

# **Rouge National Urban Park Draft Management Plan**

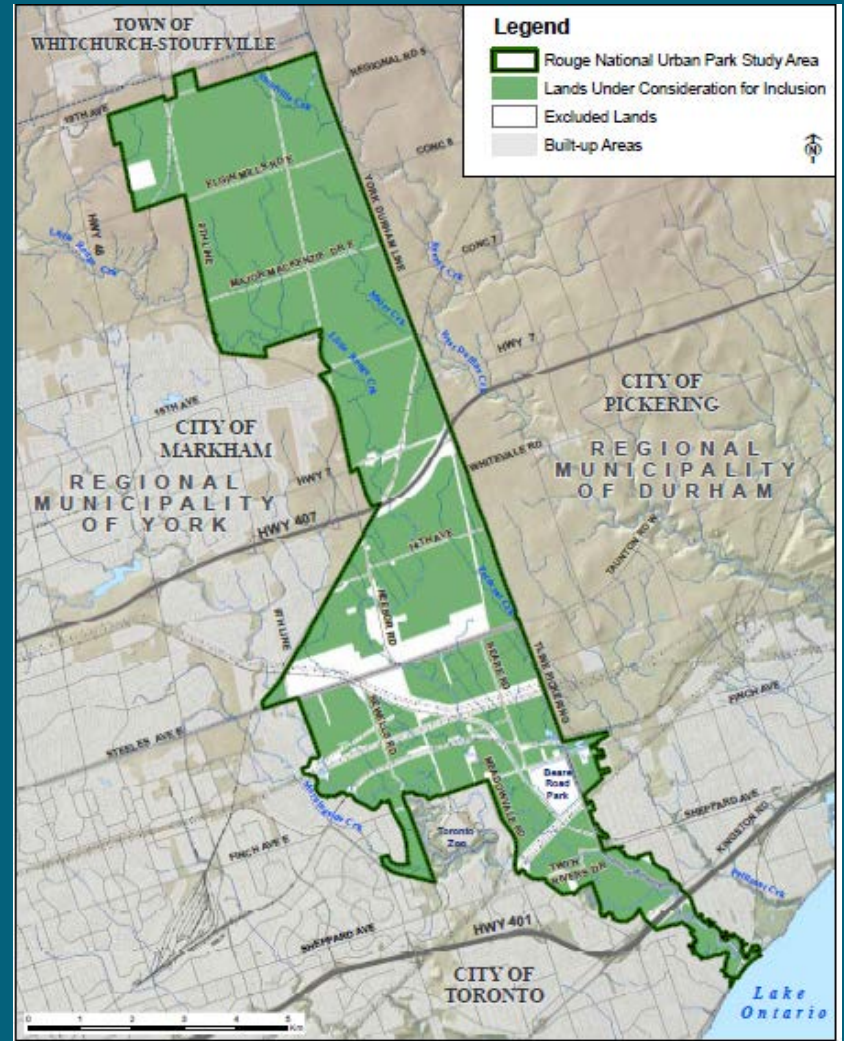
Presentation to Feb 25, 2015

Parks and Environment Committee

# Rouge National Urban Park

## Background

- Government of Canada is establishing a National Urban Park in the Rouge Valley
- \$143.7 million commitment in federal funds over 10 years for park establishment and \$7.6 million per year thereafter for ongoing operations
- The park will consolidate lands in Toronto and York and Durham Regions under ownership and management of Parks Canada
- Most of lands are currently owned by Transport Canada, TRCA and Province of Ontario; GTA municipalities are also contributing land



# City of Toronto

Toronto City Council has agreed to transfer up to 26.8 ha of city-owned land for inclusion in the park provided:

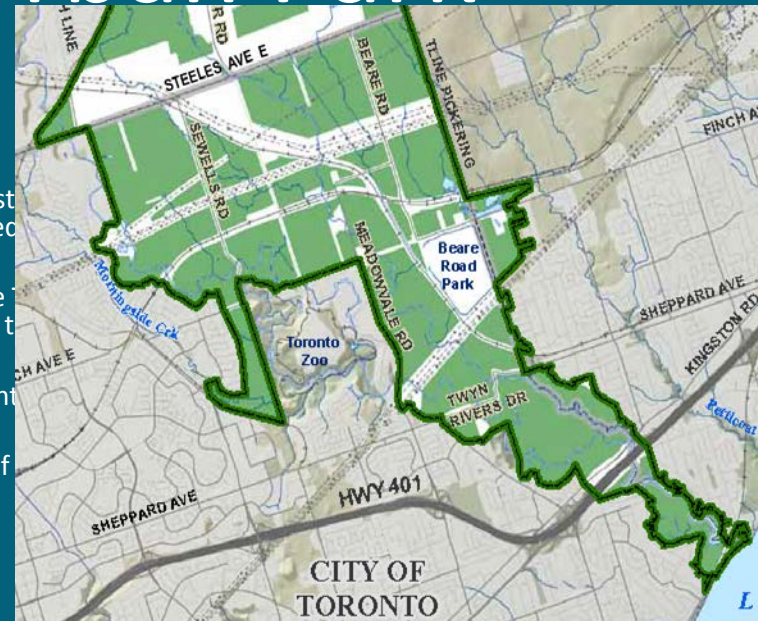
## Rouge National Urban Park

TRCA-owned lands needed for future transportation infrastructure improvements are transferred

Toronto Zoo and Parks Canada confirm the boundaries of the revised Tripartite Agreement for the

A collaboration agreement for the Toronto

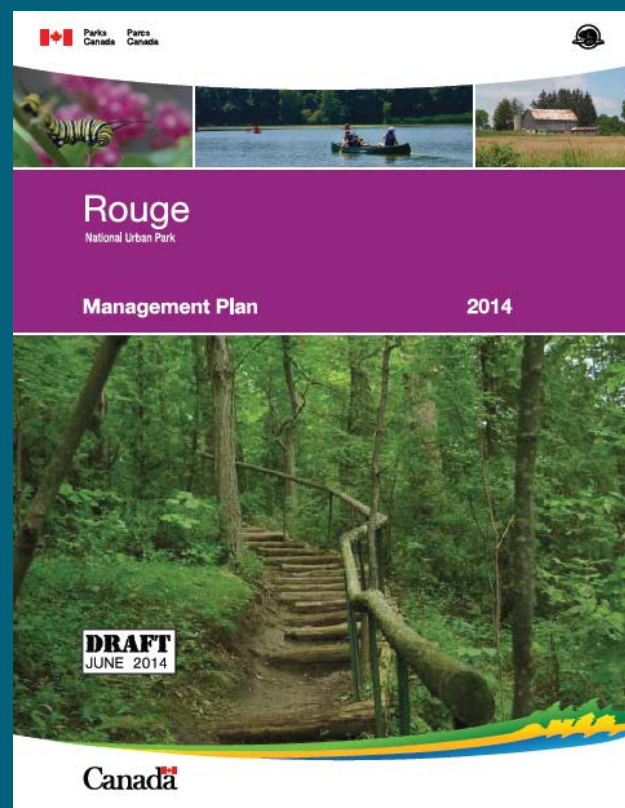
Service Agreements be entered into for provision of



# Rouge National Urban Park

## Park Management Plan

- Parks Canada is required to complete a Management Plan to guide the long term development and management of the park
- The Management Plan will be tabled in the House of Commons by the federal Minister of the Environment and will replace existing plans that apply to the area
- Parks Canada produced a draft Management Plan in June 2014 and has undertaken extensive public consultation



# Rouge National Urban Park Draft Management Plan

## Comparison to other Plans

- In response to a request from City Council, the draft Management Plan was reviewed to determine its consistency with the environmental policies of other Plans that apply in the area including the Greenbelt Plan and existing Rouge Park Plans
- **Draft Management Plan:**
  - Provides high level policy direction across the entire park
  - Integrates protection, conservation and restoration of natural, cultural and agricultural resources
  - Scope and purpose most similar to Greenbelt Plan; different from existing Rouge Park plans which are implementation level plans
  - Proposes different approach to achieving ecosystem connectivity north of Steeles Ave than is identified in Greenbelt Plan or applicable Rouge Park Plans



# Rouge National Urban Park Draft Management Plan

## City Comments

City staff comments to Parks Canada recommended:

- Preparation of detailed implementation strategies for natural heritage and archaeology as part of park transition;
- Additional detail on park governance;
- Reference to recently executed Collaboration Agreement regarding shared interests and opportunities around the Toronto Zoo and proposed Beare Road Park; and
- Further information on service delivery requirements and timing

Parks Canada has responded that the City's comments will be used to help finalize the Management Plan

# Rouge National Urban Park

## Next Steps for City of Toronto:

- Continue with land transfer and participate in park planning
- Complete discussions about Zoo boundaries and report to City Council on Tripartite Agreement
- Implement Collaboration Agreement around Toronto Zoo
- Complete planning for proposed Beare Road Park
- Enter into Service Agreements