

# Senior Management Team

## Development and Engineering Services - Update

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Development and Engineering Services

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# Dev & Eng Services – Priorities

- Black Creek Rockcliffe Flood Remediation Program and Site Specific Flood Response Plan;
- Finalizing the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan and Greening Strategy to fulfill commitments made to Durham and Toronto;
- Working with ITM to modernize and streamline TRCA's Planning/Permit Application, Review and Enforcement System (PARES);
- Enhancing relationships with Municipalities and Building Industry to improve quality of development applications and reduce review times;
- Re-staffing positions to ensure effective service delivery to clients;
- Finalizing NDMP projects due March 31 (Floodplain mapping, flood risk management, flood remediation EAs and Flood infrastructure projects);
- Continuing partnership opportunities with municipal and provincial agencies relating to compliance objectives within areas of mutual jurisdiction/ interests.

# Dev & Eng Services – Challenges

- Continued uncertainty as to the provincial regulations;
- Noticeable slowdown in new development applications being submitted - also being observed by municipalities;
- Staff retention, as both planning and technical staff are leaving, impacting service delivery;
- Hearings on development applications take considerable planning and technical review staff time, also causing impacts to service delivery on other files;
- Continuing struggle to receive complete applications from landowners and infrastructure proponents. Extensive time needed to respond to emboldened applicants. Impacts service delivery on files through inefficient use of staff time;
- Reluctance on the part of some municipal partners for TRCA to publicly share more detail on flood risk maps;
- Increasing complexities associated with violation files and increasing disregard for TRCA permit conditions and requirements. ie: Developers filling and grading regulated "wetland features" under "normal farming practices" - well in advance of any planning processes;
- Increased community, stakeholder and political interest associated with TRCA permit sites and non-compliant properties.

# Dev & Eng Services – Required Cooperation

- ITM PARES (Project Enterprise) project is a key initiative involving staff from ITM, Policy and Planning, Enforcement and Compliance, and D&ES. Rollout will be corporate and outreach to other divisions will be required as the process moves forward;
- Service Level Agreements will be renegotiated this fall and will require input from multiple departments. Development of MOUs is also ongoing;
- Work on the Watershed Planning and Monitoring program continues;
- Flood Remediation EA's, assistance from PMO greatly appreciated, more work than expected;
- Uncertainty around Ontario Line and unknown impacts to Port Lands Flood Protection. Multiple departments will need to work together when the EA begins;
- Develop a program for ongoing O&M of Flood Infrastructure with R&I;
- Recent Municipal Act amendments now allows for municipal site alteration by-laws to include areas within CA Act jurisdiction. Need to coordinate planning, permitting and compliance initiatives with our member municipalities.

# Dev & Eng Services – Heads Up

- Lower Don Special Policy Area designation west of Don River finally has been removed by the province;
- Second meeting with building industry being planned for this fall. Subcommittee meeting with consultants has also been scheduled to assist with TRCA's Client Service and Streamlining initiatives;
- There may be a rush of planning applications and LPAT appeals next year with short timelines;
- GTA West Highway has been reinitiated by the province with public consultation beginning this month;
- Municipal partners are looking for watershed planning support with their municipal comprehensive reviews as part of their provincial Growth Plan requirements;
- Ombudsman Toronto is investigating City of Toronto basement flooding claims process; while TRCA is not the explicit subject of the investigation, Rockcliffe flooding in general is also being examined. Board report and TRCA EA links have already been proactively shared;
- Enforcement and Compliance has initiated several prosecutions in 2019 and currently investigating numerous other properties throughout our jurisdiction.



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