

Maintaining a Safe and Sustainable Supply to 2038

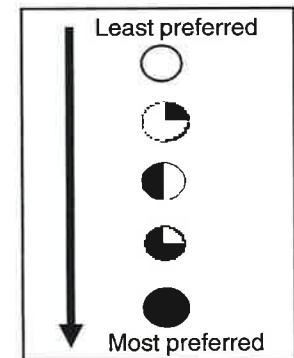
ASSESSING ALTERNATIVES



How We Will Assess Alternatives

Scope of Work

- Each potential alternative will be assessed using a consistent approach and evaluation criteria
- A short-list of alternatives will be ranked and further evaluated. This may include screening by:
 - Primary Criteria (e.g., ability to meet regulations, costs, technical feasibility, environmental or social affects)
 - Secondary Criteria (e.g., manageable impacts like construction truck traffic)
- The suggested evaluation is qualitative – not a numerical ranking system – and considers the suitability of alternative solutions and strategies based on significant advantages and disadvantages
- Comparisons and trade-offs will be made between alternatives and will form the rationale for the identification of the preferred solution or water strategy



Evaluation Criteria

Scope of Work

Public Health and Safety

- Ability to meet provincial requirements

Natural Environment

- Potential effects to natural environment
- Potential impacts to water resources
- Potential impacts to natural heritage features
- Environmental management planning considerations

Social and Cultural Resources

- Land use impacts
- Short-term construction impacts
- Potential impacts from operations

Economic and Financial Considerations

- Estimated capital costs
- Estimated operations and maintenance costs
- Impacts to agricultural operations and other private land owners

Legal / Jurisdictional Considerations

- Location of facility relative to city boundaries
- Land requirements
- Ability to address outside control

Technological Considerations

- Ability to implement and meet peak demand
- Constructability, schedule and timing, and maintaining operations during construction
- Water quality
- Allowance for future treatment needs
- Expandability
- Ability to respond to changes in regulations
- Ability to utilize existing infrastructure

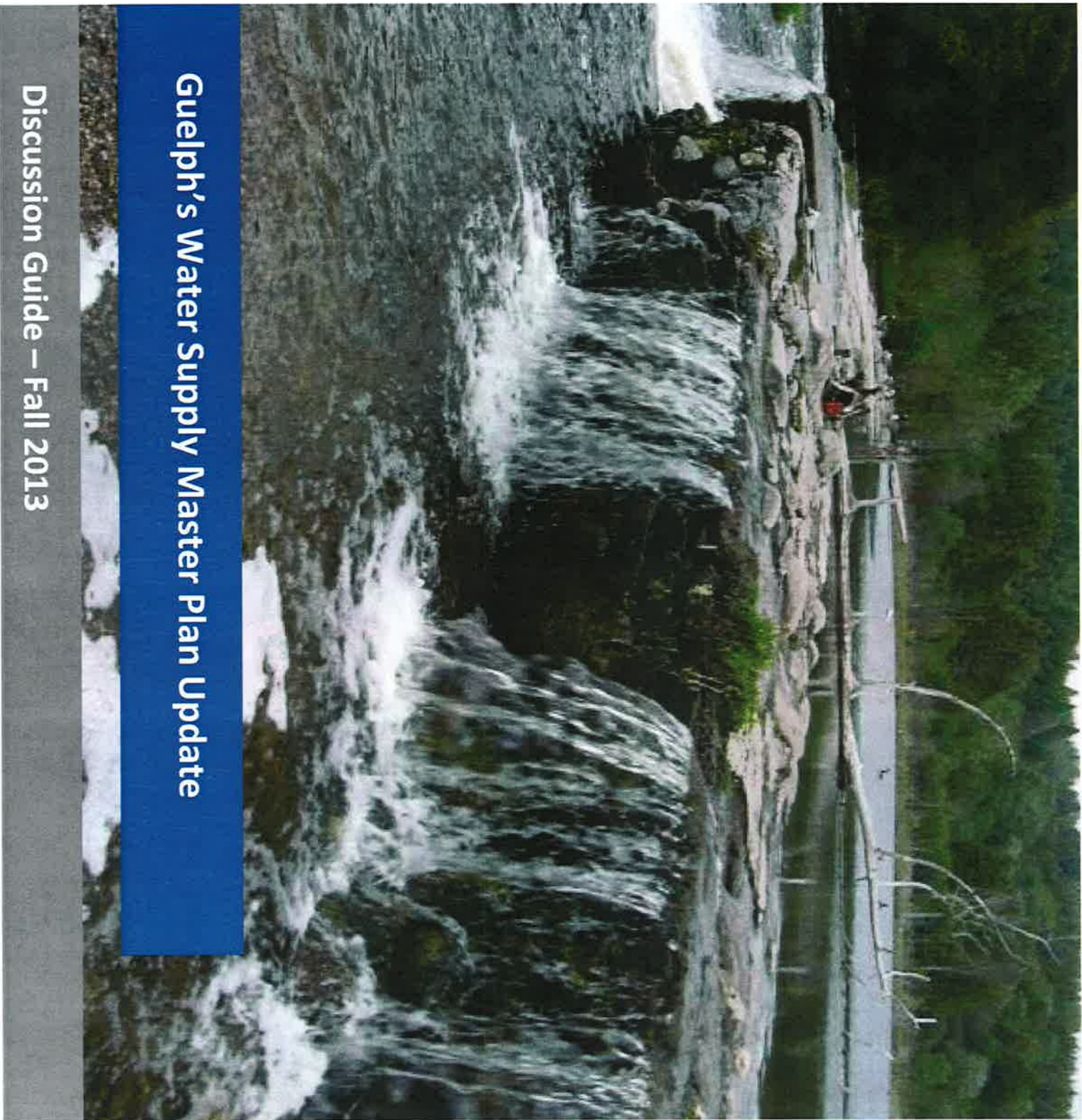
We'd Like Your Input...

- Are the evaluation criteria suitable for this study? Is there anything you would like to add or change?
- Is the proposed approach adequate? Are you comfortable with us using a qualitative assessment rather than a numerical ranking system?



Next Steps

- Incorporate / consider feedback from tonight's meeting
- Complete current work and develop water supply alternatives
- Conduct preliminary evaluation of alternatives
- On-going Community Engagement
 - Community Liaison Committee Meeting #1 – Tuesday September 17
 - Municipality / Agency Workshop #1 – Thursday, September 19
 - Community Open House #1 – October 10th (tentative)
 - CLC # 2 – Mid November
 - Agency/Municipality #2 – Mid November



Guelph's Water Supply Master Plan Update

Discussion Guide – Fall 2013



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The Corporation of the City of Guelph



Why Update the Water Supply Master Plan?

The City of Guelph is updating its council-approved Water Supply Master Plan, from 2007, to define how we will continue to access a sustainable supply of water—to meet residential, industrial, commercial and institutional demands—over the next 25 years. Reviewing our existing water supply system is an opportunity to discuss with Guelph and surrounding communities how best to manage this vital supply so that we continue to provide the high level of service Guelph residents have come to expect.

Today, our existing water supply fulfills the City's commitment to provide a safe and reliable supply of water. Our updated Master Plan will provide short-term, mid-term and long-term water supply options to meet Guelph's predicted demand for water in the future. Guelph is a growing community, and new water supply will be required to support the City's continued growth. In keeping with the 2007 Water Supply Master Plan, any development of water supply options outside of the City will only be considered with the cooperation and participation of the County and the relevant Township.

When investigating existing and new water supply options—like new groundwater sources in and outside of the City, and local surface water sources—we'll consider things like water quality and quantity, economic factors, environmental concerns and any relevant regulations. Regardless of source, our water supply will continue to meet the service requirements of the Guelph community and the high regulatory standards of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

What's Included in this Discussion Guide?

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Getting the Conversation Started

Community input is an essential part of our Water Supply Master Plan update process. We know that people care about where our water comes from, and that they want to maintain a safe and sustainable supply for present and future generations.

That's why we're making it easy for people to get involved. We'll be gathering input and suggestions from people and organizations in a number of ways to help update the Water Supply Master Plan:

A **Community Liaison Committee (CLC)** is in place to advise and provide feedback to the project team throughout the process. The CLC has members from a wide cross section of the community including residents, community groups, local government and business leaders. They will meet at least twice to share ideas and perspectives on ways to improve the Water Supply Master Plan update.

A **Municipal / Agency Forum** will provide crucial inputs from a government and approval agency perspective to ensure that the Water Supply Master Plan process meets all local and provincial By-laws and Acts, as well as environmental assessment and approval requirements.

Two **Community Open Houses** are planned for the wider community to participate. These events will give interested individuals and groups an opportunity to review plans, ask questions directly to the project team members, and provide feedback.

The Water Supply Master Plan update process is designed with you in mind. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact either Dave Belanger or Patty Quackenbush by telephone or email. We can also add you to the project email list if you would like to receive project notifications.

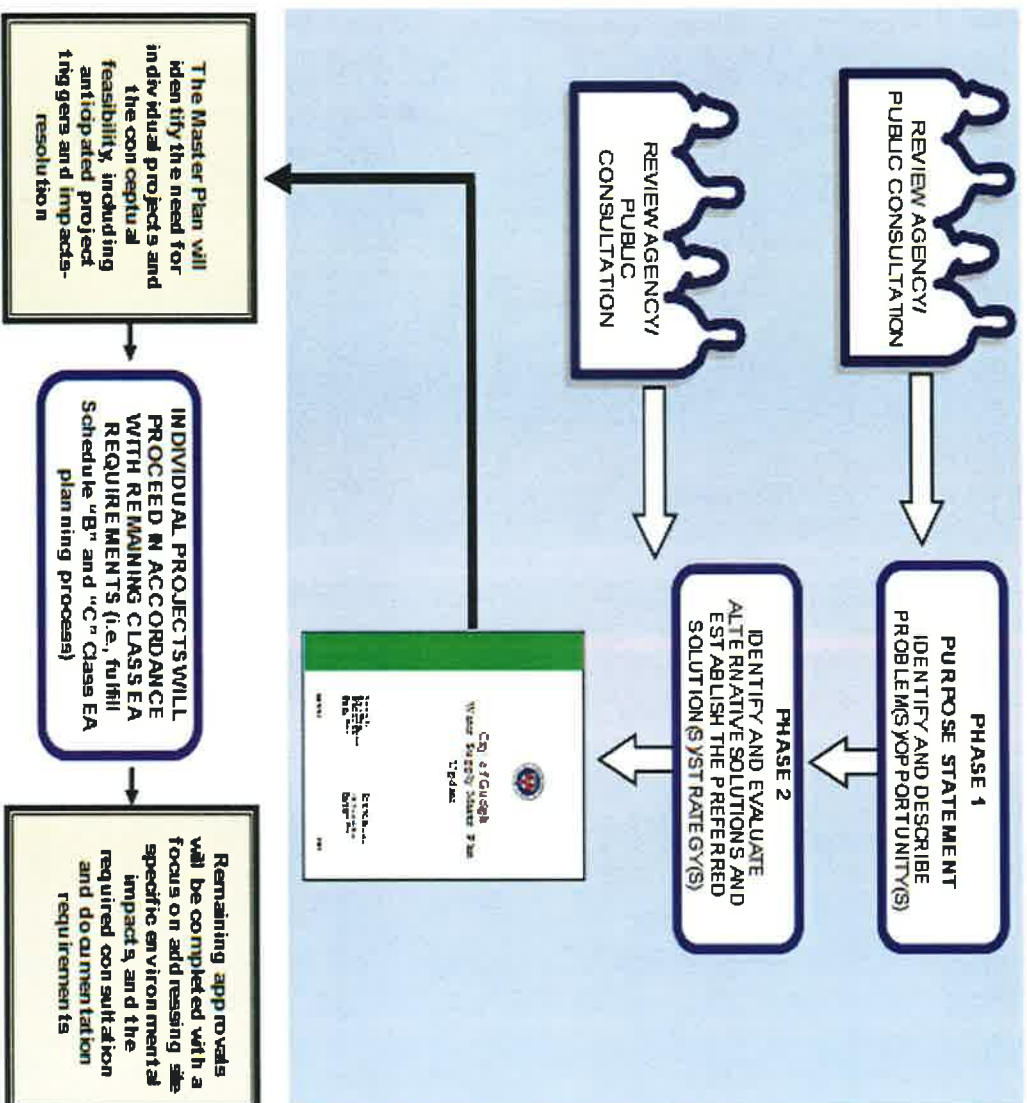
Everything you wanted to know about Master Planning

Our update follows the requirements of a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA.) When we are finished—after our Water Supply Master Plan Update is reviewed by the Guelph community and approved by Council—we will have identified constraints and opportunities related to our existing water supply system. We'll also have evaluated and prioritized a number of individual projects to increase the capacity of our existing system.

Master Plans differ from project specific studies. They:

- **Are broad in scope.** They analyse a system in order to develop a framework for the provision of future works and development.
- **Recommend Individual Projects.** Specific projects recommended in a Master Plan are part of the larger management system, and may be distributed geographically throughout the study area. The implementation of specific projects may occur over an extended time frame. These individual projects will also follow the Municipal Class EA process.
- **Must Satisfy Requirements of the Class EA.** According to the Class EA document, a Master Plan must at least satisfy the requirements of Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA process. **Figure 1** illustrates the Class EA Master Planning Process.

Figure 1 The Master Planning Process



The MEA Class EA document classifies projects as either Schedule “A”, “B” or “C” according to the type of environmental effect(s) anticipated. Each of these classifications requires a different level of review to complete the requirements of the Class EA, and comply with the Environmental Assessment Act:

- **Schedule ‘A’ Projects** are limited in scale, have minimal adverse effects and include the majority of municipal sewage, stormwater management and water operations and maintenance activities. These projects are approved and may be implemented without following the Class EA planning process.

Schedule ‘A’ projects typically include normal or emergency operational maintenance activities. Examples of Schedule “A” projects include facilities that are located within a municipal road allowance or an existing utility corridor.

The sub-classification, Schedule 'A+', ensures that people are notified of certain projects that are pre-approved under the Municipal Class EA. For example, it would be appropriate to notify the public of planned construction in their area. This allows people the opportunity to direct questions or concerns to their municipal council.

- **Schedule 'B' Projects** have the potential for some adverse environmental effects. The proponent is required to conduct a screening process that involves contact with directly affected public and relevant review agencies to ensure that they are aware of the project and that their concerns are addressed.

Schedule 'B' projects require that Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA planning process be followed and an Environmental Screening Document be prepared and submitted for review by the public and relevant agencies. If there are no outstanding concerns raised by the public and/or review agencies, then the proponent may proceed to project implementation. If, however, the screening process raises a concern that cannot be resolved, then the Part II Order procedure (commonly referred to as a "bump-up") may be invoked.

Schedule 'B' projects generally include improvements and expansions to existing facilities where there is the potential for some adverse environmental impacts. Examples of Schedule "B" projects include activities such as siting of water storage facilities or new municipal wells (including wellhead protection).

- **Schedule 'C' Projects** have the potential for significant environmental effects and must proceed under the full planning and documentation procedures (Phases 1 to 4) specified in the MEA Class EA document.

Schedule 'C' projects require that an Environmental Study Report (ESR) be prepared and submitted for review by the public. If concerns are raised that cannot be resolved, then the Part II Order procedure may be invoked.

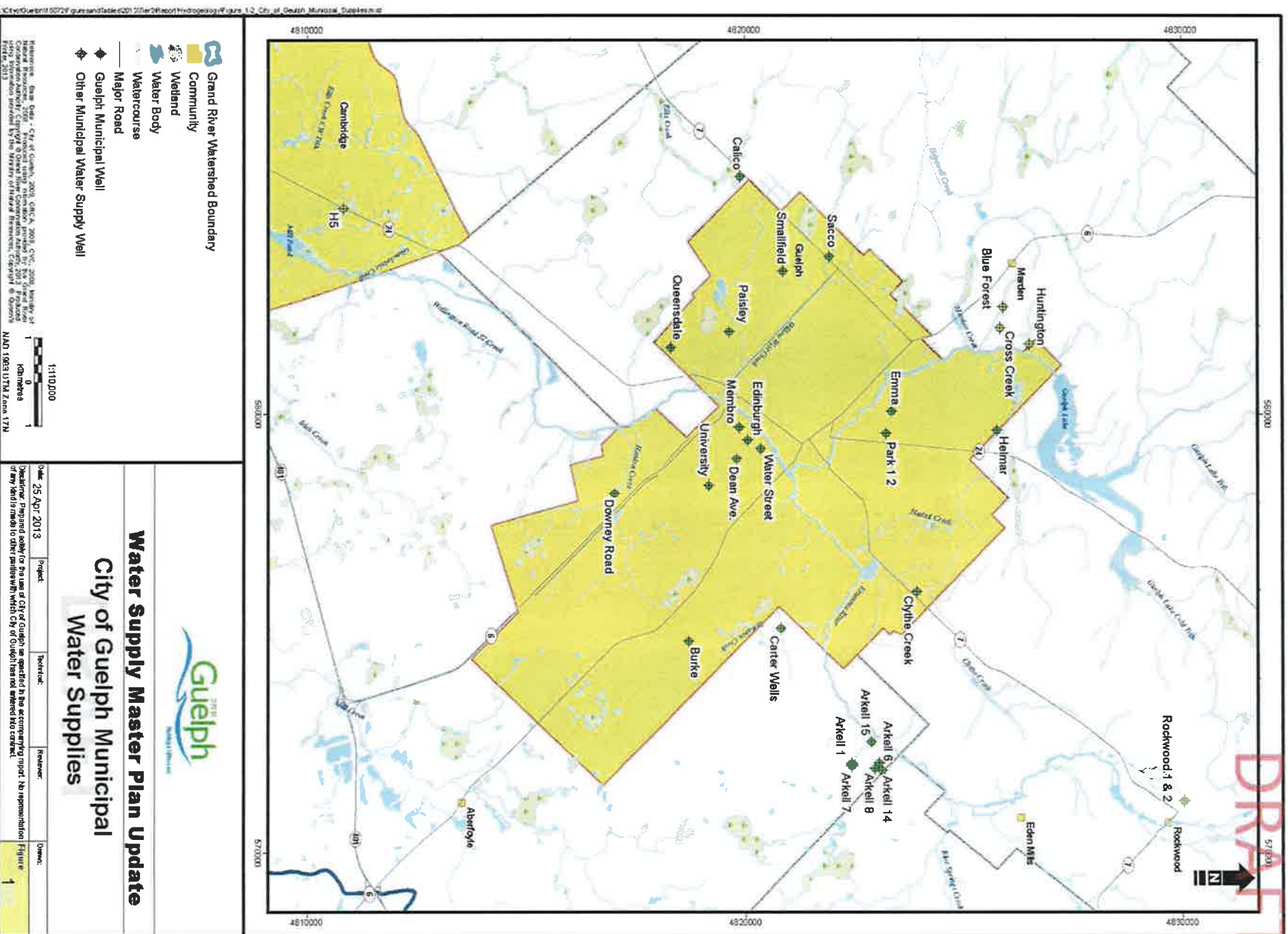
Schedule 'C' projects typically include the siting and construction of new facilities, such as water treatment plants, and major expansions to existing facilities.

Guelp'h's Current Water Supply System

The City of Guelp'h relies exclusively on groundwater to meet the municipality's residential and industrial, commercial and institutional (IC & I) water demands. Other municipal water uses including fire fighting, street washing, and watermain flushing. The following describes the City's water supply system and its capacity.

The City has used groundwater as its primary source of water since 1879. Guelp'h's water supply system includes production wells installed in the Guelp'h-Gasport bedrock aquifer and the Arkell Spring Grounds collector system. The locations of the various wells and the collector are shown on **Figure 2 – Existing Water Supply System**.

Figure 2. City of Guelph Municipal Water Supplies



There are currently 25 production wells in the municipal supply system. In 2013, 21 municipal wells were operated on a near continuous basis while the other four wells were offline, due primarily to water quality concerns. **Table 1** Municipal Production Wells – Operational Status summarizes the operational status of the individual production wells. In addition to the municipal wells, there is a shallow groundwater system that collects spring water in the Arkell Spring Grounds.

The City also has the infrastructure to augment flow in the collector system during summer months by pumping water from the Eramosa River to a pit and trenches and recharging this water to the groundwater where it is captured by the collector system. The augmentation of flows is operated within strict constraints and is closely monitored for water quality. This system is occasionally shut down under low river flow conditions resulting in less water to the system at times when the water is most needed (ie., summer demand.)

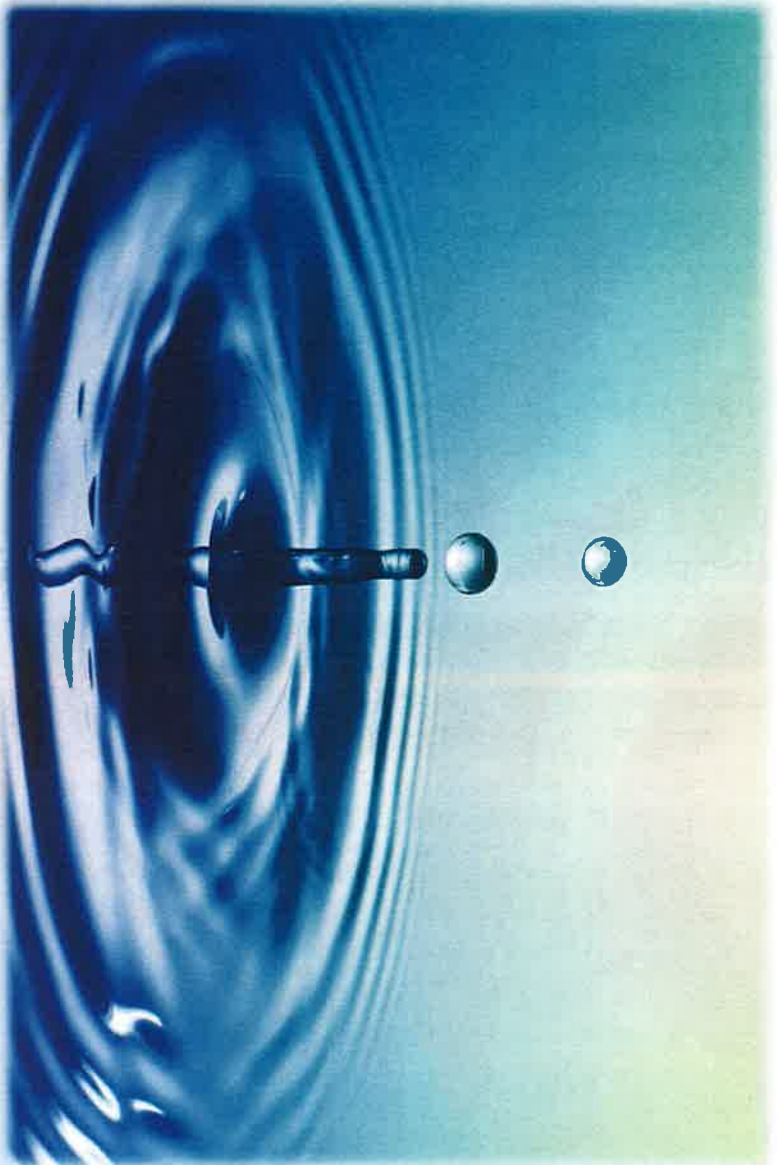


Table 1 - Municipal Production Wells - Operational Status

Pumping Well	Service Dates	Status In 1998
Northeast Quadrant		
Emma Street Well PW1/31(COG)	1931 to present	continuous operation
Park Wells PW1/37(COG) & PW1/47(COG)	1937 to present	continuous operation
Clythe Creek Well PW2/76(COG)	1984 to present	off line for treatment upgrade
Helmar Well PW6/66(COG)	1975 to present	continuous operation
Northwest Quadrant		
Sacco Well PW8/52(COG)	1953 to 1991	removed from service, low level volatile organic compound contamination
Paisley Road Well PW4/59(COG)	1962 to present	continuous operation
Smallfield Well PW3/66(COG)	1970 to 1993	removed from service, low level volatile organic compound contamination
Queensdale Well PW1/70(COG)	1973 to present	continuous operation
Calico Well PW4/76(COG)	1979 to present	continuous operation
Southwest Quadrant		
Membro Well PW1/53(COG)	1997 to present	continuous operation
Edinburgh Road Well PW2/53(COG)	1955 to 1996	removed from service, low level volatile organic compound contamination
Dean Avenue Well PW3/58(COG)	1972 to present	continuous operation
Water Street Well PW16/53(COG)	1956 to present	continuous operation
Downey Road Well PW5/67(COG)	1980 to present	continuous operation
Univ. of Guelph PW1/73(COG)	1970 to present	continuous operation
Southeast Quadrant		
Carter Wells PW2/62(COG) & PW1/89(COG)	1963 to present	continuous operation
Arkell 6 PW6/63(COG)	1967 to present	continuous operation
Arkell 7 PW7/63(COG)	1964 to present	continuous operation
Arkell 8 PW8/63(COG)	1989 to present	continuous operation
Arkell 1 PW1/66(COG)	1967 to present	continuous operation
Arkell 14	2012 to present	new well in Operational Testing Program
Arkell 15	2012 to present	new well in Operational Testing Program
Burkes Well PW2/66(COG)	1975 to present	continuous operation

We've made improvements since our 2007 WSMP

Since the completion of the Water Supply Master Plan in 2007, the City has initiated a number of the projects recommended in the Master Plan. The Arkell Spring Grounds has added two new production wells and operation of the Arkell Bedrock Wellfield is now in an Operational Testing Program. These new wells have increased the City water supply capacity by about 8,000 m³/day. For more information visit <http://guelph.ca/plans-and-strategies/water-supply-master-plan/arkell-spring-grounds/>

The City also initiated the Southwest Quadrant Class EA (<http://guelph.ca/plans-and-strategies/water-supply-master-plan/southwest-quadrant/>) to provide more water from the bedrock wellfield in the southwest part of the City. This project, however, is currently on hold pending resolution of water quantity and quality issues associated with the Dolime Quarry.

Water supply investigations have also been conducted in the south end of the City to identify new sources. Investigations of water supply capacity and treatment requirements have also been completed for wells that are currently offline with the intent to return these wells to service.

In addition to these Master Plan projects, the City is actively implementing source protection programs (<http://guelph.ca/plans-and-strategies/drinking-water-source-protection/>) to protect its existing water supply and to prevent loss of water supply capacity in the future. These Source Protection programs included water budget assessments, conducted in association with the Grand River Conservation Authority, to determine the amount of water that may be available for municipal water supply. For more information visit <http://www.sourcewater.ca/index/document.cfm?Sec=7&Sub1=6&Sub2=5>

Water Conservation and Demand Management

In Guelph we depend mostly on groundwater for our water supply so we know it makes sense to use our water wisely. Conservation and demand management will be as important during this Master Plan Update as they were during the 2007 Water Supply Master Plan. We are committed to using less water per capita than comparable Canadian cities! Since 2006, because of our many successful water conservation initiatives, we have reduced our community's average daily water production by twelve per cent, with Guelph residents using 20 per cent less water per person per day than the average person in Ontario. For more information regarding Guelph's current water conservation opportunities and initiatives, go to <http://guelph.ca/ourstoconserve>

The 2009 Guelph Water Conservation and Efficiency Strategy Update identifies the preferred program, policy and resource requirements to achieve and sustain the water use reduction targets of the City's Water Supply Master Plan, Community Energy Plan and City Council's Strategic Plan. This report can be found at: <http://guelph.ca/plans-and-strategies/water-conservation-and-efficiency-strategy/>

Updating our Water Supply Master Plan

Our updated Water Supply Master Plan will provide a community endorsed framework for ensuring an adequate and sustainable supply of water to meet current and future needs of all our customers, over the next 25 years. It will be our strategic plan for implementing – in a phased manner – specific projects to increase our current water supply capacity, and will provide the basis for individual studies under the Class EA process.

Our Proposed Purpose Statement

Phase 1 of the Class EA planning process requires proponents to consider why a change is required and to document their reasons. This leads to the development of the Purpose Statement: a clear statement that identifies the problems, deficiencies and opportunities to be investigated. The Purpose Statement is the principle starting point of a Class EA study and becomes the central theme and integrating element of the project. It also assists in setting the scope of the project.

The **Purpose Statement** in the previous WSMP has been updated to reflect this update:

The City of Guelph is committed to manage population growth as it continues to develop strategies for ensuring adequate water supply. The goal is to develop a reliable and sustainable supply of water to meet the current and future needs of all residents, industrial, commercial and institutional customers.

Recent analysis confirms that the existing water supply capacity will not meet future demands. It is, therefore, prudent to update the previous Master Plan (2007) by reviewing strategies to increase the capacity of the City's existing water supply. These strategies must deliver an adequate amount of water in a safe and cost-effective manner and ensure that environmental sustainability is not compromised.

This 2013 update will build on the recommendations made during the 2007 Water Supply Master Plan, including water conservation/efficiency measures and additional sources of water supply.

Proposed Alternatives (Preliminary)

To identify the optimal water supply system to go forward with, we'll start by updating the alternatives considered in the 2007 WSMP. We'll consider the following:

1. **Water Conservation & Demand Management:** Reducing or reusing water can have the same effect as increasing water supply – each litre of water saved by an existing customer can be made available for the growth needs of the community. Water conservation and demand management will be as important during this Master Plan update as it was during the 2007 Water Supply Master Plan.
2. **Groundwater Sources – In & Outside of the City:** We'll update information related to existing supplies and new supply sources recommended in the 2007 study, as well as investigate new water supply areas, including:
 - a. Increasing water takings from established sources

- b. Re-establishing sources (includes treatment) that are currently not used because of poorer water quality
 - c. Water takings from new sources
- 3. **Local Surface Water Sources:** New local surface water sources—with or without Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR)—will be considered, including possibly the Speed River, Eramosa River and Guelpb Lake.
- 4. **Do Nothing:** Assumes no improvements to the current water supply system. It is expected that this alternative would have significant impact on the City’s growth potential and would be contrary to the City’s Official Plan.

Evaluating our Options – Evaluation Criteria

The Water Supply Master Plan (2007) provided a process to evaluate the proposed water supply options. This same process is intended to be used again during this update.

A detailed evaluation of each water supply alternative will be completed to assess the impact, if any, to each of the following environmental components¹:

- **Public Health & Safety.** Addresses public’s health and safety.
- **Natural Environment.** Addresses the protection of significant natural and physical elements of the environment (i.e., air, land, water, plants and animal life) including natural heritage environmentally-sensitive policy areas.
- **Social / Cultural.** Evaluates potential effects on residents, neighbourhoods, businesses, community character, social cohesion, community features and historical/archaeological and heritage components in addition to municipal development objectives.
- **Economic / Financial.** Addresses the potential effect on water supply system costs.
- **Legal / Jurisdictional.** Considers regulatory and land requirements for each water supply alternative (and also has regard to political boundaries).
- **Technical.** Considers technical suitability and other engineering aspects of the water supply system.

¹ The Environmental Assessment Act (Section 1. (c) (i) to (vi)) defines the “environment” as: “air, land, water, plant and animal life including humans; the social and cultural conditions that influence the life of humans or a community; any building, structure, machine or other device or thing made by humans; any solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration or radiation resulting directly or indirectly from human activities; or; any part of combination of the foregoing and the interrelationships between any two or more of them, in or of Ontario.” This definition of the environment is used and is reflected in the environmental components used in the Phase 2 evaluation.

In keeping with our 2007 Water Supply Master Plan, we are proposing to use the following evaluation criteria to assess the feasibility of the identified water supply alternatives.

Evaluation Category	Evaluation Criteria
Public Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability of Alternative to meet provincial water quality and security requirements
Natural Environmental Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential effects to the natural environment including siting/routing considerations and/or constraints Potential impacts to water resources e.g. stream crossings, stream base flow, aquifer groundwater levels Potential impacts to natural heritage features, including provincially significant wetlands (PSWs), environmentally significant areas (ESAs), Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs), and sensitive species habitat (i.e., vulnerable/threatened/endangered or locally/regionally rare) Environmental management planning considerations
Social / Cultural Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-term construction related impacts including dust, traffic, access, and noise. Potential siting/routing considerations including cultural/heritage (e.g., archaeological) and/or tourist recreational resources Potential impacts from operations including impacts to ground and surface water users.
Economic / Financial Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated capital costs Estimated operations and maintenance costs Impacts to agricultural operations and other land use.
Legal / Jurisdictional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location inside vs. outside City boundaries and associated jurisdictional issues Land Requirements Ability to address outside control (interdependence and reliability) of City with respect to participation in decision making, rate structures and risk related to location/position on proposed water supply scheme (e.g. end of pipe) Consideration towards Political Boundaries
Technical Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to implement alternative Maintaining operation during construction Minimizing disruptions/ downtime Constructability Schedule and Timing Water Quality – Requirement for treatment Allowance for future treatment needs Expandability Ability to respond to change in regulatory treatment requirements/standards Ability of alternative to use existing infrastructure

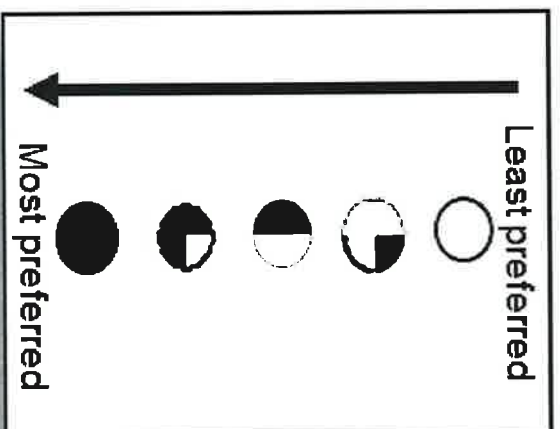
Evaluating our Options – Methodology

A detailed assessment of each Phase 2 alternative solution will be completed based on evaluation components and criteria. Based on subjective evaluations, short list alternatives will be ranked and carried forward for more detailed evaluation. This task may include a screening step that involves primary (e.g., aquifer and surface water supply sustainability, inability to meet regulations including wellhead protection, excessive costs, technical feasibility, and unacceptable environmental or social disruption) and secondary (e.g., mitigable impacts such as water crossings and construction truck traffic) criteria.

It is suggested that our evaluation not be based on a numerical ranking system; ensuring statistical validity is often difficult in a multi-faceted exercise like a Class EA. Instead, a consensus based descriptive or qualitative evaluation will be used to consider the suitability of alternative solutions/strategies and to identify significant advantages and disadvantages with respect to the various evaluation criteria.

In this respect, comparisons and trade-offs will be made between alternatives. These will be described in the text of the Class EA Master Plan report and will form the rationale for the identification of the preferred solution or servicing strategy. Trade-offs involve forfeiting an advantage or accepting a disadvantage to address a higher priority consideration. For information purposes only, the alternatives will be ranked in order of preference (based on advantages/disadvantages) under the discussion with respect to each aspect of the environment.

For the evaluation summary, the following rating symbols will be used:



AGENDA

Municipality / Agency Meeting #1

September 19, 2013 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm

Guelph City Hall, 1 Carden Street

Meeting Room C

12:45 pm	<p>Registration and Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants will be welcomed at the door and asked to sign-in
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm	<p>Agency / Municipality Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Remarks WSMP – Overview Guelph’s Current Water Supply System City Updates – Since 2007 WSMP WSMP Update – Objectives / Scope of Work Next Steps
	<p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ample opportunity for discussion will be provided – and encouraged – throughout the meeting.
4:50 pm	<p>Plus / Delta & Adjournment</p>

Discussion Topics and Questions – Agency / Municipality Meeting #1

Guelph depends on groundwater for its water supply, so we know it makes sense to use our water wisely since it is a finite but renewable resource. Keeping our Water Supply Master Plan up to date gives Guelph short-term, mid-term and long-term water supply options to meet predicted demand.

We want people to join the conversation! We understand that good planning involves the community so we’re making it easy for people from Guelph, the County and the Townships to be involved and kept up-to-date on our progress. Today, we want to gather your perspectives on many topics. Today’s meeting will focus primarily on planning aspects of the Water Supply Master Plan update, such as the:

- Current level of water supply service provided, and any overall concerns or issues
- Proposed Purpose Statement for the WSMP
- Preliminary water supply alternatives we are considering
- Evaluation Criteria and Methodology we will use

Providing your Feedback

The following sheets include the questions we will be discussing today. Although we will be documenting much of the Committee's conversation, it would valuable to also receive your individual feedback. Feel free to make note of your thoughts. A team member will gather your feedback at the end of the meeting. All feedback will be used to prepare recommendations to improve the Water Supply Master Plan update project, and will be included in the Consultation Summary Report for the project.

General Questions

1. **Do you feel the City's current water conservation goals are adequate?
Are there additional goals that you feel should be considered?**

2. **Do you believe the City should consider water use goals for new growth
(e.g., industries that require less water or conservation-oriented new
residential developments?)**

3. How much water (i.e., percent of existing supply capacity) do you believe should be considered as 'back-up' to ensure security of supply?

4. Are there existing activities / programs that you would like to see continued or prioritized?

5. Are there new approaches that we should consider to improve our water supply system?

6. Are there pressing issues or concerns related to water supply that we should consider while updating the Water Supply Master Plan?

Objectives and Scope of Work

7. Are the Objectives and Purpose Statement adequate for this WSMP update? Are there additional objectives that you feel should be considered?

8. Are there changes (i.e., additions or deletions) that should be considered for the Scope of Work; to improve the recommendations resulting from the Water Supply Master Plan update?

Preliminary Water Supply Alternatives – To be Considered

Developing Water Supply Solutions

9. Do you have concerns regarding any of the alternatives presented? Should any of these not be considered through the Water Supply Master Plan update?

10. Are there other water supply alternatives that should be considered by the project team?

11. Do you have a preferred approach for expanding our water supply capacity? If so, what and why?

Water Conservations & Demand Management

- 12. Should there be bylaw changes to restrict or prohibit new groundwater use in the City; to protect water supply sources?**

Developing Groundwater Sources

- 13. Recognizing that new water supply sources will have an environmental impact of some extent, what level of potential environmental impact related to municipal water supply is acceptable?**

14. Should water supply sources inside the City be prioritized over those outside City boundaries?

15. Do you believe it is appropriate for the project team to consider obtaining water from sources that required treatment to remove contaminants (i.e., natural or industrial)? (Assumes that all regulatory standards are met after treatment)

Evaluation Criteria & Methodology

- 16. Are the evaluation criteria suitable for this study? Is there anything you would like to add or change?**

- 17. Is the proposed approach adequate? Are you comfortable with us using a qualitative assessment rather than a numerical ranking?**
