

# Municipality of Lakeshore – Report to Council

## Growth & Sustainability

### Community Planning



**To:** Mayor & Members of Council  
**From:** Aaron Hair, Division Leader – Community Planning  
**Date:** March 7, 2022  
**Subject:** Shoreline Management Plan Final Report

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### Recommendation

Adopt the Shoreline Management Plan, as presented at the March 15, 2022 Council Meeting; and

Direct Administration to forward the final report to the Essex Region Conservation Authority and the Lower Thames Conservation Authority for their formal review and adoption.

### Background

Responding to high water levels in Lake St. Clair, environmental changes brought about by climate change, and Council's declaration of a climate emergency, Council had identified a strategic priority of completing a Shoreline Management Plan within its Strategic Plan for the 2018 to 2022 term of office identified a Shoreline Management Plan as a priority.

Accordingly, Lakeshore retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. along with Zuzek Inc. in 2019 to develop a Shoreline Management Plan for the entire Lake St. Clair Shoreline located within the boundary of the municipality. This Plan investigated the shoreline flooding and erosion hazards. The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), included as Attachment 1 to this report, provides updated shoreline Flood Hazard Mapping, while acknowledging the increased shoreline risks that may be caused by climate change and provides recommendations for the long-term management, maintenance of shoreline infrastructure and provides direction on managing growth along the shoreline.

The Conservation Authorities with jurisdiction to regulate development along the Lakeshore shoreline, through O. Reg. 158/06, have been using flood lines produced in 1976 since their involvement in regulating development in 1984. The SMP therefore provides the technical investigation to generate updated coastal hazard mapping using oblique drone photography, a near shore water depth survey, and a review of the built history of the shoreline, among other sources. The updated Flood Hazard Mapping provided in the SMP is aligned with the technical guidance provided by the Province to

map such hazards.

The 2020 Provincial Policy Statement now mandates municipalities to have regard to the impacts of a changing climate when planning for the risks associated with natural hazards. At the time of preparing the SMP, there was no technical guidance from the Province on how to integrate the impacts of a changing climate for erosion, flooding, and dynamic beach hazard mapping.

## **Comments**

The draft Shoreline Management Plan was presented to the public on February 22, 2022 and was made available on the Municipality's consultation website (PlaceSpeak). The public feedback has been summarized in What We Heard Report (Attachment 2) and incorporated into the draft report where it was appropriate to do so.

The Essex Region Conservation Authority and the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority have been involved in the review of the Plan as members of the Technical Advisory Committee. Following Lakeshore Council's endorsement of the Plan, the Conservation Authorities will present the Shoreline Management Plan to their respective Boards, with a recommendation to adopt the technical analysis contained in the Plan.

Following adoption, the Municipality will work with the Conservation Authorities to implement the recommendations. Land use recommendations of the Plan will be implemented through future amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-law. These changes will be initiated by Lakeshore, with input from the Conservation Authorities and further public engagement and notice that is required under the Planning Act. Other recommendations, such as those related to emergency access, will be considered by Lakeshore, with the appropriate agencies and members of the public involved in implementing solutions.

## **Others Consulted**

Three Public Information Centres were hosted to obtain feedback from the public, and interested stakeholders were circulated for comments, including ViaRail.

## **Financial Impacts**

The Shoreline Management Plan is funded through the Community Planning Capital Project Budget. Council approved \$113,000 in 2020 and a carryforward of \$40,000 was transferred from 2019 for a total project budget of \$153,000. At this time no additional budgets funds are expected to complete the works.

## **Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Draft Shoreline Management Plan, dated March 4, 2022.

Attachment 2 – What We Heard Report, dated February 22, 2022.



## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Shoreline Management Plan Draft Report.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 – Draft Shoreline Management Plan, dated March 4, 2022.pdf - Attachment 2 – What We Heard Report, dated February 22, 2022.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 10, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

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