

For Information

DATE: August 16, 2010

REPORT TITLE: **SPILL DECISION SUPPORT TOOL**

FROM: Dan Labrecque, Commissioner of Public Works

OBJECTIVE

To update Council on a Spill Decision Support Tool being developed between the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the Region of Peel. This resource will assist staff when responding to spills and help determine potential spill sources and where the spill will travel.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Spill Decision Support tool is being developed in partnership with the Region of Peel and the TRCA.
- The tool will assist in identifying sources of spills and the path of the spill as it provides real time web based information.
- The Licensing fee for the Spill Decision Tool will be approximately \$60,000 per year fully recoverable from user fees.

DISCUSSION**1. Background**

The Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) hosted a Stakeholder's Workshop on spills in the Greater Toronto area. Region of Peel staff discussed Peel's spill program and how our spills response worked. After the seminar, TRCA staff asked what tools were needed to enhance spills prevention and management within the Region of Peel. A partnership was formed between the Region of Peel and the TRCA to work on the development of the tool. Funding for the project has been provided by in kind donations from the consultant working on the project as well as funding from TRCA received from Municipal contributors, the Toronto and Region Remedial Action plan and a grant from Natural Resources Canada.

In order to complete the project in a timely and efficient manner it was broken down into four phases: Strategic Planning, User Needs Assessment, Publishing Thematic Data Standards and Geospatial Decision Support Systems. Currently Phases 1 and 2 are complete and it is anticipated that Phases 3 and 4 will be complete by the end of August 2010, with the delivery of the tool at the beginning of 2011.

August 16, 2010

SPILL DECISION SUPPORT TOOL

Through the completion of the first two phases, the value of the tool has increased for the Region, the area municipalities including the fire departments, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority and TRCA. The initial use of the tool was to assist in quickly tracing spills through municipal sewer systems and identifying potential sources of spills, but there will be an additional benefit with this system, as it will enable us to review water flow through the sewer sheds during flooding events.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

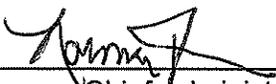
Staff is currently reviewing information to determine whether there will be any future financial impacts that may not be fully recovered, and will seek any approvals from Council as part of the 2011 budget process, if necessary.

CONCLUSION

The Spill Decision Support tool is a web based tool that provides information on a spill to the environment in real time. It will provide a modeling system for spills within a sewer shed and allow the tracing of spills in seconds rather than minutes or hours as currently seen and supports Strategic Goal number two: to protect, enhance and restore the environment.


Dan Labrecque
Commissioner of Public Works

Approved for Submission:


for _____
D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

For further information regarding this report, please contact Elaine Gilliland at extension 3105 or via email at elaine.gilliland@peelregion.ca

c. Legislative Services
 Manager, Financial Support Unit (FSU)