Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS ON PREFERRED MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

October 17 – 28, 2002

Summary Report

Prepared by:

Lura Consulting
November, 2002

Jump in! Get Involved!

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background and Context

Five years ago, the City of Toronto made the effective management of stormwater a top priority. Since that time, the City has been engaged in an important ongoing project, called the Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan (WWFMMP), which will establish how stormwater runoff in the City will be managed in the future. The Master Plan is designed to achieve two important goals:

1. Decrease the QUANTITY of stormwater that enters the sewer system; and

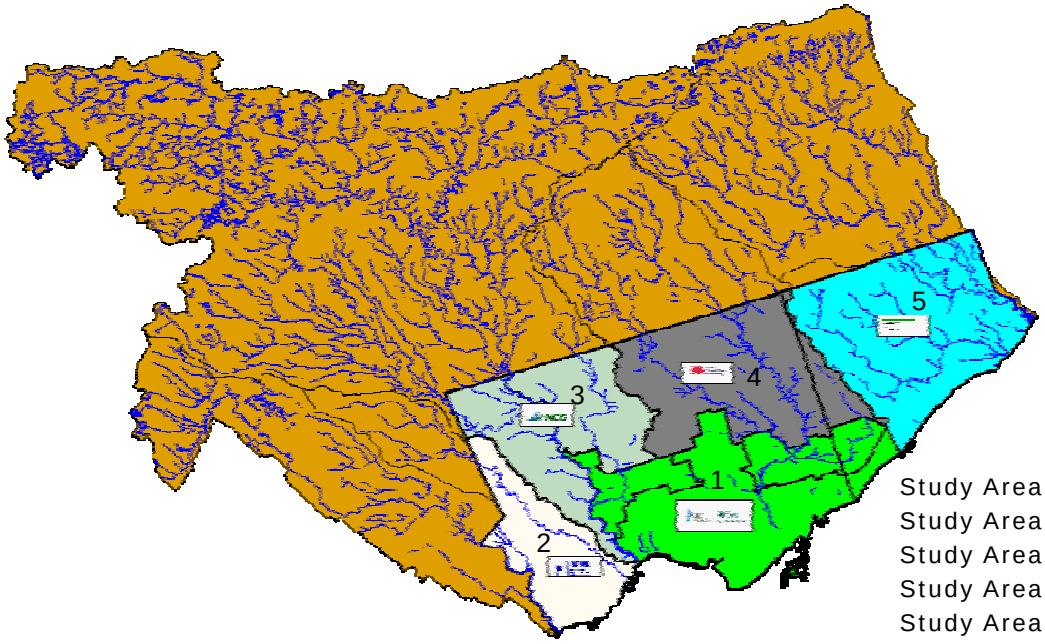
2. Improve the QUALITY of stormwater that eventually ends up in the lake.

Through the implementation of the Master Plan, the City of Toronto is expected to see a number of improvements, including improved beach water quality, reductions in stream bank erosion and improvements in fish habitat.

Once completed, the Plan will set out the policies, practices and control measures that will be needed to manage stormwater in Toronto, and identify how they will be implemented and funded.

This report provides a summary of public input received on the preferred management strategies during the most recent round of study area workshops – held during the last two weeks of October 2002.

Study areas. In recognition of the importance of approaching this work from an ecosystem-based perspective, the City has been divided into five study areas, four of which generally follow the boundaries of the major watersheds: Etobicoke and Mimico Creeks; Humber River; Don River; and Highland Creek and Rouge River. The fifth study area includes all the parts of Toronto that have combined sewers (which transport rain water and sewage in the same pipes). The Toronto waterfront is also an important aspect of the study.



Study Area 1: Combined Sewer Area
Study Area 2: Mimico Creek & Etobicoke Creek
Study Area 3: Humber River
Study Area 4: Don River
Study Area 5: Highland Creek and Rouge River

Phases of work. The Master Plan is following the Class Environmental Assessment Process, with a final Wet Weather Flow Management Strategy for the City of Toronto scheduled for completion by the end of 2002. The process is being completed in four phases:

Phase 1. Assess existing conditions and opportunities

Phase 2. Evaluate control measures and develop alternative management strategies

Phase 3. Determine the preferred strategy

Phase 4. Develop implementation and monitoring plans

We are here – finalizing the preferred strategies and implementation and funding plans in preparation to begin implementing the plan in early 2003.

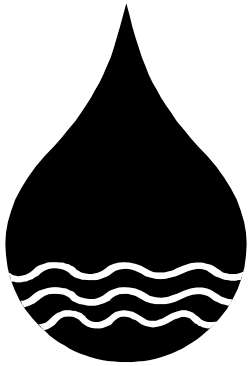
Involving the public. Involving the public in decisions about how to manage Toronto's stormwater is an essential part of the planning process. Extensive public and stakeholder consultation has occurred throughout the Master Plan process. To date, fifteen public workshops have been held throughout Toronto, along with one City-wide workshop and eight focus groups with residential property owners, industrial, commercial and institutional property owners and developers. Two meetings have also been held with "upper watershed" municipalities to discuss joint opportunities for inter-municipal stormwater management.

1.2 Overview of this Summary Report

This report synthesizes and summarizes the feedback from the five public workshops held in each study area:

- Study Area 1: Combined Sewer Area, October 28th, 2002.
- Study Area 2: Etobicoke / Mimico Creeks, October 24th, 2002.
- Study Area 3: Humber River, October 22nd, 2002.
- Study Area 4: Don River, October 17th, 2002.
- Study Area 5: Highland Crek and Rouge River, October 23rd, 2002.

It is designed to present the common themes emerging from the workshop series, as well as the study-area specific comments and feedback. It is organized in four main parts: Section 1 describes the overall Master Plan project and planning process. Section 2 explains the purpose of the workshops, how they were advertised, their format and provides an overview of the presentations and display materials that were available to illustrate the preferred strategies. Discussion results – the feedback and advice shared by participants at the meetings – are captured in Section 3. Finally, Section 4 describes the next steps in the Master Plan process. The report appendices include background materials, a participants list and detailed feedback from each study area workshop.



2.0 Overview of the Workshops

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of the preferred strategies workshops was to:

1. Update representatives of watershed and community groups and interested individuals in each study area on progress since the last round of public consultations in June 2002.
2. Illustrate how public feedback has influenced the planning process to date and most recently, the identification of the preferred strategies and implementation plans.
3. Seek feedback from workshop participants on the preferred City-wide and study area strategies and 25-year implementation plan, as well as potential funding mechanisms for Master Plan implementation.

2.2 Publicity and Outreach

A number of different publicity and outreach strategies were used to promote the public workshops. Communication efforts included:

- a half-page **advertisement** was placed in the following community newspapers: North York Mirror, East York / Riverdale Mirror, Beach / South Riverdale Mirror, Scarborough Mirror, Bloor West Villager, Etobicoke Guardian and York Guardian;
- a **news release** sent out on October 23, 2002;
- **workshop notices** were posted on the City's Master Plan homepage website;
- an **invitation** was sent via **direct mail** to approximately 5,000 people on the City's contact list. This list includes Business Improvement Associations, community groups, ratepayer associations, libraries, industries, environmental and water-related organizations and other interested individuals. The invitation was also sent to all City Councillors and the Mayor, as well as to key staff in other City Departments.

- **telephone calls and email notification** were provided to key watershed groups and interested members of the public; and
- the **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority** invited their staff and members of environmental and community-based organizations with specific interest in the Don and Humber watersheds to attend the workshops in those study areas.

A copy of the advertisement used to publicize the workshops is attached as Appendix A.

2.3 Format, Participants and Presentations and Display Materials

Format. The workshop consisted of three main parts:

1. Overview presentation by City of Toronto staff on the City-Wide Plan for Managing Wet Weather Flow;
2. A presentation on the Preferred Strategy and 25-Year Implementation Plan in each study area; and
3. Facilitated discussions in small groups and plenary.

A sample workshop agenda is attached as Appendix B.

Participants. In total, 156 participants signed in at the five workshops, including both interested residents and representatives from local watershed groups. In addition, 40 members of the WWFMMP Steering Committee, City of Toronto staff, and consultants working on the Master Plan project also participated in the workshops. Lura Consulting was responsible for facilitating the workshops. A full list of participants is attached as Appendix C.

Presentations and Display Materials. The workshop began with an informal open house to allow participants time to examine the display materials that the City and consultants had prepared to graphically illustrate the process, the preferred management strategies and the anticipated improvements that would result from implementation.

City of Toronto staff (Michael D'Andrea at the Don, Humber and CSO workshops and William Snodgrass at the Highland / Rouge workshop) and Councillor Irene Jones at the Etobicoke / Mimico workshop welcomed participants and thanked them for their participation. Members of the Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan Steering Committee also extended welcomes.

The City staff above delivered the first presentation, providing an overview of the City-wide plan for managing wet weather flow. The lead consultant for the WWFMMP project in each study area then presented the preferred strategy and 25-year implementation plan for their study area.

A single preferred strategy – Strategy 5 – was presented for each of the four watershed-based study areas (Etobicoke / Mimico, Humber, Don and Highland / Rouge). The preferred strategies are the product of three years of detailed technical studies and modeling, and extensive consultation with the Steering Committee, agencies, various stakeholder groups and the general public. The preferred strategies and 25-year implementation plan reflect public input received throughout the planning process, and most recently, from the previous stage of public consultation – when alternative

management strategies were presented and discussed. At these consultations, participants advised that the preferred strategies should: "aim high," towards strategy 5; go for the "biggest bang for the buck"; build political will for implementation; include effective public education and outreach; involve the "905" municipalities; and flexible, recognizing that "one size will not fit all."

Description of Preferred Strategy – Strategy 5 for Etobicoke/Mimico, Humber, Don and Highland/Rouge Study Areas

Strategy 5 (Strive for Enhanced Targets) – Implementation of enhanced levels of source, conveyance and end-of-pipe control measures that strive towards achieving significant environmental improvements, such as achieving Provincial Water Quality Objectives.

In the case of the CSO study area, the technical consultant recommended strategy 5a as the preferred strategy based on their evaluation. However, based on direction from the WWFMMP Steering Committee, two different strategies – 5a and 5b – were presented for public review and feedback. Strategy 5a is similar to Strategy 5 in the other study areas, with the main difference being that road sewer separation would be implemented in the CSO study area on an opportunistic basis where soil conditions permit. The combined sewer overflows that remain, after accounting for the benefits of the proposed source and conveyance controls, would be managed through the implementation of underground storage facilities to provide detention, followed by treatment to meet the requirements of the Ministry of the Environment's Procedure F-5-5 (policy for the control of combined sewer overflow discharges). Strategy 5b called for more aggressive road sewer separation, to separate road sewers from sanitary sewers in areas of the CSO study area that still have combined sewers.

Copies of presentations are available by request (please see Section 4 Next Steps for contact information). A list of displays that were available at each workshop is included as Appendix D.

3.0 What We Heard From Participants

Participants at each workshop were asked four focus questions during the roundtable discussion segment of the meetings. A complete detailed list of comments from participants, including written comments, is presented in Appendix E. This section presents a summary of overall themes of the feedback received on each question. Note that the first two focus questions were modified slightly for the CSO workshop to reflect the fact that two potential strategies were presented for review and feedback.

3.1 Feedback on the Preferred Strategy and 25-Year Plan

Focus Question 1: *What do you see as the most positive aspects of the preferred strategy and 25-year plan?*

CSO Study Area: *What do you see as the most positive aspects of the consultant's recommended strategy (strategy 5a) and 25-year plan?*

Overall Themes:

All workshops except CSO Study Area: Most participants supported the direction and approach being proposed, focusing on the following benefits:

- Taking initiative, showing awareness, and having a plan in place.
- Tangible 5-year plans.
- The recognition of the importance of public education and community involvement.
- Stream and habitat restoration, improving water quality and recreational opportunities.
- Inclusion of the "905" municipalities.

CSO Study Area: Some participants supported Strategy 5a, some supported 5b, and others wanted more information about 5c (which was tabled at the meeting by a Steering Committee member). Many participants had questions regarding the strategies and did not state a clear preference. In general, there was support for:

- The aggressive approach.
- The concept of collective responsibility.
- The objectives.
- The requirements / standards for new developments to manage stormwater on site.

3.2 Suggested Changes to the Preferred Strategy and 25-Year Plan

Focus Question 2: *What changes to the preferred strategy and 25-year plan would you suggest? Why?*

CSO Study Area: *What changes to the consultant's recommended strategy (strategy 5a) and 25-year plan would you suggest? Why? If your preference is for an alternative strategy (e.g. strategy 5b or another strategy), please indicate why.*

Overall Themes:

Don Study Area:
- Accelerate implementation: complete the Plan in less time than 25 years, and include a target date by which time Toronto will be de-listed as an RAP Area of Concern.
- Work more closely with the "905" municipalities and other levels of government as Toronto's water is affected by their activities;
- Focus on both water quality (preventing toxics from entering the system - *it was noted by City staff that the Wet Weather Plan does address dry weather issues and there is also a sewer use bylaw to help address this problem*) and quantity (diverting household grey water out of the system and impacts of climate change on flows);
- Use both incentives and regulations; and
- Rely on a creative and effective public education strategy.

Humber Study Area:
- Implement best management practices;
- Enforce new bylaws to ensure downspouts are properly disconnected; and
- Implement effective public education and outreach.

Highland/Rouge Study Area:
- Focus on preventing toxics from entering the system in the first place *(it was noted by City staff that the Wet Weather Plan does address dry weather issues and there is also a sewer use bylaw to help address this problem).*

Etobicoke/Mimico Study Area:
- Focus on preventing toxics from entering the system in the first place *(it was noted by City staff that the Wet Weather Plan does address dry weather issues and there is also a sewer use bylaw to help address this problem)*;
- Implement "biggest bang for the buck" strategies first;
- Acquire properties that would be suitable for stormwater retention areas;
- Concern about the potential negative impact of the deflector arm on fish habitat, aesthetics and sedimentation and flow regimes in the Lake; and
- Concern about losing the limited recreational green space in Etobicoke to wet ponds or other stormwater facilities.

CSO Study Area:
- Enhance and accelerate source controls, particularly downspout disconnections;
- Implement road sewer separation in the remaining parts of the CSO study area;
- Address impairment of water quality in Ashbridges Bay by giving non-beach recreational uses of the waterfront (e.g. boating areas such as Ashbridges Bay and Coatsworth Cut) the same designation and protection as beach areas (i.e. as full body contact recreational areas); and
- More information is needed on Strategy 5c.

3.3 Feedback on Potential Funding Mechanisms

Focus Question 3: *What reactions, if any, do you have to the potential funding mechanisms presented?*

Overall Themes:

Don Study Area: Participants were generally very supportive of spending the money necessary and raising funds through water and sewer surcharges, while not supporting user charges or property tax increases.

Humber Study Area: Participants generally supported user charges and increases in water and sewer surcharges, as well as the enforcement of penalties based on size of impermeable area or failing to disconnect a downspout, but did not support property tax increases.

Highland/Rouge Study Area: Participants generally supported financial incentives, water and sewer surcharges and user charges as funding mechanisms, and did not support property tax increases.

Etobicoke/Mimico Study Area: Participants generally supported a combination of water and sewer surcharges and development charges, and did not support property tax increases. Participants also favoured a combination of incentives and penalties to encourage homeowners to take positive action.

CSO Study Area: In general, participants supported water and sewer surcharges and user charges based on impervious area, and did not support increased property taxes. Participants also supported the use of financial incentives and penalties to encourage residents to implement source controls on their property and conserve water, and suggested that the City be more aggressive in seeking funding from other levels of government and the private sector. In addition, participants suggested a number of creative funding and incentive mechanisms such as not charging sales tax on environmentally friendly products.

3.4 What Are You Willing To Do?

Focus Question 4: *What are you, both as individuals and representatives of community organizations, willing to do to help implement the strategy/plan? What projects or plan components can you assist with?*

Overall Themes:

Don Study Area: Participants were generally enthusiastic about being part of the solution.

Humber Study Area: Participants were generally enthusiastic about being involved in clean-up activities and public education and outreach.

Highland/Rouge Study Area: Participants were generally enthusiastic about making varying levels of commitment and getting involved in a number of ways.

Etobicoke/Mimico Study Area: Participants were willing to take action on their own properties, as well as get involved in public education efforts.

CSO Study Area: A few participants commented that they could help with communications and monitoring.

3.5 Other Feedback

In addition to the feedback and advice received in response to the focus questions, participants raised additional issues and made further suggestions during the workshop that were focused in the areas process, information requests and concerns. Following are the key messages from those general comments:

Process

- Toronto Public Health should be represented on the Steering Committee because of the impact of drinking water quality on the health of Toronto residents.
- The information is too complex for participants to be able to provide meaningful feedback.
- Use incentives to encourage the public to participate more in the decision-making process.
- Consult the public on an ongoing basis.

More information is needed in a more accessible format in the following areas:

- Strategies 5a, 5b and 5c in the CSO area.
- The structure of new institutions that will be needed to implement the Plan and how they will be transparent to the public and accountable to elected representatives.

Concerns

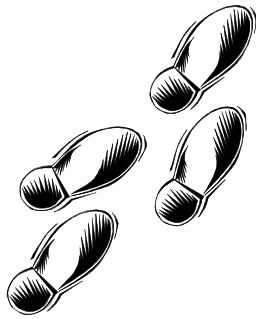
- After 25 years, this Plan will still fail to meet many Provincial Water Quality Objectives; in particular, *E. coli* levels will still be critical.
- Wet ponds are a hazard to children and will breed mosquitoes.
- The increasing levels of pharmaceuticals being found in the water are a concern.
- Concern with increasing soil pollution by allowing polluted water to infiltrate into groundwater.

4.0 Next Steps

Michael D'Andrea closed the workshops by reiterating the importance of this project to the City and all of its residents. He indicated that feedback from these workshops will help guide the Steering Committee and the City in the final stages of the planning process as the Plan is prepared for presentation to the Works Committee and City Council.

He noted that a report on the workshops would be distributed to all meeting participants that registered at the workshops. **If you have any comments to make on this report, please forward them by February 28, 2002** to:

William To
City of Toronto
Works & Emergency Services
Public Consultation Unit
Metro Hall, 55 John Street, 19th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6
Phone: 416-392-6698
Fax: 416-392-2974
wto@city.toronto.on.ca



The next step in the WWFMMP process will be to finalize the Master Plan, including the 100-year preferred strategies for the entire City and each of the study areas and subwatersheds, the 25-year implementation plan, the funding plan and draft wet weather flow policy for approval by the City's Works Committee and by City Council. The Master Plan will then be submitted to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment for formal public review and approval under the Class Environmental Assessment process.

Appendix A Publicity and Outreach Materials

The half-page advertisement below was placed in the following community newspapers: North York Mirror on October 11, 2002, and the East York-Riverdale Mirror, Beach- Riverdale Mirror, Annex Guardian, Bloor West Villager, Etobicoke Guardian and Scarborough Mirror on October 18, 2002:

Jump in and Get Involved!

Public Workshops, October 2002

DO YOU CARE ABOUT…a cleaner Lake Ontario? …healthier rivers? …beaches where you can swim?

What's the problem?
Toronto experiences a number of problems when rainwater and melting snow flow through our city. The flowing stormwater picks up pollution that ends up in our creeks, rivers and Lake Ontario, often causing beaches to be unsafe for swimming. Other problems include basement flooding, erosion of riverbanks, and loss of fish habitat.

New plan ready for public discussion!
The City of Toronto, along with interested members of the public, government agencies, watershed groups, and consultants have been working on a plan to help solve these problems. The plan is called the Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan.

The proposed city-wide plan is now ready for public discussion. This new plan sets out a blueprint for how we can help solve Toronto's water pollution problems, clean up our rivers and lake, and make our beaches safer for swimming.

What can you do?
With a new plan on the table, now is the most important time to have your say! Come to a public workshop and tell us what you think about the plan and the solutions being considered for your area -- perhaps disconnecting your downspout, new "leaky" pipe technologies, or a stormwater pond -- and share your views on how we should pay for the improvements the plan will bring.

TORONTO

Here are the details:

Public Workshops	When?	What?	Where?
Workshop #1 Don River Watershed	Thursday, October 17 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	All workshops: Open house/displays 6 – 7 p.m. Formal meeting 7 – 9:30 p.m.	Memorial Hall Burgundy Room 5110 Yonge Street (North York Centre Subway station)
Workshop #2 Humber River Watershed	Tuesday, October 22 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.		Black Creek Pioneer Village North Theatre 1000 Murray Ross Parkway (Steeles and Jane)
Workshop #3 Highland/Rouge Watersheds	Wednesday, October 23 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.		Cedar Brook Community Centre Ballroom 91 Eastpark Blvd. (Markham Rd & Lawrence)
Workshop #4 Etobicoke/Mimico Watersheds	Thursday, October 24 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.		Polish Alliance Hall 2282 Lake Shore Blvd. W. (Lake Shore & Park Lawn)
Workshop #5 Combined Sewer Study Area	Monday, October 28 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.		Toronto Bahai Centre Main Hall 288 Bloor St W. (Bloor & Spadina)

If you would like to attend a workshop, please let us know by calling 416-392-9365.

Information on transit routes to meeting locations is also available at this number.

Appendix B Sample Workshop Agenda

WET WEATHER FLOW MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN
PREFERRED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WORSHOP

October 23, 2002
Highland/Rouge Study Area

Workshop Purpose: To seek community feedback on the preferred wet weather management strategy, as well as the 25-year Implementation Plan and Funding Plan.

Agenda

6:00 p.m. **Open House/Displays**

Workshop

7:00 **Workshop Purpose and Agenda Review**
- Facilitator – Joanna Kidd, Lura Consulting
- Introduction of participants

7:05 **Welcome to Participants**
- City of Toronto and WWFMMP Steering Committee members

Presentations

7:10 **1) City-Wide Plan for Managing Wet Weather Flow**
- City of Toronto, Michael D'Andrea

7:30 **2) Preferred Strategy and 25-Year Implementation Plan for Don Study Area**
- Study Area Team – Dave Maunder, Aquafor Beech

Questions of clarification

8:10 **Roundtable Discussions**
- Feedback on the Strategy / Plan
- Paying for the Plan

9:00 **Roundtable Reports and Plenary Discussion**
- Community Involvement in Implementation:
  What are you, both as individuals and representatives of community organizations, willing to do to help implement the strategy / plan? What projects or plan components can you assist with?

9:25 **Next Steps and Closing Remarks**
- City of Toronto and WWFMMP Steering Committee members

Appendix C List of Participants

The following is a list of participants who signed in at each workshop.

Don Workshop

Christopher B. Anderson	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Carl Bodimeade	
Margaret Casey	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Shinae Choi	
Jackie Clark	
Geoff Cook	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Don Cross	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Paula Davies	Don Watershed Regeneration Council, Friends of the Don East
M. Duess	
K. Dunsmore	Don Mills Residents Inc.
Laurian Farrell	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
B. Flanagan	Friends of the Don East
Phil Goodwin	East Don Parkland Partners
Moyra Haney	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Peter Heinz	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Adina Israel	
Chai Kaleran	Just 1 world
Vicki Kentala	Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant Neighbourhood Liaison Committee
John Laraway	Friends of the Don East
Bill Lew	
Katie MacDonald	City of Toronto, Parks and Recreation
D. MacFadyen	OSWCA
Deborah Martin Downs	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Richard Mayo	
A. McCammon	Friends of the Don East
Clay McFayden	
Roslyn Moore	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Evelyn Morrison	
Doug Obright	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Stephen Orkle	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Frank Pastor	Bayview Village Association
Mel Plewes	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Greg Porter	
Joe Puopolo	Dillon Consulting
Michael Rosenberg	Environment and Economy Coalition

Sam Samantha	City of Toronto
Steve Smith	
Amy Thurston	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Mike Trudall	
Vivian Tu	
L. Turnbull	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Bobby Venizelos	Lake Ontario Keeper
Marlene von der Porten	York Ridge Homeowners Association
Jeanne von der Porten	York Ridge Homeowners Association
T. Wells	Don Watershed Regeneration Council

Humber Workshop

Sandy Agnew	Black Creek Project
Casey Brendan	City of Toronto
Beth Cragg	City of Toronto
M. L. Eadie	
Gagateklan	SWAP
George Leja	Humber Creek Restoration Group
Malcolm McDowell	Humber Heritage Committee
Alan Chu	
Bruce Quick	City of Toronto
M. Quin	
Carol Ray	Humber Arboretum
Randall Reid	Etobicoke Chamber of Commerce
Carolyn Scotchmer	Evergreen
S.V. Soanes	
Nancy Stewart	Humber Alliance
Shelley Strain	Emery Creek Environmental Association

Highland/Rouge Workshop

Ryan Austin	
Aftikhar Awan	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Karen Boniface	Town of Markham / Scarborough resident, Friends of Highland Creek
Peter Boyes	Save the Rouge Valley System
Linda Carscadden	Save the Rouge Valley System
Carolyn Chong	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Peter Compagnon	
Geoff Cox	Fincore Industries
Colin de Luca	RACA
Steve Digby	
Denise Fraser	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Michael Gauthier	Centennial College Environmental Students Society

Don Haley	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Cathy Humphrey	Friends of Highland Creek
Kristine Ilx	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Samuel Lee	
Tsung Lo	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Paige Maddock	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
R. Marshall	Save the Rouge Valley System
Oladego Nadja	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Anthony Oesilva	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Vima Pastolero	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Paul Pennington	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Allen Quinlan	Toronto Field Naturalists and Canadian Wildlife Federation
Bob Quinn	
Jim Robb	Friends of the Rouge
Andrew Schulz	
William F. Sheridan	
Wayne Smith	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Ahmed Tanveer	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Frank Tian	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Rich Turzanski	
Peter Van Vliet	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Alexandria Velchinskaya	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Allison Vlasic	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
David Wood	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Jady Xin	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Leiming Xu	Centennial College Environmental Students Society
Xuecheng	

Etobicoke/Mimico Workshop

"Bud" Anderson	
Ruth Anderson	
Doug Counter	Resident
Adel Ghalis	
Carole Goyette	LAMP
Marilyn Haperman	Resident
Paul Holmes	Acres & Associated Environmental
Garry Kapitan	
Grant Lafontaine	Greater Toronto Airport Authority
Antonio Leo	
Wendy Lilly	Resident
M. Miask	
Don Morton	
Trish Murphy	

Sophie Ogurian	
Tony Reitmeier	Giffels Assoc. Ltd.
Michael Rosenberg	Environment and Economy Coalition
Fred Schneider	Resident
Helen Simon	
Rhona Swarbrick	
David Switzer	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Herman Todd	Etobicoke Yacht Club
Debbie Wagden	Lakefront Owners CCFEW

CSO Workshop

Ryan Austin	
Fred Buchinger	
Sandra Bussin	City Councillor
Don Cross	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Andrea Dawber	Friends of Dovercourt Park
Carolyn deGroot	Earth Tech Inc.
Sameer Dhalla	Earth Tech Inc.
Patrick Flynn	Toronto Hydroplane and Sailing Club
Danny Glenwright	Ryerson University
Mark Green	City of St. Catharines
Steve Grossman	
David Hanna	CFGD
Rimi Kalinauskas	Environment Canada
Brian Knoll	Council of Commodores
John Laraway	Friends of the Don East
Wendy Lee	Environmental Earth Angels
Phyllis Mayeda	
Eisel Mazard	Green Party
Andrew McCammon	Friends of the Don East
Evelyn Morrison	
Jim Neff	
Carolyn O'Neill	Environment Canada
Mel Plewes	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Robert Powell	Toronto Field Naturalists
Raj Ramphal	
Peter Remedios	
Michael Rosenberg	Environment and Economy Coalition
Pradeed Sibal	
E/S Stoate	Student, Havergal
Lorne Vineberg	Toronto Hydroplane and Sailing Club
Steven Webber	
Werner Wichmann	Earth Tech Inc.

WWFMMP Steering Committee

Suzanne Barrett	Waterfront Regeneration Trust
Teresa Bosco	Division of Parks and Recreation
Margaret Buchinger	Don Watershed Regeneration Council
Karen Buck	Implementation, Compliance and Monitoring Committee, CSE
Lino Grima	
John Hopkins	Implementation, Compliance and Monitoring Committee
Irene Jones	City Councillor
Peg Lush	Implementation, Compliance and Monitoring Committee
Luciano Martin	Action to Restore a Clean Humber
Karey Shinn	Safe Sewage Committee
Dalton Shipway	Friends of the Lower Don

Project Team

Les Arishenkoff	City of Toronto
Adel Ashamalla	MacViro
Rob Bishop	Marshall Macklin Monaghan
Laurie Boyce	CH2M Hill
Pat Chessie	City of Toronto
Michael D'Andrea	City of Toronto
Ray Dewey	City of Toronto
Adriana Gomez	City of Toronto
A. Gupta	City of Toronto
Christine Hill	XCG
Mae Lee	City of Toronto
Allen Li	City of Toronto
Dave Maunder	Aquafor Beech
Jeff McCormick	City of Toronto
Keri McMahon	City of Toronto
Mario Parente	CH2M Hill
Louis Portelli	City of Toronto
Ann Rexe	City of Toronto
Bill Snodgrass	City of Toronto
Ray Tufgar	TSH
Don Weatherbe	TSH
George Zukovs	XCG
Ilona Tarvydas	City of Toronto
William To	City of Toronto

Facilitator's Office

Eric Advokaat	Lura Consulting
Dave Dilks	Lura Consulting
Joanna Kidd	Lura Consulting
Barbara Mugabe	Lura Consulting
Nicole Swerhun	Lura Consulting

Appendix D Workshop Display Materials

The City and consultants were able to make available a number of displays that graphically depicted the content of the presentations, including:

- Overview of 4 step master planning process.
- Process steps for strategy development.
- Map showing 5 study areas.
- Objectives.
- Targets.
- Photos of 3 types of control measures – source; conveyance; end-of-pipe.
- Summary of the evaluation results, with emphasis on why strategy 5 is the preferred strategy.
- Concise description of preferred strategy – what it is.
- Concise description of 25-year implementation plan – what it is (including number, length and type of end-of-pipe and stream restoration projects).
- Maps showing locations of recommended initiatives for the 25-year plan and strategy 5 (and 5a in the CSO study area).
- Benefits – how plan will address principles and objectives, presented for a representative sub-watershed and for the whole study area; what improvements are expected and when.
- Costs – what are the costs and who pays.
- Proposed funding mechanisms.
- Concise overview of proposed stormwater policy.
- Concise overview of proposed monitoring program.
- Next steps – review of public feedback by Steering Committee; report to Works Committee and City Council; Environmental Assessment documentation and submission.

<u>Additional displays for the CSO area</u>

- What is a CSO panel - shows fully separated, partially separated and combined sewers.
- Description of Alternative Strategies 5a and 5b.
- Summary of Evaluation of Strategies 5a and 5b.
- 25-year plan for Strategies 5a and 5b, including costs and impacts.

Appendix E Detailed Feedback from Participants

Participants at each workshop were asked four focus questions. These questions and answers are presented in this section, including the written comments.

Feedback on the Preferred Strategy and 25-Year Plan

Focus Question 1: *What do you see as the most positive aspects of the preferred strategy and 25-year plan?*

CSO: *What do you see as the most positive aspects of the consultant's recommended strategy (strategy 5a) and 25-year plan?*

Participants at each workshop made the following points:

Don	• Taking initiative. • Effective combination of implementation and monitoring. • The long-term vision combined with tangible 5-year plans. • The inclusion of the "905" municipalities. • The plan is strategic, pragmatic and realistic, for example considering both at-source downspout disconnections and end-of-pipe CSO holding tanks. • Full spectrum of solutions from source to end-of-pipe, with an emphasis on source controls. • Recognition of importance of public education. • Specific solutions to specific problems. • Reduction in *E. coli* levels and basement flooding. • Habitat restoration. • That the City has a telephone hotline for people to report stormwater related issues (especially local problems).
Humber	• The overall strategy is good. • The 5-year review periods will allow progress to be tracked, identification of areas requiring further work, and problems to be quickly addressed. • The inclusion of the "905" municipalities. • Full spectrum of solutions from source to end-of-pipe. • Focus on naturalization, improving water quality, habitat, biodiversity and recreation.

Highland/Rouge	• The focus on taking an active approach to addressing the problem. • The fact that there is a plan in place. • The watershed approach. • The community involvement aspect of the plan. • Public education is the key. • The overall objectives, specifically the focus on improving water quality, increasing public green spaces, decreasing basement flooding, hydrological improvements (slowing peak flows, reducing flood risk), creek restoration, improved habitats for fish and other wildlife, improved recreation and tourism and cleaner beaches. • Centennial College students commented that they appreciate the potential volunteer, employment and job-training opportunities.
Etobicoke/Mimico	• The fact that there is a plan / strategy in place and that it aims high. • The long-term approach (100 years) – the plan is like planting a tree - we will eventually enjoy the shade. • This project shows an awareness of the problem that will lead to taking action and realizing improvements. • The plan will encourage cooperation between all levels of governments. • The focus on public education will change people's habits and prevent more problems like this in the future. • Preventing stormwater from reaching the Lake. • Cleaning the rivers and creeks from source to mouth. • The cost is manageable. • Improved health, fisheries, stream restoration, aesthetics, better recreational opportunities, swimmable beaches, more trees, better habitat, safer drinking water.
CSO/Waterfront	• The concept of collective responsibility. • The aggressive approach. • The practical plan and 25-year timeline with 5-year review periods makes it easy to track progress. • The objectives. • The investment in improving water quality. • Strategy 5a is comprehensive and impressive, taking into consideration the whole hierarchy of solutions as well as monitoring.

- The flexibility of Strategy 5a with source controls, which allows homeowners and the general public to play a large role.
- Preference for Strategy 5a because of the higher quality of water.
- There are few positive elements to note.
- Emphasis on beaches and recreational areas – these are achievable goals.
- The requirements / standards for new developments to manage stormwater on site.
- The Plan will have a major positive impact on Toronto's ecology and the health and safety of its residents.
- The pollution abatement.

Suggested Changes to the Preferred Strategy and 25-Year Plan

Focus Question 2: *What changes to the preferred strategy and 25-year plan would you suggest? Why?*

CSO: *What changes to the consultant's recommended strategy (strategy 5a) and 25-year plan would you suggest? Why? If your preference is for an alternative strategy (e.g. strategy 5b or another strategy), please indicate why.*

Participants at each workshop made the following points:

Don

Water Quantity

- Ensure the Plan can accommodate increasing water quantities that will result from climate change.

Water Quality

- Shift focus of Plan from water quantity to water quality; should / could be doing more to address toxics.

Partnerships

- Increase coordination between related plans and departments in the City.
- Extend the plan more into the "905" municipalities.
- Involve the provincial and federal governments more, especially regarding public education.

Public Education and Outreach

- There needs to be more public education in the early years to build momentum.
- Educate to decrease imperviousness of lots and increase stormwater-friendly landscaping.
- The public education program should be creative and go beyond simple pamphlets.
- Use public education and outreach to target specific sectors such as the average person and industry, the biggest culprits of toxics and volume of stormwater.

Timeline

- Accelerate the plan to see benefits more quickly: complete the plan in 20 years.
- Include a date by which time Toronto will be de-listed as an Area of Concern.

Implementation and Monitoring

- Encourage more detailed look at each subwatershed.
- Consider townhouses and condos to be exempt from water conservation.

- Consider diverting household grey water (water from the sink, shower, laundry) out of the sewer system.
- All downspouts should be disconnected.
- Driveways should no longer be allowed to drain to the sewer system.
- Implement incentives and enforce bylaws/change building codes and standards to achieve some of the goals of the plan, such as decreasing imperviousness of lots.
- Use a combination of incentives and regulations.
- Remember that industry has a large role to play in the solution, not just homeowners.
- Focus on industry as the source of pollution.
- Reduce emphasis on river restoration until measurable improvements in water quantity are achieved.
- Take money from removing fish barrier and spend it on other water quality and quantity improvements.
- Make it easier for residents to dispose of hazardous waste properly.
- Have staff respond to the complaints made on the telephone hotline with a site visit.

Humber

- Increase emphasis on best management practices.
- Greater public education and outreach is needed for the Plan to work.
- Ponds should enhance the ecological value of the area.
- Consider 'quick hits' such as street sweeping, catch basin and waterfront clean-ups.
- Incorporate new technologies that encourage infiltration.
- Need strict enforcement of bylaws to prevent people disconnecting their downspout from the sewer system to avoid charges but then draining to the creek via another route.

Highland/Rouge

Public Education and Outreach

- Educate the public not to use pesticides, road salt or drain their pools into the system.
- Find a way to get the public more involved, make the information easier to understand.
- Promote environmentally-friendly features such as rooftop gardens and composting toilets to commercial buildings, condos and apartment buildings.

Timeline

- Accelerate the plan to see benefits more quickly.

Implementation and Monitoring

- Work on a subwatershed level: improve one subwatershed to a certain level, e.g. 40% of targets, before moving on to next subwatershed.
- Increase the focus on legislated and bylaw solutions to the water quality problem, such as making rainbarrels mandatory.
- Concern about the practicality of rainbarrels, and the risk of basement flooding if downspouts are disconnected.
- Make "emissions" (of toxics such as sulphur and gasoline) control a priority rather than cleaning up the water once it is already polluted.
- Create emissions standards – maximum concentrations that can be emitted of each contaminant.
- Ban pesticides.
- Monitor and charge industries for the toxic waste they produce.
- Do not put a deflector arm into the Lake.
- Make the removal of fish barriers mandatory.

Etobicoke/Mimico

Process

- Use an environmental perspective when working on this project, and provide non-partisan solutions to pollution problems.

Partnerships

- Strengthen links with "905" municipalities.

Implementation and Monitoring

- Improvements should be value-based – focus on getting the biggest bang for the least dollars first.
- The plan should be flexible enough to incorporate innovative new technologies.
- Buy properties that could be put to use as natural stormwater retention areas.
- Spend more money on source controls and preventing pollution such as pesticides and fertilizers from entering stormwater in the first place.
- Implement bans / bylaws against pesticides and chemical fertilizers.
- Increase inspections to monitor sewer discharges and levels of pollutants.
- Monitor water use to determine who is diluting their sewer discharge with clean water to meet the guidelines of the sewer discharge bylaw.
- Include a strategy for dealing with goose and other animal droppings.

- Place an immediate moratorium on the replacement of ditches with sewers in Etobicoke; replace existing curbs with more ditches.
- Learn from nature's way of dealing with stormwater, such as replicating the way beavers create dams on streams.
- The stormwater pond proposed for Amos Waites Park should be installed more quickly; the area, which includes a heritage beach, should not be filled in to create a marsh. The beach is actively used by the surrounding community, and concerns about the risk of the West Nile Virus if a marsh is created are more important than the current goose population.
- Start implementation in Mimico, not Long Branch, as the waterfront in Long Branch is mostly privately owned and the Mimico site is more urgent.
- Wet ponds (and other habitat) and beaches should be spread out, not all in one place. Communities should be able to choose whether they want a pond or a beach / more habitat in their area.
- Concern about open water in wet ponds in terms of children's safety and mosquito breeding habitat.
- Concern about the deflector arm – please examine that idea carefully to make sure it will not detrimentally affect the flow of lake and create more problems than it solves. What will it look like? Will it disturb existing fish habitat?
- Wet ponds and other aboveground end-of-pipe solutions should not decrease the limited amount of open green space available for recreation in South Etobicoke.

CSO/Waterfront

Process

- Take a long-term approach: spend the money now so we can save later.
- Include a table that lists the 13 WWFMMP Objectives and the plan's outcome for each of them for each of the study areas. Provide information on the calculable impact on the city's health of current levels of PCBs and other contaminants in the water, and how these impacts will change over time with the new strategy.
- Present the plan to the Sustainability Roundtable to help evaluate and understand its ecological, social and economic effects in the long-term.
- Plan for and build in accountability and transparency mechanisms for new institutions.

Strategy 5a

- Strategy 5a over-emphasizes end-of-pipe solutions; thus it is less environmentally sound than the other strategies.

Strategy 5b

- Separate the combined sewer system as soon as possible.
- I prefer Strategy 5b because it keeps the rain out of the sanitary drain.
- If 75% of the CSO area was separated in 25-30 years, the rest should be possible to do in 12-15 years.

Strategy 5c

- Strategy 5c should be fully analyzed regarding financial and environmental implications for the sake of comparison.
- Strategy 5c looks like Strategy 5. Do a full analysis of both Strategies 5 and 5c to see whether a more rigorous approach to source and conveyance controls would reduce the end-of-pipe cost.

Water Quality

- Do not let any untreated effluent enter the watercourses and lake.

Timeline

- Implement this plan over a shorter time frame.

Implementation

- Continue to repair and upgrade the sewer system.
- Designate recreational boating areas (e.g. Ashbridges Bay) as full body contact recreation areas.
- Look for insight from other countries, such as Germany's tax breaks and no net loss of green space policies.
- Decentralize the management of stormwater and CSOs.
- The City should take an active role in ensuring that public and private undertakings are in full compliance with the WWFMMP.
- The City should stay abreast of new and emerging technologies to achieve the new WWFMMP policy objectives.

Source Control

- Be aggressive with source control and have as much as possible. Emphasize source controls, such as soakaway pits, porous pavers, green rooftops and downspout disconnections, on commercial, institutional and industrial properties with large outdoor parking and storage capability. Provide free advice, materials and design assistance, with suggestions for "work parties" as was done for St. Peter's Anglican Church by the former City of Toronto.
- The City should demonstrate leadership with the use of porous pavers and leaving more space around trees to ensure their viability. Heavily publicize these initiatives.

- Public buildings, schools, libraries and parks should have permeable pavement.
- Implement odd / even lawn watering all year for everyone.

Conveyance Control

- If road sewer separation does not produce good results, then use the money on treatment.
- Include overland flow as one of the options for consideration in this area.

End-of-pipe Control

- End-of-pipe should be for treating stormwater only – it is less costly and the facilities can be greener.
- When constructing wet ponds, consider the health and safety concerns related to the West Nile Virus.
- Sewage should receive secondary treatment, not just primary.
- Install tertiary treatment at sewage plants.
- Ozonate sewage plant discharge in summer and discontinue in winter.

Priorities

- Make recommendations and set priorities on a sewershed basis, i.e. identify objectives and priorities for each sewershed on the basis of watershed goals and objectives. Take action based on a risk analysis; apply money to top priorities such as basement flooding. Once the risk is reduced to acceptable levels, work should proceed to the next highest priority. Use incremental improvements on a sewershed basis as the measurable objective.
- Basement flooding should be a top priority.
- Include the road salt issue in this plan.
- Reconsider the four high-priority spending items; the money would be better spent on items that more directly address the WWFMMP Objectives.

Mandatory Solutions

- Make it mandatory for developers to manage stormwater on-site – do not accept cash-in-lieu.
- Increase emphasis on pollution prevention – bylaws to ban pesticides, fertilizers, road salt.
  Bylaws and provincial legislation should be introduced for developers (to make on-site stormwater management mandatory) and homeowners (to ban pesticides and fertilizers, to prevent asphalt driveways from being expanded, to mandate the use of porous pavers).
- Make the following changes to the building code: 1) requirements for minimum percentage of green space / green roofs; 2) grey

water plan for homeowners, such as downspout disconnections; 3) new developments should separate grey and black water;black water gets composted, grey water routed to ponds and green spaces; 4) new developments should have stormwater wetlands and/or parks; 5) new technologies to reduce rehabilitation and sewage treatment by 40% with Oloids (www.oloid.ch); and 6) create fish scale swales in areas where stormwater runs downhill from parks/green space onto pavement.

Monitoring

- Monitoring should happen along the length of streams so that pollution sources can be more easily pinpointed and tracked down.

Feedback on Potential Funding Mechanisms

Focus Question 3: *What reactions, if any, do you have to the potential funding mechanisms presented?*

Participants at each workshop made the following points:

Don

Overall Cost

- The $1.2 billion over 25 years figure could be perceived as good or bad depending on how it is described.
- The cost is worth it.
- $1.5 billion over 25 years is cheap (~$20 / household).
- A good public education strategy may result in greater benefits-to-costs ratio.
- The funding mechanisms are poorly thought out and lack creativity.
- All revenue generated by this project should be made available for this project, not like the levy for sewers that goes to general revenue.

Water and Sewer Surcharges

- $30 / year increase in water bill is a reasonable amount to achieve the goals.
- An Angus Reid poll showed that water bill increases were supported by Don residents.

Property Taxes

- Concern about impact on taxpayers.

User Charges

Polluter-pay principle will work better for industrial and commercial than for residential.

Grants and Subsidies from Others

- The provincial and federal governments must help fund this – they helped create the problem.
- Funding should come from all three levels of government as well as from residents.

Combinations

- Resistance to user charges and increases to taxes.

Humber

Overall Cost

- Include environmental NGOs in the Plan; the City can assist these groups apply for funding.

Water and Sewer Surcharges

- $30 / year increase in water bill is a reasonable amount to achieve

the goals.

Property Taxes

- Residential tax increases are not popular and should not be the largest source of funds.

User Charges

- Industry should pay its fair share.
- Support for user pay system.
- Owners of parking lots should pay a penalty based on the size of their impervious area.
- Knowing where the most impervious areas are (residential or commercial) is necessary to selecting funding mechanisms.
- Concern with the 'impermeable area approach': owners of hard surfaces will find way of hooking up to the system without paying.

Partnerships with Private Sector and Special Events

- Seek revenue from commercial / industrial sector.

Highland/Rouge

Overall

- Look for ways the government can save money internally, e.g. cancel programs.

Water and Sewer Surcharges

- $30 / year increase in water bill is a reasonable amount.
- Add charges to the water bill.
- Lift the cap on maximum fines under the new sewer use bylaw.

Property Taxes

- Do not increase property taxes.
- Implement tax incentives for people who implement positive changes on their properties, such as downspout disconnections or increasing their permeable surface area.
- Tax commercial development along the beaches; since they pass their costs on to consumers, it is a form of user fees.

User Charges

- Businesses and industries should pay more.
- Charges should be based on ratio of impermeable to permeable surface lot area.
- Apply user fees.

Partnerships with Private Sector and Special Events

- Seek funding from private / corporate donors and senior levels of government.

Etobicoke/Mimico

Overall

- Decide on the level of funding needed first, then decide how to raise the funds.
- Compensate people who are especially impacted by stormwater pollution, such as those of us who live on the shore of the Lake and have to deal with the smell.
- A strategy is needed to spread the costs associated with public spaces, such as roads.
- Encourage increased residential density, but tax the amount of impervious surface.
- It is going to cost a lot to "save the world," and this is just one of those costs, along with Kyoto, energy, etc.
- I am concerned about the amount of money we are being asked to put into this plan when it will not even achieve the Provincial Water Quality Objectives.

Water and Sewer Surcharges

- Use the water bill as a funding mechanism.

Property Taxes

- Using property taxes or actual value assessment is unfair for those on fixed incomes.
- Concern that if the majority of funding comes from a tax increase that the long amortization period will result in long delays.

User Charges

Charge for the amount of water used by each individual that goes beyond what has been determined to be necessary for basic human needs.

- Implement incentives for people who make positive changes, such as installing pervious pavement and disconnecting downspouts, and for industries who modify their parking lots and improve their discharge.
- Penalize homeowners who take negative steps, such as widening their driveways.

Grants and Subsidies from Others

- Apply for funding from the Trillium Foundation and the Toronto Community Foundation.

Combinations

- Use the water rate and development charges as funding mechanisms.
- Use a combination of fee structures, such as the water bill and development charges, along with incentives for individuals or businesses who innovate, such as building green roofs, installing pervious pavement, or adding wetlands and rainbarrels – e.g. York University should be recognized for their new building.

CSO/Waterfront

Overall

- The funding mechanisms presented are inadequate.
- Everyone benefits from clean water, therefore everyone should pay, including the ICI sector, perhaps according to the amount of pollution they contribute.
- The $30 million allocated for public education and outreach and $44 million for the deflector arm would be better spent on directly reducing the causes of environmental degradation.

Water and Sewer Surcharges

- Flat rates, water rate increases, or a combination would be acceptable.
- $30 / year increase in water bill is a reasonable amount to achieve the goals, unless the water bill goes up for other reasons as well such as infrastructure renewal.
- Water and sewer surcharges are the most practical, and intuitively linked to stormwater, especially if combined with a credit for increasing the amount of pervious area on the lot.
- Implement a single rate system for water.
- Eliminate bulk water metering.

Property Taxes

- Do not rely entirely on the residential tax base to fund this plan.
- Property tax increases are not acceptable.

User Charges

- User fees are charged for conservation areas; they should be charged for beaches as well.
- Penalize people for excessive use of water.
- Monitor the quality of the water leaving individual lots and charge / penalize owners on that basis.
- Apply a user charge, based on percent impervious area, to the water bill.
- User charges may be expensive to administer, but it has been done throughout the world, so there must be a way to manage it, and it could be an effective way to get people to reduce impervious areas on their lots, especially if incentives are included.
- If user fees are used, then the plan should give highest priority to the areas of the City experiencing the biggest overflow problems.
- Provide incentives to implement source controls and increase pervious area.

Grants and Subsidies from Others

- Do not charge provincial or federal sales tax on environmentally friendly products such as hand lawnmowers.

- Seek provincial, federal and private funding more aggressively. Learn how to make the case for more funding from groups like that which just got money approved to expand the Island Airport.
- Do not pay GST on any portion of this project if the federal government will not help fund it.
- Approach the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to fund stream and habitat restoration.
- Share funding with Division of Parks and Recreation to finance the expansion of existing wetlands.
- The province should help fund this project since they are the ones telling the City what to do.

What Are You Willing To Do?

Focus Question 4: *What are you, both as individuals and representatives of community organizations, willing to do to help implement the strategy/plan? What projects or plan components can you assist with?*

Participants at each workshop made the following points:

Don	• Lot level source controls, e.g. downspout disconnections. • Stream restoration and plantings. • Clean-up events for valleys. • Help get the message out. • Public education and special projects through the Don Council. • With staff support and funding, could continue Friends of the Don East programs such as "Another Yard for the Don" awards for naturalizing and reducing pesticide and fertilizer use. • Anything, with the proper information.
Humber	• Assist with public education through articles in newsletters, seminars and meetings. • Schools could assist with beach and park clean-up activities.
Highland/Rouge	• The City should make signs for residents saying "My eavestroughs are watering my lawn." • Tree planting. • Creek clean-ups (these should be scheduled more Frequently). • Start a program to tour gardens and yards that incorporate environmental features. • Form volunteer public committees, one for each activity such as downspout disconnections, to talk and distribute flyers to residents, business owners and apartment building managers. • Host a university / college competition to design a better rainbarrel. • Centennial College students see this plan as an opportunity to get involved with the community, get valuable experience, and learn how to apply their knowledge in the field while doing something worthwhile at the same time.
Etobicoke/Mimico	• Stop washing cars in driveway. • Partially or totally disconnect downspouts. • Volunteer. • Tell our friends.

	• Get involved with public education. • Participate with non-partisan groups interested in stormwater public education. • Work through TRCA watershed groups.
CSO/Waterfront	• City should prepare and distribute a household audit on water "sorting." • Willingness to help the City communicate better regarding the downspout disconnection issue. • Volunteer for any aspect of implementation, such as demonstrations of source controls at city-organized events and Home shows. • Participate in monitoring and using data to review and refine the plan.

Other Feedback

In addition to the feedback and advice received in response to the focus questions, participants raised additional issues and suggestions during the workshop.

Participants at each workshop made the following points:

Don	• Health professionals / departments should be represented on the Steering Committee, because good quality drinking water would result in a great improvement to the health of Toronto citizens, thereby reducing health care costs. • There is too much complex information for me to be able to provide meaningful feedback. • Take action on the City's snow dumps that are so highly concentrated with salt. • Concern that *E. coli* levels will still be critical after 25 years. • Concern with increasing soil pollution by allowing polluted water to infiltrate into groundwater. • Residential source control has not happened before, what makes this any different?
Humber	• Concern that ponds will be a hazard for children and will breed mosquitoes. • Encourage the public to participate in the decision-making process by advertising workshops with water bills and enclosing coupons and other incentives such as $5 off next water bill for those who participate in the consultations.
Highland/Rouge	• Consider the Highland subwatershed as an exciting opportunity to de-list a stream as a RAP Area of Concern. Do not write it off simply because there are more polluted areas in the City. • Do not be afraid to make mistakes: some decisions will be right, others a learning experience. • Concern about the increasing presence of pharmaceuticals in the water.
Etobicoke/Mimico	• This plan only addresses stormwater pollution, even though there are other sources of pollution to the lake. I am concerned that we might spend all this money and still have closed beaches. • The City's new Official Plan should set a target for the amount of roof area in the City that should be converted to green roofs. • It might be useful to get cost studies from the "905" municipalities to give us a sense of how accurate our cost estimates are.

CSO/Waterfront

General

- Consider what we are passing on to our great grandchildren.
- The City must adequately plan for the challenge of building staff capabilities to be able to fully implement and deliver the WWFMMP Plan.

Process

- The amount of information is overwhelming.
- The agenda was constraining and not set by the participants.
- The public should be consulted on an ongoing basis, not once every few years.

Information Requests

- Information requested on how provincial bills 175 and 195 relate to the WWFMMP.
- More specific information on the CSO area and Strategies 5a and 5b is needed.
- Interest in knowing which strategy would create the most jobs.
- More information needed on why Strategy 5b is reported to have lower water quality even though all the sanitary flow receives secondary treatment.
- Concern over disagreement between Steering Committee and technical consultant; desire for more information on the reason for the disagreement.
- More information needed on whether new institutions will be public, private or a shared-sector arrangement; how the new enforcement, regulation and reward mechanisms will be accountable to elected representatives and transparent to the public; and how the awarding of contracts will be managed at City Hall.
- Without a corresponding study of the condition of the sanitary sewers, it is questionable whether it makes sense to add expensive new tanks onto what may be a crumbling old system.
- Information requested on how much each strategy would cost per homeowner.
- What are the cost savings in enhancing the sanitary system instead of working with the problems and constraints of the old sewers?
- It is important to know what the maximum population is that can be supported in the City. Limits may be needed on the amount of commercial, industrial, and institutional space that will be developed

Concerns

- Concern about whether or not the strategies and 25- or 100-year plans will result in Toronto being de-listed as an Area of Concern.
- Concern that F-5-5 legislation still allows occasional overflows, and Eastern Beaches will still be closed 20-25% of the time.
- Concern that this plan fails to meet all applicable Provincial Water Quality Objectives after 25 years.
- Endorsing this plan will result in the perpetuation of the unhealthy and unsustainable levels of water pollution and ecosystem damage.
- Concern that the plan does not address non-beach uses of the waterfront, such as the sailing clubs.
- Concern that this plan does not address basement flooding caused by infiltration and inflow.
- Concern that the CSO storage facilities will be pumped to the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant and that the high metal content of combined sewage will have a negative impact on the biosolids.
- Concern over the City's ability to monitor new developments in terms of what gets built for drainage underneath the development.
- Concern that statistics were only presented for dry weather conditions.