

Executive Summary

Due to ongoing development pressure and the changing nature of land uses surrounding the Kanata Lakes Natural Environment Area (NEA) an information review was conducted to summarize existing conditions, emerging issues and past reports.

Environmental constraints, guidelines for stormwater management, recreational opportunities and utility corridor / servicing constraints were identified.

The Kanata Lakes NEA is valuable to the community because of the area's combination of natural features and recreational pathways. It is recommended that the boundary be adjusted to reflect the location of provincially significant wetland and higher quality forested areas. In addition, it would be beneficial to preserve the existing east-west network of trails and create linkages between the Kanata Lakes NEA, South March Highlands and Trillium Woods.

As part of the information review, CH2M HILL was asked to examine the feasibility of extending the NEA boundary to include lands west of First Line Road Allowance and the proposed extension of Terry Fox Drive. It is recommended that the Official Plan and zoning by-law be amended to include this additional portion of land.

In order to preserve the character of the NEA, it is recommended that all other options be explored before water or sanitary services are proposed in the natural environment area. If there area no other options, the City should require the applicant to evaluate impacts through the environmental assessment process.

Through a review of past stormwater reports, discrepancies in the service area and recommended treatment techniques have been identified. The changes in drainage area have implications both in terms of treatment capacity in the Beaver Pond and with respect to fish habitat protection in Shirley's Brook.

The use of sediment forebays to provide pretreatment of all new stormwater outlets is recommended, though a variety of options regarding the best way to achieve this are presented. Additional studies are recommended to further investigate the preferred stormwater servicing option, and to address the identified discrepancies.