>	
John Haasen	Earth Tech
Joe Gemin	Earth Tech
Karl Grueneis	Earth Tech
Patty Quackenbush	Earth Tech
Dave Dilks	Lura Consulting
Susan Hall	Lura Consulting
Tony Lotimer	Lotowater Geoscience

## APPENDIX C: DETAILED PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

### 1. Issues and Opportunities

**As you think about the Water Supply Master Plan project, what major opportunities or benefits do you see resulting from the project? What pressing issues or concerns will the project need to address?**

MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES/BENEFITS
<p>Participants comments on what opportunities and benefits stem from the WSMP are organized into six categories including: (a) public involvement, education and conservation; (b) defined planning process brings structure and clarity; (c) increases knowledge of water supply; (d) proactive approach generates public trust; (e) inclusion of geo-political issues and neighbouring municipalities; and (f) potential relationship to growth strategy/management.</p> <p><i>The * indicates that more than one person identified this to be an opportunity/benefit.</i></p>
Public involvement, education and conservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive public involvement from initiation of project to conclusion ensures that it is an open process*</li> <li>• WSMP will help satisfy curiosity of public around wells vs. city water</li> <li>• Educational component: about conservation, setting targets, creates a road map and progress report</li> <li>• Education/environmental impact = opportunity: water conservation measures</li> <li>• Good opportunity for public awareness, create culture of water conservation</li> <li>• Changes in water use behaviours</li> </ul>
Defined planning process brings structure and clarity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes a structure/process to work through</li> <li>• Planning framework/process bring the political entities together including both city and county*</li> <li>• Process allows for the evaluation of all competing interests</li> </ul>
WSMP increases knowledge of water supply
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive knowledge base: reports studies, etc</li> <li>• Ensure information is accessible</li> <li>• Opportunity to define the water resource*</li> <li>• Inventory of water resources</li> <li>• Mapping/resources</li> <li>• Improved technical info/understanding that will also benefit the neighbouring municipalities</li> <li>• Leading to sustainable resource management</li> </ul>
Proactive approach generates public trust
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create trust and understanding of what the municipality is considering*</li> <li>• Less reactionary</li> <li>• Guelph: non-traditional approach</li> </ul>

MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES/BENEFITS
Inclusion of geo-political issues and neighbouring municipalities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant geo-political issue</li> <li>• Discussion at the county level vs. city only = broader perspective</li> <li>• Spin-off benefits (economic) for neighbouring communities</li> <li>• Geopolitical issues: city is user, townships are stewards</li> </ul>
Potential relationship to growth strategy/management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpretation of growth management with water and wastewater management</li> <li>• Regulation of growth using water supply</li> <li>• Modification to/consideration in growth strategy to minimize impact on supply</li> <li>• Population growth implications</li> </ul>
Other comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review water from urban and rural perspectives (rural = protection of water system)</li> <li>• Well monitor program both inside and outside the city should continue</li> <li>• Does this become an artificial limit</li> <li>• If it becomes a question of DC's or money, can't use water to limit</li> <li>• Attempt to use water supply to limit growth</li> <li>• 2 issues: supply available (don't want to develop) vs. too expensive to get</li> </ul>

PRESSING ISSUES/CONCERNS
<p>Participants comments on pressing issues and concerns stemming from the WSMP are organized into six categories including: (a) Growth and urbanization; (b) Implications of provincial programs and plans; (c) security of groundwater; (d) Geo-political issues and social resistance to water conservation; (e) Lack of linkages to wastewater master plan; and (f) Need to establish targets and define progress.</p> <p><i>The * indicates that more than one person identified this to be a pressing issue or concern.</i></p>
Growth and urbanization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council resolutions: water and regulating growth</li> <li>• Urbanization needs to take impacts to supply into consideration</li> <li>• Impact of urbanization on supply (not just demand)</li> <li>• Can't use planning to control amount of growth</li> <li>• Policy being developed to limit urban growth and protect rural lands</li> <li>• Usually use official plan to regulate growth</li> <li>• Feels water is there for growth but may have impacts</li> <li>• Pipelines lead to unfettered growth</li> <li>• Does growth bring servicing or servicing bring growth?</li> <li>• Theoretically planning policies should have meat to confront style of growth and population</li> </ul>

PRESSING ISSUES/CONCERNS
Implications of provincial programs and plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial initiatives: 'Places to Grow', Henson consulting: population, water regulations</li> <li>• Changing regulations/legislation (i.e. Greenbelt)</li> </ul>
Security of groundwater
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability of groundwater resource/security of groundwater resource*</li> <li>• Difficult to treat contamination if occurs</li> <li>• Too much ground water been taken in rural areas</li> </ul>
Geo-political issues and social resistance to water conservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geopolitical pressures*: municipal stewardship of land</li> <li>• Political environment: effect on long-term planning</li> <li>• Resolution of issues with neighbouring municipalities</li> <li>• Social/cultural resistance to water conservation, also lack of understanding (societal behaviour)*</li> </ul>
Lack of linkages to wastewater master plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master plan for wastewater should be linked to WSMP*</li> <li>• How will city ensure studies are linked?</li> <li>• If talk water supply then have to think of what will happen to the waste</li> </ul>
Need to establish targets and define progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up specific interim targets (i.e. Conservation offset needs)</li> <li>• Development of roadmaps/chart progress</li> </ul>

## 2. Purpose Statement

**Looking at the draft purpose statement (Discussion Paper, pages 10-11), what would you change or add (if anything)?**

COMMENTS ON PURPOSE STATEMENT
Wording:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The statement is too long*</li> <li>• Too technical, need to simplify the wording for ease of public understanding*</li> <li>• Paragraph 3: important to qualify 'water demands'*</li> <li>• Move 'demand management' into paragraph 3 – it should not be the city's purpose to meet all and every demand</li> <li>• Last paragraph - change 'safe' to 'environmentally sustainable' (no net negative impact)*</li> <li>• Last paragraph - need to clearly define conservation</li> </ul>

COMMENTS ON PURPOSE STATEMENT
Wording:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should lose preamble justification</li> <li>• Last paragraph is really the purpose, remove things like ‘recent studies’, and ‘city’ some alternatives have implication on township</li> <li>• Recommendation made to use a modified version of the last paragraph*.</li> </ul>
Redundancies:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pg. 10, paragraph 10 is redundant but convey the threat to existing systems</li> <li>• Look for redundancies in different paragraphs</li> </ul>
Content:
<p>The statement should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Term ‘sustainable’ when discerning new supplies: not impacting other municipalities and natural environment*</li> <li>• Innovation/best practices adopted by others*</li> <li>• Purpose: should include building good working relationships with neighbouring communities</li> <li>• Need to add statement on effect on natural environment and balance environmental needs*</li> <li>• Agriculture should be added more forcefully in statement</li> <li>• With co-operation of stakeholders, all appropriate</li> </ul>
General
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflict between urban vs. rural</li> <li>• Refer to work of other committees (well interference committee)</li> <li>• Is there a statement that says to mitigate the environment</li> <li>• Wetlands have to be monitored as well as wells</li> </ul>

### 3. Evaluation Criteria and Methodology

**Looking at the draft evaluation criteria (Discussion Paper, pages 12-14), what would you change or add (if anything)? Do you have any comments on the proposed methodology (e.g. the suggestion that the evaluation not be based on a numerical ranking system, but rather on a descriptive or qualitative approach; Discussion Paper, page 15)?**

COMMENTS ON EVALUATION CRITERIA
General
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural implications of extra structure and categories</li> <li>• Expansion of list: to make it more qualitative in this evaluation</li> <li>• Address ‘double counting’</li> <li>• Some of these options may benefit the environment</li> </ul>

## COMMENTS ON EVALUATION CRITERIA

### General

- Clarification between true impacts and perceived ones
- There is a need to maximize demand management
- There should be an additional component to the evaluation that gives additional weight to alternatives within the City of Guelph
- The Township of Puslinch requests that the evaluation criteria for impacts to the natural environment be provided for each preferred alternative
- The Technical Experts Committee report to the Minister of the Environment (Watershed Based Source Water Protection Planning, November 2004) recommended that water budgets include both groundwater and surface water dynamics since withdrawals from one invariably affect the other. In the evaluation of potential alternatives in the Township of Puslinch, the full effect of groundwater withdrawals on the natural environment must be addressed. The Township of Puslinch considers Mill Creek Watershed to be of vital importance to the health and well-being of its residents. Therefore neither the alteration in the position of the water table nor changes to potentiometric surfaces of lower aquifers results in, or potentially results in, a decrease of baseflow in Mill Creek will be tolerated.

### Public health & safety

Participants indicated that the following should be included in the public health & safety criteria:

- Drinking water quality; land use designation should be included to minimize threats to water supply
- Source protection\*

### Natural environmental

Participants indicated that the following should be included in the natural environmental criteria:

- Use of environmental features to incorporate solutions (i.e. A pipe line where do you plunk it down)
- Add security of ground/surface water source
- There is a need to recognize that there is already an impact

Participants questioned what benchmark is being used to measure alternatives (i.e. Pre-development, is it reasonable to use status quo)

### Social/cultural

Participants indicated that the following should be included in the social cultural criteria:

- Existing land use impacts in general \* and from agriculture in particular
- 'Living within our means', an unlimited supply would lead t careless use of the resource\*

Participants also indicated that the WSMP is an opportunities for education of consumers.

### Economic financial

- The evaluation of water taking from the Township of Puslinch must include potential loss of agriculture income and tax assessment arising from wellfield placement in the Township.
- Evaluate the affect of wellfield placement on the growth potential of the Township of Puslinch/County of Wellington.

COMMENTS ON EVALUATION CRITERIA
General
Legal/jurisdictional
Participants indicated that the following should be included in the legal/jurisdictional criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bullet on agriculture</li> <li>• Clarification on difference between first and fourth bullet</li> <li>• Geo-political should fall under jurisdictional</li> </ul>
Technical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants indicated that the technical criteria should include utilization of existing infrastructure</li> </ul>
COMMENTS ON EVALUATION METHODOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the evaluation criteria to include more categories*</li> <li>• Need more qualitative information to be included*</li> <li>• Numerical would be difficult</li> </ul>

#### 4. Alternative Solutions

**Looking at the “long list” of alternative solutions (Discussion Paper, pages 11-12), do you have any comments? For example, what alternatives do you see as priorities? What alternatives (if any) should not be considered? Why?**

COMMENTS ON ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS
Water Conservation/ Demand Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water conservation - #1 priority*</li> <li>• Protection and respect for the current groundwater</li> <li>• Water conservation and continuous monitoring of large water users</li> <li>• Maximize demand management</li> <li>• Various means of demand management</li> </ul>
Expand Existing Water Supply System
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding existing supply #2 priority</li> <li>• Protect groundwater: security of existing supply</li> <li>• Options to move current groundwater users to lesser quality water (non-potable); note: surface water is preferred over groundwater water for irrigation)</li> </ul>
Establish New Surface Water supply
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New surface water supplies: options to move current ground water users to surface water supplies (i.e. Golf courses, industry)</li> <li>• Surface water = step backwards</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hesitant about a local surface and not in favour</li> <li>• Do you break them down to sources of new supply – Guelph/Eramosa</li> <li>• Great Lakes pipeline – other lakes or surface supplies potentially available, no mention of two pipe system, should be added</li> </ul>
Limit Community Growth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs to be considered by city at least future growth to consider low water needs</li> <li>• Limiting city growth puts more pressure on townships and surrounding municipalities</li> </ul>
Do Nothing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do nothing – not preferred</li> </ul>
General Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at European communities: grey water use, more militant approach</li> <li>• Look at more aggressive ways to reduce unaccounted water</li> <li>• Connect to adjacent municipality</li> <li>• Cisterns should be added as an option</li> </ul>

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.

General comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Like logo</li> <li>• Water re-use: needs to be worked through regulatory agencies</li> <li>• Provincial interest: mineral/aggregate resources</li> <li>• Source restricts mineral/aggregate resources – not just ANSI's</li> <li>• Perception of ownership – not township – feeling of stewardship</li> <li>• Public perception concerning ownership</li> </ul>
Consultation Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders need to meet more frequently</li> <li>• Representatives from municipalities or PAC not recommended to council</li> <li>• Approach is good: stakeholders involved need to meet more frequently (Mayor) (expand stakeholders because if one quits then you need a fill-in)</li> <li>• Consultation process: do you go back to group before you take them off the table or after they are off the table (clarify the consultation process)</li> <li>• Clarify – did council have a say in selecting PAC person? (Eramosa)</li> </ul>