

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision & Strategy 2008-2058

Securing the Future of our Urban Wilderness

Final Draft for Review - Appendices

February 2009



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1 Appendix B: Contributors to the Plan

The Dundas Valley 50-Year Study and Strategy was developed due to the hard work and dedication of the following contributors to the Strategy:

Task Team Members:

Steve Miazga, Chief Administrative Officer, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Sandy Bell, Manager, Design and Development Hamilton, Conservation Authority
Garnet Cowsill, Manager of Marketing and Communications, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Tony Horvat, Director of Land Management, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Joan Bell, Manager of Grants and Special Projects, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Judy Love, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Bruce Mackenzie, Manager of Customer Service and Operations, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Kathy Menyes, Director of Watershed Planning and Engineering, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Sally Leppard and, Susan Hall – Project Co-Directors, Lura Consulting

Steering Committee Members:

Mr. Sandy Bell, Manager Design and Development, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Ms. Heather Donison, Senior Project Manager, Sustainability, City of Hamilton
Mr. Chris Firth-Eagland, Hamilton Conservation Authority, Chair
Mr. Philip Krakar, Hamilton Conservation Authority Representative, member of Watershed Management Advisory Board
Ms. Christine Lee-Morrison, Acting Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Hamilton
Ms. Lynda Lukasik, Executive Director of Environment Hamilton
Mr. Steve Miazga, Chief Administrative Officer, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Ms. Anne Redish, Hamilton Conservation Authority Representative, member of Conservation Authority Areas Advisory Board

Consulting Team:

Sally Leppard, Susan Hall, Kim Peters, Susan Beazley, Natalia Hahn and Team, Lura Consulting

Stakeholder Group Members:

Mr. Comba, Kalan, Partner Solution Group
Ms. Corey, Lois, Fieldcote/Griffin House
Mr. Firth-Eagland, Chris, Hamilton Conservation Authority, Chair
Ms. Gold, Kathryn, Green Venture
Mr. Greenblatt, Arthur, Dundas Valley School of Art

Mr. Hall, John, Remedial Action Plan for Hamilton Harbour

Mr. Hall, Ken, Giant's Rib

Mr. Hoffman, Vince, Freewheel Cycle

Mr. Johnston, Art, Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club

Mr. Kay, Randy, Dundas Walks

Mr. Kennedy, Bill, Dundas Valley Treekeepers

Mr. Krucker, Chris, Manorun Farms

Mr. McNulty, Gord, Hamilton Naturalists Club

Ms. Newbold, Christine, Osler Elementary

Ms. Normington, Lorraine, Ministry of Natural Resources

Mr. Oda, Warren, City of Hamilton, Recreation

Mr. Radigan, Michael, Public Works, Operations and Maintenance

Mrs. Redish, Anne, Hamilton Conservation Authority Representative, member of Conservation Authority Areas Advisory Board

Mr. Tuinstra, Devin, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce – Dundas Division

Ms. Watkins, Jacklyn, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce – Dundas Division

Financial and In Kind Support:

2 Appendix C: Community Outreach Report

Introduction

The purpose of community outreach for the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy was to involve the ‘silent majority’ in the decision making process and to overall engage the community in the project. Several methods were used during the course of summer 2008, and a significant amount of interest was sparked. As of September, the community consultation was focused towards the Art Contest and a Community Meeting in November. Community involvement was an integral part of the 50-Year Vision and Strategy integrative planning process.

Community Outreach

A number of outreach methods and initiatives have taken place over the summer in order to engage the study area’s community and to get feedback from the general public. The goal is to create a 50 Vision and Strategy that is not only informed but has the support and input of the public, stakeholders, Task Team, Steering Committee, Stakeholder Group and other important members.

Camp Activity

The outreach intern, Sasha Benevides, has attended two camp days at the Dundas Valley Conservation Area in the heart of the Dundas Valley. The first attended date was on August 1st and the second was on August 19th. The activity was called Water Warriors (Ages 5-8 & 9-12), where the children were taught water conservation, source water, and erosion among other environmentally focused topic. The arranged activity was completed with the both sets of children (see appendix A). Afterwards an art activity was done where the images were explained and collected for future use by the HCA.

Please see Appendix A for the Camp Day activity outline.

Please see Appendix B for the Camp Day images.

Art Contest

The Art Contest information (poster and rules – please see Appendix C) was distributed to a number of camps in the study area, and was posted on the Conservation Hamilton Website, Facebook, and distributed in the day camp packages, stakeholder packages and distributed by Beth Stormont at Trail Centre participating school teachers.

The artwork was to be judged and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placements were to be awarded. Instead of placement prizes, donated prizes were given out to the participating classes as a whole. This procedure also took

into consideration the fact that one class jointly submitted a mural. The artwork was judged by the Task Team/Steering Committee and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place certificates were affixed to the winning artwork pieces.

A set of 15 *Passports to Hamilton* were secured via Environment Hamilton to be used as prizes, as well as some disposable cameras from Fortino's Photolabs on Upper James, Hamilton and on Wilson Street, Ancaster. In addition, a pizza party for each classroom was donated by Roma Bakery. Each participating class will receive the prizes and will be notified when their artwork is returned to them after the joint Task Team/Steering Committee meeting.

Please see Appendix C for Art Contest poster and rules.

Please see Appendix D for full Art Contest prize details.

The Art Contest deadline was extended until November 20th to allow more time for received 35 pieces of artwork from the following classes:

Teacher	School	Age group	Grade	Pieces
Mrs. Truglia	Our Lady of Peace	Age 8	Grade 3	17 Single Art Pieces
Mrs. Garofalo	Our Lady of Peace	Age 6/7	Grade 2 / 3	18 Single Art Pieces
Mrs. Jamie Walker	Chedoke Elementary School	Age 9	Grade 4	One large mural made by the class

34 pieces were separate paintings or drawings on paper and 1 piece was a large mural in which a whole class participated in. The artwork was then brought to the Community Meeting #2 at the Dundas Town Hall on November 25th and the community was very interested in all the pieces. The artwork was displayed by Ken Hall at the Dundas Valley Trail Centre from December 10th until the 17th of January.

Please see Appendix E for pictures of artwork submitted.

Community Events

Over the summer, community events took place in Ancaster, Greensville, Flamborough, Hamilton and Dundas. These areas were chosen because of their proximity to the study area and to ensure the entire Dundas Valley Community got a chance to get involved. At each event a study area map was presented to the public, and the option of taking or filling out a community comment card and a sticker was offered by a staff member with either a nametag or t-shirt (see Appendix F). The events have not been restricted to large community events but on the street conversations (Trail Day) and presentations were given at group meetings (Eco-Art Panel).

The objectives for the staff member at these events were to (1) engage people at the events in conversation about sustainability and the Dundas Valley 50-Year Strategy and (2) to get people at the events to fill out a short 3 question survey about their vision for the Dundas Valley.

Please see Appendix F for images of nametag and t-shirt.

Community Events -- Collected Information

Location	Event Summary	# of Surveys Collected	Major issues/trends/notable comments
Christie Lake Splash Day <i>June 7th</i> Dundas – Christie Lake Conservation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An event revolving around water protection and management - Large crowd approximately 400-500+ people attended; large area so they were distributed throughout it - Our set up was situated in the pavilion along with other organizations like the HCA 	18	<p>VALUES: Green spaces, nature, biodiversity, natural growth and heritage, Rock Chapel, Cootes Paradise, waterfalls, recreational opportunities, living museum, exercise opportunities</p> <p>FUTURE VISION: Keep it the same, accessibility, need road signs, living museum, protection, conservation, healthy, clean environment, ecotourism destination, small community feel</p> <p>THREATS: Development, overpopulation, over use, stress, lack of funding, overturn of natural land for human use, poor planning, pollution, garbage.</p> <p>OTHER COMMENTS: The area has the potential to be a living museum; people who were passionate about the area felt strongly that it was one of a kind and it would be negligent for it to be lost</p>
Buskerfest <i>June 8th</i> Dundas – Downtown Dundas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roughly 500+ people attending - Mostly local, 15% out of town - There was no booth at this event, rather a walk-around method was implemented 	6	<p>VALUES: Natural areas, parks, conservation, biking opportunities, town festivities, the kind people</p> <p>FUTURE VISION: No change, more green space, cleaner air, more accessible and more planning, a slowdown on development</p> <p>THREATS: too many big box stores, urban sprawl, pollution, residential and commercial development</p> <p>OTHER CONCERNS: A trail used did not like having to pay two different fees when</p>

Location	Event Summary	# of Surveys Collected	Major issues/trends/notable comments
			switching over trails, seemed “unreasonable”
<p>“It’s Your Festival” <i>June 28th & 30th</i> Hamilton – Gage Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 500+ attended the event - Most of the demographic were people from Hamilton or individuals from the GTA 	4	<p>VALUES: Quaint area with a community that has a culture and vision for the future, the natural beauty</p> <p>FUTURE VISION: not too many high rise buildings, more accessible for older people, young mothers and disabled, public transit to the various conservation areas</p> <p>THREATS: highway by pass, urban and industrial sprawl using up green spaces, overdevelopment</p> <p>OTHER CONCERNS: Noticeably, people at this event had some accessibility issues (either riding motorized scooters, wheelchairs, canes etc.). People want to be able to view the natural space without being limited. They want to be able to go with the whole family and not have to worry that an older family member not be able to go somewhere because the only way to reach the destination is a steep set of stairs</p>
<p>Picnic in the Park <i>July 1st</i> Greensville – Webster’s Falls Conservation Area Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approximately 400+ people attended - Majority of people were from the study area; 30-40% were probably from Greensville - Individuals were very environmentally focused, and interested in the project; distributed almost 70 comment cards mostly at request. 	13	<p>VALUES: Spencer Creek, the escarpment, clean waterfalls, nature, trails, the availability of the space, quality and quantity of green space, Webster’s, small community atmosphere</p> <p>FUTURE VISION: no change, careful increase of business development in the industrial areas, continued conservation, that Webster’s will never be built upon, better washroom facilities, separation from the City of Hamilton, improvement of roads, on its own energy grid</p> <p>THREATS: Lafarge stripping the earth of its non-renewable resources, builder land purchase for profit venture, people who</p>

Location	Event Summary	# of Surveys Collected	Major issues/trends/notable comments
			<p>disrespect the valley, over development, pollution, large city encroachment, invasive species, uncontrolled traffic, safety, overpopulation</p> <p>OTHER CONCERNS: Because of traffic around the area some local individuals felt that the streets were not safe because people drove too fast or recklessly on winding roads. They did not mind tourism but felt that it can sometimes be destructive and people do not courteously or respectfully use the land</p>
<p>Christie Lake Beach Party July 12th Dundas – Christie Lake Conservation Area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - around 100+ people attended this event; a very large space so people were distributed all over - Mostly locals, but the booth was in a random spot in the area so not many people were guided to it 	5	<p>VALUES: Trees, nature, bike trails, waterfalls, the older houses (architecture), conservation areas, parks, cleanliness of trails</p> <p>FUTURE VISION: Keep the area as it is, more sport facilities, free community facilities, more controls on industry air pollution, keep green areas and expand them</p> <p>THREATS: Space availability, industry, pollution, development from population growth, public litter.</p>
<p>Maker's Market July 9th Hamilton – St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, James Street</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 200-300 people attended throughout the day - Mostly local, ~5% outside of Hamilton - Got some very interested people who took several comment cards to take home for other individuals 	9	<p>VALUES: Trails, efforts to conserve, natural land, good recreation close to urban areas, wildlife, community feeling of Dundas, green spaces, cultural preservation, forest</p> <p>FUTURE VISION: Keep it the same, expanded natural area, that 50% of already developed land be returned to its natural state, conservation, activation, preservation, more walking trails, protected area, None or contained sprawl</p> <p>THREATS: Urban sprawl, neighbourhood expansions, pollution, lack of promotion as a camping destination, development, gravel pits</p> <p>OTHER CONCERNS: One individual put it</p>

Location	Event Summary	# of Surveys Collected	Major issues/trends/notable comments
			quite nicely suggesting that the area is prone to development, but if the development were to be made sustainable or eco-friendly that it would be a vast improvement, and it would make the area an example and trailblazer for future communities
Community Harvest <i>July 28th</i> Ancaster – Carluke Orchards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a very local event (all church members or local farmers) - initially people were not too concerned about what might happen to their environment, tried to stress that there were concerns and that what happens on surrounding land will eventually effect them as well 	3	VALUES: Unspoiled nature, family-friendly trails, variety of terrain, a quiet area in such a heavily populated part of Ontario, is not over crowded, walking trails FUTURE VISION: Remain largely the same, not “modernized”, more washroom/trail stations THREATS: Overdevelopment, loss of plant and wildlife
Ice Cream Festival <i>August 3rd & 4th</i> Flamborough – Westfield Heritage Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - very large event (1000-1500 people) - very diverse demographic, people came from all over, maybe 50% local - had a radio interview at the event with 1150 fm 	13	VALUES: Trails, the people, natural beauty, hiking, biking, local retailers, heritage, waterfalls, how the areas nature is preserved FUTURE: Open more trails, clean, preserved, stay unchanged, continued promotion of its benefits, more biking (less commuting), smart growth, community developed economy, no car-centered development, more public access to areas, free attractions THREATS: Urban Sprawl, pollution, garbage, expansion, uncontrolled development, erosion, that the valley will be sold for development OTHER CONCERNS: The environment is not always the priority of the government and the people living in the community. The economy can still stay stable, but should be local economy. People do not want the area to be overrun by big box stores

Additional Sources of Community Information

	Summary/info	# of Surveys Collected	Major issues or trends/notable comments
Online Survey SurveyMonkey .com	- link posted on the Facebook page as well as the inform Hamilton website and additional hand-out documents	3	VALUES: Beautiful, reminds people of how important the environment is, waterfalls, beaches, places for family picnics and open areas, trails FUTURE: That it will still be around, the land and wildlife, restoration of all its issues, more money for the parks THREATS: Developmental growth of the parks, enough money for them to be maintained, pollution, destruction of plant growth and wildlife habitats by tourists
Facebook: Discussion Facebook Group – 'Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy'	-A fan page allows for anyone to view and join the group. News is posted ASAP -Updates can be sent out to all members at the discretion of the organizer	No Surveys, just discussion board banter (53 Members)	COMMENTS: beauty in your backyard, beautiful scenery, extensive natural land, hiking, childhood memories associated with it
HCA Website	- Through the link on the main webpage people have the option to fill out a response	6	VALUES: Wildlife, opportunity for exercise, landscape sights, green space, Webster's Falls, Cootes, the forest, FUTURE: Bigger, cleaner, more protected, biodiversity hotspot, safe place, green, more outdoor oriented experiential education, Signage for the natural history of areas in the Dundas Valley THREATS: Development, inconsiderate or destructive trial use, wildlife being forced to surrounding land, fragmentation of forest, pollution, acid rain, too many people visiting areas which drives out animals, invasive species
Fax/Personal Hand-In	-people can print out the survey -They also have the option of taking a comment card at events to later hand in at their own discretion	1	VALUES: Its beauty, quiet, green, peaceful, pleasant place to be, no hustle/bustle FUTURE VISION: Keep it as much as it is, natural , maybe a restaurant overlooking the area and its beautiful view THREATS: Going commercial

Compiled Results and Trends from Comments

A total of 81 responses were collected over three months (a table of all responses can be found in Appendix G). The majority of people were content with the current state of the Dundas Valley and did not want it changed on the large-scale. However, what most concerned the public was development. They were upset by land encroachment in the area, and did not want their green spaces to be converted for residential or industrial use. Their visions were for it to be maintained as it was. People can notice the effect of development so it was no surprise that people vocally gave examples of areas near them that have changed drastically due to expansion.

Although typical visions of the area were that it “stays the same,” some people had some dynamic views of what the next 50-years of the study area can become. The most intriguing response was that if development were to persist that it be environmentally focused or eco-friendly. There is an off-grid home in the Dundas area and it was mentioned several times throughout community outreach events (the owner allows for tours see appendix H). If this type of development was more popularly used it would help offset the environmental degradation done by typical development. This could also be used to mark Dundas Valley as the forerunner in sustainable development. It would be a trailblazer, which could increase its popularity as a town and tourist (or ecotourism) attraction, which was another comment for the future.

On a smaller scale, people felt that there were not enough washroom facilities in the area, that people disrespected the trails or natural areas, and that accessibility was an issue (specifically for the waterfall features). Some suggested enforcing signage warning bikers about courtesy when using walking trails.

Please see Appendix G for a table of all community responses collected.

Please see Appendix H for Off-Grid Home information.

HCA Possibilities

Small Scale

The HCA can possibly complete some simple tasks to help fulfill community requests such as:

- more signage for:
 - o bikers-pedestrian courtesy
 - o locale
 - o heritage significance
- Increase accessibility to their conservation areas
 - o Wheel chair/stroller ramps
 - o More gradual steps or alternate low-stress paths (specifically for Waterfall area)
- Possible bell requirements or free bell options at trail centers
- More environmental education for children talking about the project or the environmental significance of the area
- Increase amount or quality of washrooms
- Enforce payment more diligently

- Eliminate payment when an individual is transferring from one trail system to another (possible payment carry-over)

Large Scale

On a large scale the HCA can implement stronger legislation to ensure that land encroachment is either stopped or restricted around the study area. Some of the complaints received at events revolved around the HCA selling off land for development in the past. The extent of this happening has not been confirmed but if there was the possibility of ensuring that current HCA land is not available to be bought could significantly protect the sustainability of the land. Converting power sources might also be an option. The possibility of a sustainable power, or water system at HCA areas could be an improvement and would set an example for the public. The HCA could also have the possibility of using this as an attraction doing its own tours exhibiting their building's sustainability.

Conclusion

Throughout the summer a great deal of outreach has been completed using various methods of engagement and 81 surveys have been collected. The public outreach and consultation portion of this Dundas Valley 50-Year Strategy and Vision has been extremely important as well as provided invaluable information and opinions to the Strategy's process. We would like to thank all those who have been involved in the Strategy process as well as those who have gladly offered their opinions and time to make the public consultation both successful and possible.

Appendix A: Camp Day Activity

Introduction

Lura Consulting is working with the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) to develop a 50-Year Sustainability Strategy for the Dundas Valley. With the cooperation of HCA, Lura would like to make children attending HCA day camps aware of the strategy and the efforts to protect the Valley, and to gain their input into the development of the sustainability strategy.

Goals

To encourage children who attend outdoor education summer courses at the Dundas Valley Conservation Area to:

- reflect and analyze current and historical impacts of human activities on the Dundas Valley environment;
- get children thinking about the future of the Dundas Valley, and how they can protect its natural beauty and the environment now and 50 years into the future.

Activity Specifics

The Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision is trying to get the community involved determining a vision for their community for the next 50 years. Lura Consulting, with the assistance of Ontario Stewardship interns from the Ministry of Natural Resources (coordinator Erika Spekkens), proposes to implement an environmental education activity that will take approximately an hour to an hour and a half to complete.

We are trying to focus on getting the children to think reflectively and create mental links between the state of the current and future environment in the next 50 years. Lura hopes to obtain feedback on children's aspirations for the Dundas Valley which we will document and present to the HCA. This activity will require the participation of 12 to 20 students and will take approximately an hour.

Lura is proposing to conduct an activity called "Who Polluted Spencer's Creek?" which is adapted from the Tofino Botanical Gardens Sustainability Camp to better fit our target area (<http://www.tbgf.org/sustainable-kids/curriculum/006a-pollution-game.php>).

Not only will this activity help to elicit comments about the Dundas Valley Strategy, but it also fits with the source water protection mandate of HCA and other conservation authorities.

Activity Description

OBJECTIVES:

- To help students understand how pollutants find their way into their watershed, and waterways around the world, waters connectivity and how currents carry pollutants globally
- Students will also be able to draw connections between their individual actions and results at the community level (the cause-effect relationship with pollution)
- Students will be able to create personal and community level strategies for minimizing, counteracting, and eliminating environmental problems in waterways
- Engaging the students through hands-on activities and local clean-up

MATERIALS:

* Materials will be prepared in advance by the Outreach Intern

1. One clear gallon jar (or bowl of water)
2. One plastic film canister per student (often available from film processing stores)
3. Canisters with ingredients and story character labels (see tables below).

Dry ingredients:

Story Character	Ingredients
Trees	Leaves (dry)
Construction site	Soil (clayish, dry)
Person fishing	Fishing line or dental floss
Farmers	Baking soda
Gardeners	Baking soda
Deer	Chocolate Chips
Trail Users	Assorted litter

Wet ingredients:

Story Character	Ingredients
Barnyard	Water and instant coffee granules
Washing the family car	Water + 1 drop dishwashing soap
Antifreeze	Water + 1 drop green food colouring
Pool Draining (Chlorine)	Water + 1 drop red food colouring
Homeowner	Water + 1 drop yellow food colouring and toilet paper
Coal mine and power plant	Vinegar
Commuters	Vinegar
Erosion and Development	Water + coffee granules

--- with thanks, this activity is adapted from Population Connection, 2004,
<http://www.populationeducation.org/>

PROCEDURE:

1. Prepare and label the film canisters as described in the materials section, enough for each student to have at least one canister. There are 16 different canister labels, so for larger classes, some students will have identical canisters.
2. Fill the clear jar $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water. Place the container in a location that can be seen by all students.
3. Distribute one canister to each student. Ask them to keep the canisters closed and upright, and not to reveal the identities of their character or contents.
4. Explain that you will tell a story about Spencer's Creek, and that each of them will play a part in the story.
5. Read the story see below. Add emphasis as you read each bolded character name, and pause after each question to give the students time to think and respond.
6. The discussion questions below will be used to debrief the activity at the end:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (modified for relevance):

- How many of you know where Spencer's Creek is or been there? (We will show it off of a map)
- Who do *you* think polluted Spencer's Creek?
- What happens to our creeks and rivers when more people live around them? Are these good things or bad things?
- Think about your cups and the types of things that were in them? Those types of things are called pollution, and they can get into the water. What do you think could be done to make sure that pollution doesn't get to the water?
- Imagine that you own that creek. You can do whatever you want to it with it, but you ALSO have to clean it... What types of things would you do to clean this water?
- Wouldn't it be easier to not get the pond dirty first? Then you wouldn't have to clean it up at all. Wouldn't you rather not pollute first, do you think it's easier? Why?
- What do you think could keep the pollution from getting in the water? What could you do on your own to help out? Are there any groups where you live that you could join?
- Do you talk to your parents, or does your school teach you about the environment at all?
- Do notice anything people do around the place you live that could hurt the environment? What?
- Have you guys ever heard of the Dundas Valley? Because Spencer's Creek is there. (show map). Have you ever visited any of the places in the area, did you like what you got to see?
- Do you think places like Dundas Valley are in danger of things like pollution?
- Have you guys heard about this project we are working on in the Dundas Valley? It's a really cool thing where people who already live in the Valley get to tell me about what they like and what they want to see in the next 50 years around where they live?
- How old are you guys? Think about how old you will be in 50 years! When you're that old what would you want to see in the valley (your home, where you go to school, etc) do you still see yourself living here?

Collage/Art Activity (Time: ~5 minutes for collage, 15 minutes for discussion and explanation of art):

Take a minute and think about the things you think would make up a good community (A place where people live, including YOU). Use our markers and the paper. Imagine you're making your own place to live and get to add anything you want. What would you put in it? What ingredients make up your perfect place to live?

Think: If children are confused guide them with the following: Will there be other people there? What types of animals? Will it be a clean? Do you want lots of water running through it? With there be a town nearby?

At the end of this activity we will have each youth quickly describe one or two things they would want and why and document them on whiteboard/notepad, If we have time we can talk about how trends/patterns we may see (i.e. the amount of green present in their drawings). These collages will be collected for possible future use with the HCA.

Final Reflection Questions/ Activity Wrap-up (Time: 5-10 minutes):

- Pretend that you are in charge of everything in the Dundas Valley. What would you change about it? Remember you can ANYTHING you want, use your imagination.
- Would you change a lot of things already here, or do you like it kind of the way it is?
- Do you think the environment is important, would you think about that in your community? Do you think about any of the pollution that we saw in the activity today in your community? What about the future?
- What do you wish would change in the future; remember that this project is for the 50-years coming up, there is a lot of things that can happen.

STORY (Time: including discussion questions ~30 minutes):

(modified for relevance)

For many thousands of years, people have lived on near Spencer's Creek. They hunted in the forests, farmed food and fished in the river. Imagine that the jar of water in front of you was taken from Spencer's Creek by a First Nations person about 500 years ago.

How does it look to you?

Does this look like water that you might want to drink? Swim in? Eat fish from?

The first person to explore Spencer's Creek kept a journal. He wrote about the aboriginal villages, the water streams like the ones you saw today and there being so many fish that him and his crew tried to scoop them out with a frying pan. Soon people heard about how great this place was and a lot of people started to visit and stay.

How do you think the new people used the river?

Do we use our rivers in the same way/s today?

(Students may immediately recognize direct similarities like transportation and food, but may not realize that the water they use everyday also may come from a local waterway to their tap).

The river has changed a lot since the first people lived there. This is the story of those changes. Listen for the name of the character printed on your canister. When you hear your character name, and dump what is in your cup into the creek.

Years went by, and storms drenched the area. It was very windy and the wind sped through the **trees** and blew leaves into the water. Soon, a city grew on the banks of Spencer's Creek. Developers who built houses for the new people cleared the forests to build. This development made holes in it forest breaking up places for animals to live.

Do you ever see construction workers in your area?

What could making holes in the forest do to the animals living in there?

Next, it began raining a lot and soil from **construction sites** flowed into the river and caused a lot of **erosion**, just like what you were taught earlier today.

Now Is this water safe to drink?

(If the response is "no," ask if the river had leaves or soil in it when explorers first drank from it, NOTE: decreased oxygen from erosion mixing the soil).

Would you swim in it? Is it safe for wildlife?

At first, the city was really small. But soon **farmers** had to plant crops to feed the city because it was growing so much. Some of these plants grew right up against the river,

What do people usually put on plants to help them grow?

Do they ever use chemicals, or things that aren't water?

Well in Spencer's Creek, fertilizer washed off the farm land and into the water. Other farmers kept pigs and other farm animals in their **barnyards**.

(What types of animals are usually in a barn? What do they usually make? [manure])

When it rained the rainwater drained out of the barnyard carrying some of the manure into a little creek behind the farm. This creek flows into Spencer's Creek. UH OH!

Would you drink this water now?

Would you swim in it?

Is it safe for wildlife?

As the city grew, more and more people began to move to areas outside of the city. Like the country. These country houses are not connected to the city sewer system the same way houses in the city are.

Where does the water from your toilet and shower go?

Where would the water from someone who didn't have a sewer systems water go?

Sewer water from these houses flows into tanks under the ground. One **homeowner** has not taken care of their waste tank and their sewage seeped into the creek.

Now that there are even more people living in Spencer's Creek

Where do people get energy from to power their lights and TV's?

What happens when there are more people, do you need to make more power?

Well this city needs to produce more energy to take care of everyone. A **coalmine** was dug to help out. Rainwater drained down from these mines. This made the rainwater become really dirty and sour— sort of like strong vinegar. This acid water trickled off the banks and back out into the river.

Is this good or bad for Spencer's creek if this river flows into it?

Is it bad for people to drink this water?

To actually make power, the coal from the coal mine has to be burnt, for that a **power plant** was built. When you burn things, it makes something called gas (think of the smoke that comes from a fire). Gasses coming out of the smokestacks mix with water in the air and that makes even more sour rain water called acid rain. This pollution from the power plant falls back to the earth as acid rain or smog.

Would you drink this water now?

Would you swim in it?

How could we determine if this water was safe for wildlife?

(Ages 5-8: Possible answers might include: number of animals present, health of animals, colour of the forest plant life, amount of plant life, colour of water/clarity etc.)

(Ages 9-12: Possible answers might include: noticing evidence of dead animals, testing for pH levels/chemical testing, viewing water samples, performing organism counts, etc.)

Now, the city is so big that it is one of the biggest cities in the Ontario. More people mean more cars.

Do your parents take a car to work?

Well car traffic in this city is a big problem for **commuters** (these are people who take their cars to work every day). Car gases (just like power plant gases) cause more acid rain. If a car is not in good condition it might leak oil or other fluids, which will be washed off the pavement and into the river the next time it rains.

Have you ever seen a car leak?

Do you remember where that rain water ends up?

How do the residents of this city spend their time? In one neighbourhood, lots of **gardeners** are out working in their yards.

Does anyone you know have a garden they work on?

Do they put anything on it to protect it from bugs?

Well many of the people in this town are using weed killers and insect sprays to keep their lawns pretty. The next time it rains it will wash these poisons into a little creek nearby.

Guess where this creek goes? SPENCER'S CREEK!

In the town some ones dad is teaching them how to change the **antifreeze** in their truck. Antifreeze is what people put in their car to make sure it runs properly, especially when it is really cold in the winter.

Have you ever seen people pour stuff down the drain that wasn't water? Like a chemical?

Well this dad just poured out the used antifreeze onto their driveway. Antifreeze is sweet tasting and can poison animals that lick it like deer. It can also get into the nearby creek and poison fish.

Is this dangerous for animals?

Well, those **deer** are also a problem for the forest. The more deer there are the more droppings. Too many deer droppings in the forest make it hard for some plants to grow and can make them to die.

Have you ever helped someone wash their car, or have seen someone on your street wash their car?

Nearby, a boy **washes the family car**. The soapy water rushes down the driveway into the storm drain; Remember: the storm drain empties into the creek. The grease and grime on a car can has asphalt from the roads in it and chemicals from the brakes, rubber from the tires, and rust. If the boy had gone to a local car wash, the water would have been treated before it returned to the river.

How many of you have been to a local car wash where someone or a machine washed your car for you?

How many of you have a pool or know a friend or family member who has a pool?

Well Next door, a family is getting ready for the summer by opening up their **pool**. They have to clean and empty the water before they swim in it this year.

Do people replace pool water?

Where do you usually see people empty their old pool water? (Rain drain)

What do people put in pools to keep them clean? (Chlorine).

Now the pool is ready for the summer but the old water and chlorine is out of sight – but is headed for the creek, oh no!

What could this do to the water and animals that live in the creek and streams?

A group of friends have spread blankets on the shore for a **beach party**. Lots of families are walking the **trails** on the shore. With the next storm, that trash will wash into the river. On the shore a **person fishing** snags a hook on a log, and breaks off the nylon fishing line.

Conclusion

Lura will prepare information packages for the students to take home with them including: “I ♥ Dundas Valley” stickers, our newsletter, art contest information, a comment card and a quick and easy questionnaire either done by hand raising (5-8 age group) or written (9-12 age group)

Appendix B: Camp Day – Artwork Images



Appendix C: Art Contest – Poster & Rules

What's your vision for

the Dundas Valley?



Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision & Strategy Art Contest

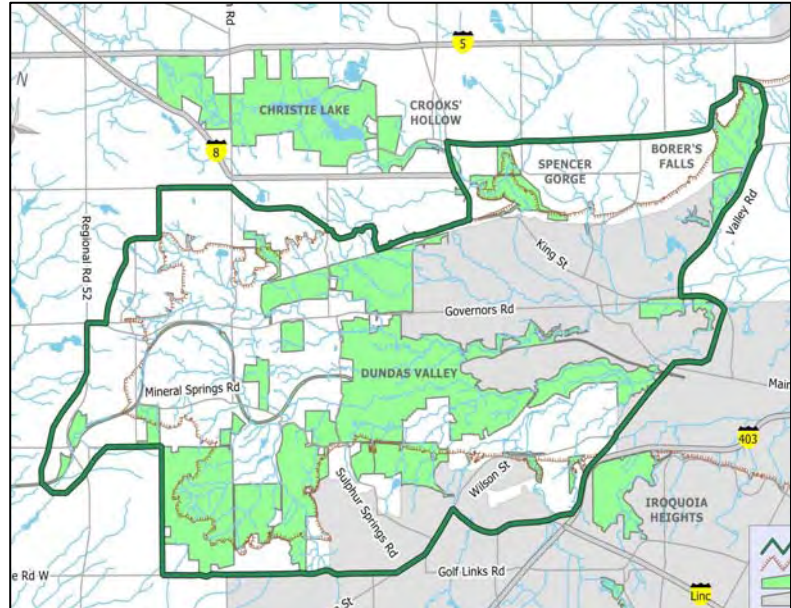
The Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is creating a 50-Year Vision & Strategy for the Dundas Valley area and they need your help!

HCA invites young people ages 5-19 to submit images that express their answers to the questions:

- A. What do you like about Dundas Valley?**
- B. What is your vision for the future of the Dundas Valley?**

Submissions can be drawn, painted, photographed, collaged, use computer graphics or video but must be limited to 2 images per entrant. Submissions will be judged within

their own age bracket. All submissions will be displayed on the HCA website and featured in a public gallery. Winners will receive a prize and their images may be used in future Dundas Valley publications.



Deadline: October 31st 2008	Send your entries to HCA at: Hamilton Conservation Authority PO Box 7099, 838 Mineral Springs Road Ancaster, ON L9G 3L3 E-mail: nature@conservationhamilton.ca
-------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Complete contest rules and project details at <http://www.conservationhamilton>

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision & Strategy

Art Contest Rules

The Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is creating a 50-Year Vision & Strategy for the Dundas Valley area and they need your help!

HCA invites young people ages 5-19 to submit images that express their answers to the questions:

C. What do you like about Dundas Valley?

D. What is your vision for the future of the Dundas Valley?

Submissions format options:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing • Painting 	Original artwork must be submitted. Maximum size 36.8 cm x 48.3 cm (14.5" x 19"). Include a self-addressed envelope to get your materials returned. (LIMIT of 2 images per entrant)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photograph • Computer graphics 	Send images of 5 MB or less by email to email to nature@conservationhamilton.ca (LIMIT of 2 images per entrant). Images can also be burned to a CD-R and mailed to HCA at the address below.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video 	Maximum 5 minutes in length. Upload to YouTube.com and email HCA the link.

Each submission should include:

- A short description of the creators reasoning.
- The creator's name, age and contact information.

All accepted submissions will be displayed on the HCA website and featured in a public gallery.

Submissions will be judged along the following categories:

Age Categories	Question	Format
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 8 • 8-13 • 14-19 	A. What do you like about Dundas Valley? B. What is your vision for the future of the Dundas Valley?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing or painting • Photo • Computer graphics or mixed media • Video
<p>One winner and several honourable mentions will be awarded in each age category.</p>		

Image Challenge Rules & Regulations

Images will be judged by Hamilton Conservation Authority Staff and Lura Consulting.

Judges will be looking for images that best capture the spirit of the 50-Year Strategy and inspires action.

Participants can submit a maximum of 2 images.

All winners and honourable mentions will be asked to grant HCA permission to use their images in HCA and Dundas Valley promotional materials. By granting this permission you allow Hamilton Conservation Authority world-wide, royalty-free, irrevocable and non-exclusive right and license to use, copy, adapt, transmit, communicate, and publicly display a submitted image to promote the Hamilton Conservation Authority and the Dundas Valley. You represent and warrant that you have the right to grant the license set out above.

Any images where people's faces are visible should include a signed release statement that gives permissions for HCA to use that image for promotional materials.

Prizes will be announced at a later date.

HCA reserves the right to decline a submission and to change the contest rules at any time.

The deadline for accepting submissions is 11:59pm October 31st 2008

Submissions will be accepted via the following:

E-mail

nature@conservationhamilton.ca

Post

Hamilton Conservation Authority
PO Box 7099
838 Mineral Springs Road
Ancaster, ON
L9G 3L3

Up to date contest information and project details are available at
www.conservationhamilton.ca/DVstrategy.asp

Appendix D: Art Contest Prizes

Contest prizes were donated by the following:

Passports to Hamilton, Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton:

Please see the following link:

http://www.environmenthamilton.org/view/page/passport_to_hamilton#PROJECT%20DESCRIPTION

Hard Copy Available

Disposable cameras:

Fortinos, Upper James Street, Hamilton & Wilson Street, Ancaster

Pizza Donation:

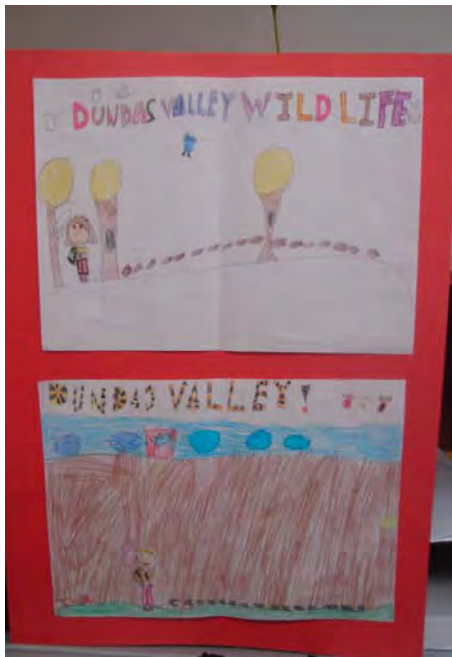
Roma Bakery

233 Barton Street East

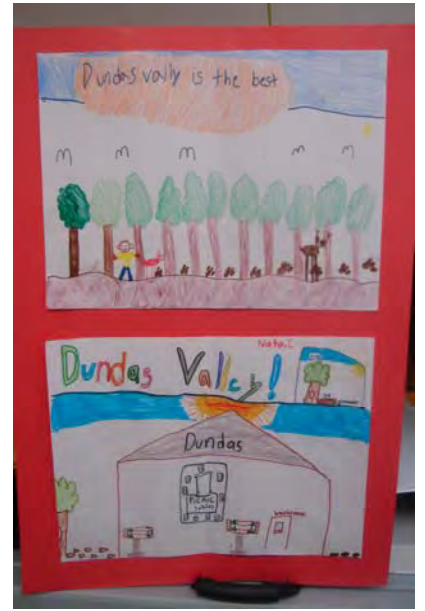
Stoney Creek, Ontario L8E 2K4

www.romabakery.ca

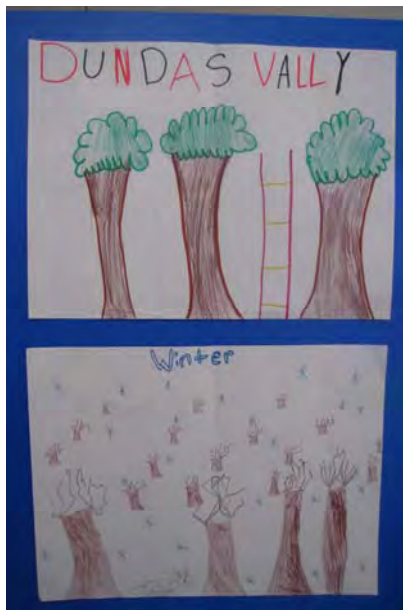
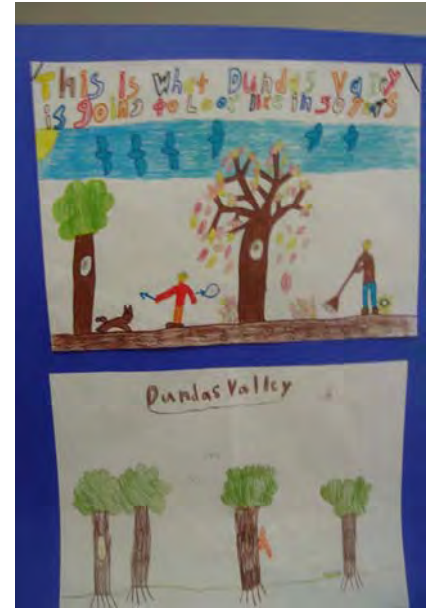
Appendix E: Art Contest Artwork



Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy Appendices – Final Draft for Review

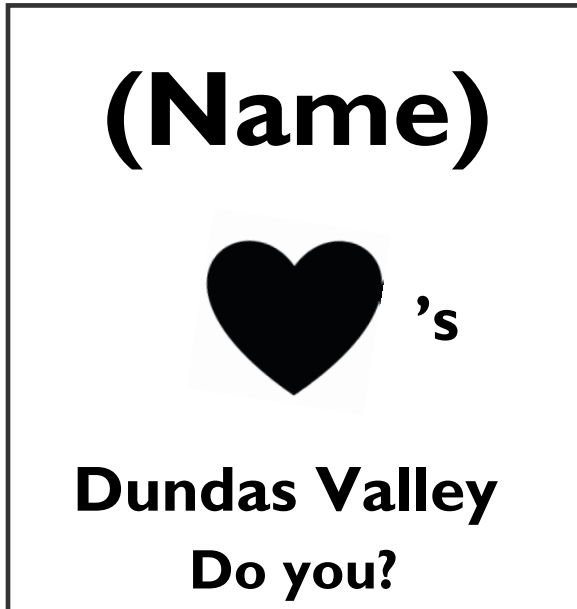


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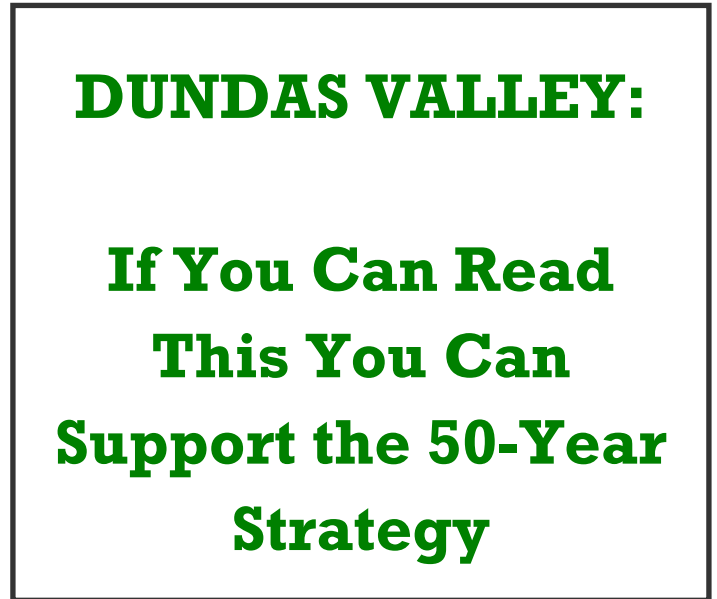


Appendix F: Materials (Not to scale)

Name Tag:



T-Shirt Design:



Appendix G: Table of Community Consultation Responses

	Name	More Info?	E-Mail	Telephone Number	What do you personally value about the Dundas Valley?	Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now.	Do you ever worry about the future of the Dundas Valley? If so, what threats do you presently worry about?
Christie Lake Beach Party- June 7							
1	Adrian	YES	adi_berisho@yahoo.com	905-527-6651	Nature	Keep the same eco-friendly and economic development	Overpopulation, industrial activity (production done by humans)
2	Sangiv	NO			Environment	Would like to visit the peak at Webster's Falls, more accessible, more children's activities	Pollution
3		NO			The large green natural space that benefits natural and human needs. Its natural growth and heritage	A well developed "ecologically minded" place with a significant retention of green space and natural habitats with some development	Poorly planned rapid expansion, projects that devastate the correct natural space (AKA Humans)
4		NO				Accessible. Not too developed needs more road signs along major routes	Developer encroachment, lack of funding
5	Anthony Boatz	YES	Baatman10@hotmail.com	905-547-4156	Rock Chapel, all the old trees that beautify the neighborhoods, top-	Same small community feel and natural environment keep the beauty for	Urbanization and too much development growth is necessary but it should be kept within the current confines

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy Appendices – Final Draft for Review

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					notch golf course, Cootes paradise	future generations	
6	Mike Bingham	YES	mbingham@hamilton.ca	905-387-7201	the natural preservation and access to observe such	same thing we see now	Over use, stress, water consumption (industrial), impacting species diversity and eco-health
7	Crystal Consalves	YES	rictier_robert@live.com	289-396-3412	the wildlife and nature	for it to be beautiful still and for wildlife to be their	Pollution
8	Kate	YES	kdunn@rbg.ca		Rock Chapel, Cootes Paradise	A “living museum” that serves the Dundas and surrounding areas, while promoting public understanding of conservation, preservation and nature	Housing developments, integration of highways
9	Cherish Elwell	YES	celwell@conservationhamilton.ca		diversity of species, conservation of natural and heritage areas, recreational opportunities	protected reserve-land acquisition has resulted in the expansion of natural areas-no further developments-carefully managed, world renowned ecotourism destination	Development/urbanization, habitat degradation, water quality, global warming

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10	Chris Hamilton	NO	Chamilton12@ogeco.ca	905-331-8691	It was identified in 1976 as the Hamilton Areas most environmentally sensitive and ecologically significant area. What I value most is its continued protection that it remains as a living museum to the natural state of the Valley. Escarpment features, waterfalls, endangered species all within the Valley are its most valuable component	That Valley land protected by HCA grows. That landowners of valley properties continue to donate or sell their lands or participate in stewardship programs so that not one square meter of valley lands falls prey to urban expansion or development.	Development, dumping, pollution
11	Jim Hudson	YES	jhudson@hamiltonharbour.ca	905-527-7111	preserving natural lands to balance out excessive development	just like it is now	Development, pesticides
12	Adam Kuehnbaum	YES	Adam.kuehnbaum@ge.com		Never been but I have heard that it is beautiful	Stay forested with parks and trails	Development, business and community
13	Emma Kerr	NO			Opportunity for exercise as in hikes and bike rides	Clean environment, less litter	Vandalism

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14	Eric Kerr	NO			The good views, nature and opportunity for exercise	I don't think I would want to change anything	Littering, I guess
15	Colleen Lavendar	YES	clavendar@hrc.a.on.ca	905-336-1158 ext 263	diversity of species, recreational value, ecological function, heritage and history	healthy, diverse, and protected	Invasive species (buckthorn, garlic mustard, gypsy moth), vandalism/garbage
16	Zoe Law	YES	flower_luver@rogers.ca		it is very clean, but it could use some cleaning up	To be clean	Garbage and waste
17	D. Lawson	NO			Open area	Trails	More houses and traffic
18	Kristin Silvera	YES	K_silvera@hotmail.com	905-630-6993	The integrity of the trails	Maintain the nature already there, put in more trails.	Highway implementation, Urbanization
Buskerfest- June 8							
19		NO			Beautiful hiking trails	Preserved hiking trails, maintaining Warren Park, Spring Creek Trail – having to pay a separate access fee for a small area seems unreasonable	
20	Heather Boyd	YES	hboyd@uoguelph.ca	905-628-7789	The wide variety of natural areas and	An area maintained to the current	The urban sprawl and increase in both commercial and residential development

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					conservation areas available	standards of the current natural areas, and some improvements upon the areas that have been let go to waste. More green space in general and a slow down in development	
21	Jenna Boyd	NO		905-628-7789	The variety of parks, natural areas and conservation areas, Plants	More green space and cleaner air etc.	Urban Sprawl and pollution
22	Andrea Conway	NO	bast_ca@hotmail.com	905-627-5376	I value the nearness of nature to the city	Very little change, more publicity for parks and events	Urban sprawl, chain stores, squirrels
23	C. Craver	YES	Carolyn.craver@hwdsb.on.ca	905-627-8469	The naturalized areas-parks and the conservation	Cleaned overall- everything we have now but cleaner water air etc. More accessible, and more planning	Urban sprawl, pollution
24	Anne Rae	YES	Anne.rae@sympatico.ca	905-648-7656	Trails, bike and walking, the wonderful downtown area (stores and restaurants) and the	Would like it to remain the same, no change, Ancaster(where I live) has grown and changed, it's very	Wal-Mart and big box stores- too commercial

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					people also the wonderful festivals	sad-I liked it when it was a small village (like Dundas)	
Gage Park "It's Your Festival"- June 28 & 30							
25	Eva Quildon	NO		905-385-5943	Drive in park, quaint shopping area	Not too many high rise buildings	Highway passing through the town
26	D. Hunter	NO		905-524-3889	The culture and vision people of the community has and have for the future	To be more accessible for older people, young mothers with children and disabled	Change as always happens when politicians want to make changes
27	Terry Williton	YES	god_man@hotmail.com	905-524-3901		More accessible by introducing public transit to various locations	Urban and industrial sprawl using up many green spaces
28	Chris	NO			The natural beauty of the area	The majority of the valley to be preserved I also wish it was more accessible by public transit	Over development
						Picnic in the Park- July 1	
29	Eric	NO			Spencer Creek, Escarpment	No Change	Politicians
30	Eddie	YES, only for	nacermammeii@hotmail.com		Clean, waterfalls, nature	More washrooms, and entertainment	Development, safety of area at risk

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		Community Meetings though				for the kids; more events accessibility, transport to areas so people can bring larger things; easier transport down trails	
31		NO			Scenery, trails		Increased traffic, overpopulation
32	Paul Aicken	YES	paaicken@yahoo.ca	905-628-2536	It's availability	To have just the same as it is now	Development
33	Dorothy Despond	YES	Frank.despond@gmail.com	905-628-2791	Just love the area as it is		Traffic needs to be controlled in surveys
34	Daniel Dion	YES	Danieldion73@yahoo.ca		Green spaces, the trails	I would love to see a Frisbee golf area and cross country trail	
35	Sarah Faver	YES	whysperano@yahoo.ca	905-407-4956	The amount of land that is being protected	Fairly similar to the way it is now, but with better technology at fee stations to insure people pay to contribute to better trails. I would also like to see guided hikes and interpretation.	Invasive species, suburban/urban sprawl and industrial tourism-destructive tourism that is.
36	Andrew Jackson	YES	ajackson_38@sympatico.ca	905-627-2168	The lack of intrusive development and conservation of its	Separation from the city of Hamilton. Restriction around	Lafarge! Stripping the earth of its non-renewable resources. Subdivisions and production builder land purchase for profit venture

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					heritage	development, infrastructure improvements to roads, our own grid, powered through wind and solar conservation	
	Belinda Loo	YES	blkloo@yahoo.ca		Its natural beauty, Bruce trail and most of Webster's falls. I am a frequent visitor- at least twice a yearly	Better washroom facilities and preserve the valley as close to nature as possible	People who use the valley and don't respect it
	E. Morris	YES		905-389-2115	This Park, The downtown	That this park will always be here (not built upon)	
	J. Nash	YES	1210 Governors Road Dundas, Ontario L9H 5E3		The green spaces and small community atmosphere	Very little change to green space/parks. Careful increase of business development in industrial area and continued conservation	Over development (housing) large city encroachment, pollution of streams etc.
	Doug Patterson	YES	Dpatterson6@cogeco.ca				
	Dr. J.D. Richardson	YES	cvfdjr@yahoo.com	905-628-6780	Open Space	More of the source (sp?)	Acid rain

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						Christie Lake Beach Party- July 12	
		NO			Trees and grass	Keep the areas with trees and grass	Space- no more buildings
	Eval Filinski	YES	flintstones@primus.com	905-526-9172	The conservation areas, parks, and bike trails	Keep green areas- expand them even. More controls for industry- air pollution	Industry- pollution
	Jennifer Hart	YES	Jennose123@hotmail.com	905-745-0081	The nature: the trees that are still standing after so long. The older houses	The same	
	Bruce Pitcher	YES	brucep@quickclik.net	905-318-4528	Waterfalls	Don't know	Development and population growth
	Kim Tulloch	NO			The many trails and hiking g places i.e. the peak the rail trail also the town is very quaint, clean and inviting	More sports facilities- tennis courts, free community facilities	Public litter- parking fees
						Maker's Market- July 19	
		NO			The trails are awesome, I've filmed a lot of stuff there	How it is now but a bit more green, maybe more trails	I like the rock formation, if too much stuff is built the landscape will suck
		NO			Efforts to conserve green space, relationship with	No (or contained) sprawl, more education	Urban Sprawl

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					RBG	(experiential education) Build eco-tourism opportunities	
	Mike Borrelli	YES	mcborrelli@gmail.com	905-523-5794	Undisturbed natural land. Good for recreation and located close to the urban area	More parkland (i.e. Expansion) moratorium on nearby development (home/business)	Expansion of nearby neighbourhoods into the protected lands
	Matt Brinkman	YES	dabrinx@hotmail.com	905-977-7099	Nature and wildlife	Popular camping destination with lots of designated nature preserves	Pollution and lack of promotion as camping destination
	A.L Darling	NO		905-689-7481	The preservation of nature and its community feeling of Dundas	A vibrant community with many amenities within walking distance, with areas of nature where one can still find the variety of birds one finds now	The corridor between RBG/Cootes Paradise (York Road) and the conservation lands below the escarpment that is used by animals currently
	Jeni Darling	YES	ldarling3@cogeco.ca	905-689-7481	Its importance in preservation of green space and watershed and what this does for air and water quality. The initiative for cultural preservation is also	An area protected from development with trails for access on foot, cross country skiing etc. Dedicated biking trails	Development of the lands adjacent to conservation lands for example York Road.

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					important to me.		
	B. Lafferty	YES	gael@golden.net	519-763-6923	Green space	Green space, hiking, walking trails galore	Development and gravel pits
	Melissa Madden	NO	mimadden@dal.ca		The Bruce trail	Preservation, conservation, activation	Urban sprawl
	Daniel Morrede	YES	morrealed@yahoo.ca	905-659-1576	The forests!	50% of developed land returned to natural state	Development in Ancaster and Dundas
						Community Harvest- July 28	
		NO			The unspoiled nature combines with the family-friendly trails. Variety of terrain, a quiet area in a heavily populated part of Ontario	It will remain much as it is and not try to “modernize”	NO, I cannot conceive of any government being foolish enough to let this be lost
		NO			That it isn’t over crowded city. It’s a very beautiful area that is becoming overdeveloped. I also love the walking trails.	Preserve natural area	Over development loss of plant and wildlife
	Margaret Johnson	NO		Ancaster	Trails and trail center	Keep it the same but more stations for hiking and	Development

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						washrooms	
						Ice Cream Festival- Aug 3 & 4	
		NO			The trails because I like a good walk	I worry that with urban sprawl someone is going to build an expressway through the valley	Maybe open more trails or a rope bridge. I hope it is still there.
		NO			The people, and all the green spaces	Not everyone is environmentally focused not always a priority for the government and the public	Clean, preserved, to be a trail blazer for environmental conservation
		NO			A quiet place to relax and get in touch with nature	Building on green space	More biking/hiking paths
		NO			Near to the city yet just as close to natural areas, small town culture	NO, I have faith in the framework in place to preserve green space and ensure sustainable development	I love it the way it is today, but to stay unchanged is to invite a stagnant economy intelligent sustainable growth
	Emile	NO			Grandma lives there	NO	A bigger park
	Michele Anderson	YES	Danderson370@cogeco.ca		Chance to be in nature everyday	That it will be sold for development	More foreign visitors needs expanded birding area

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	Debbie Baker-Coates	YES		23 John Crescent Milgrove Ontario L0r 1v0	The natural beauty, pollution free, calming and relaxing spaces	Eradication of natural areas to development	Continued preservation promotion of its benefits
	Katharine Clarkson	NO			Hiking trails, bicycling trails (not mountain biking trails)	Pollution and traffic	More bicycling- commuting to work
	Victoria DiPoce	YES	vdipoce@ryerson.ca	416-433-3723 (more information on hard copy)	Important green areas and local retailers (small business owners) preserving the local economy NOT BIG BOX STORES	Uncontrolled development and loss of green spaces. Also, development projects that encourage automobile use and threaten public health.	Smart growth projects that incorporate great public transit initiatives alternative methods of transport (like bikes) and the conservation of green spaces. Also, help for local retailers having to compete with big box stores.
	Tim Epps	YES	tepp@redeemer.ca	905-628-5762 (more info on hard copy)	Trails, heritage, sites	Water pollution, erosion	
	Jessica Parle	NO			Green space and conservation areas	Urban sprawl, the growth of “smart centers” and big box stores everywhere	Lots of green space, creative and community-supported local economic development initiative that are stimulating and unique NO more car-centered development.
	Jessica Perkins	NO			Trails, Preservation of nature, waterfalls	Pollution, garbage	Keep it Clean!
	Laurie Robertshaw	NO			The trails are incredibly enjoyable.	Urban sprawl and expansion,	More public access areas, free attractions (unaltered natural areas)

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy Appendices – Final Draft for Review

	Name	More Info?	E-Mail	Telephone Number	What do you personally value about the Dundas Valley?	Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now.	Do you ever worry about the future of the Dundas Valley? If so, what threats do you presently worry about?
					Also, the waterfalls are a natural beauty	pollution	
						Other Responses (non-event) – Internet Survey, Personal Hand-In etc.	
	J. Soltmarsh	YES	jsoltmarsh@cogeco.ca	905-628-6138	Its beauty, quiet, green, peaceful a pleasant place to be no hustle no buses, care, harried people on the run	Keep it much as it is! Its natural, maybe a restaurant on area overlooking the valley-scenic beautiful place to go. Some though for older folks	What recreational activities? Going commercial? No
		NO			I value the beauty and wildlife found in the valley. I also value the valley as a place of recreation and daily exercise.	Bigger, cleaner and protected.	Pollution from rain run-off. Invasive species of plants and insects. Urban sprawl. (e.g. red hill creek expressway) Too many people visiting the area per day driving wildlife out of the area.
		NO			The natural landscape and sights	A biodiversity hotspot; an area that is coveted for its one of a kind environment; a safe place to visit and utilize	Deforestation and fragmentation, too much development
		NO			Protection of green space and wildlife	green, green, green	Inconsiderate or destructive trail users; urban expansion forces more wildlife to the valley for

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy Appendices – Final Draft for Review

	Name	More Info?	E-Mail	Telephone Number	What do you personally value about the Dundas Valley?	Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now.	Do you ever worry about the future of the Dundas Valley? If so, what threats do you presently worry about?
					habitat		protection yet more humans start using the valley; invasive species
		NO			The amount of Green Space. There is lots of hiking, Webster’s Falls, The Peak, just to name a few. I also enjoy Cootes Paradise for paddling. They have really cleaned it up and it is a beautiful place	More outdoor oriented experiential education programs in the school curriculum. include signage about the natural history of areas in the Dundas valley	Development. I enjoyed many green spaces that are now developed. Just stop building subdivisions and leave it the size it is but promote the eco-friendly travelers to learn about the natural history of the area through the hiking opportunities, paddling, and other learning experiences.
		NO			The forests	Kept the same	DEVELOPERS!!!!!!... PROTECT OUR LAND PLEASE!!!!
		NO			I value the beauty and wildlife found in the valley. I also value the valley as a place of recreation and daily exercise.	Bigger, cleaner and protected.	Pollution from rain run-off. Invasive species of plants and insects. Urban sprawl. (e.g. red hill creek expressway) Too many people visiting the area per day driving wildlife out of the area.
		NO			The natural landscape and sights	A biodiversity hotspot; an area that is coveted for its one of a kind	Deforestation and fragmentation, too much development

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy Appendices – Final Draft for Review

	Name	More Info?	E-Mail	Telephone Number	What do you personally value about the Dundas Valley?	Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now.	Do you ever worry about the future of the Dundas Valley? If so, what threats do you presently worry about?
						environment; a safe place to visit and utilize	
	Susie	YES	taylorstr@mcma.com		It's beautiful, and reminds people of how important it is to sustain our environment	Pollution, destruction of the plant growth/wildlife habitats by tourists	I hope that in 50 years it will still be here! (And the wildlife too!)
	Shauna Mitton	YES	shauna.mitton@ontario.ca		I don't know very much about the Dundas Valley, and I have not seen it in person but looking at the pictures it looks like a beautiful place.	I am not up to date on current issues with this site but I would assume that over time this place might not be protected and would lose the natural and undisturbed atmosphere that makes it such a special place.	I would like to see restoration of all of its issues.
		NO			It's beautiful, and reminds people of how important it is to sustain our environment	Pollution, destruction of the plant growth/wildlife habitats by tourists	I hope that in 50 years it will still be here! (And the wildlife too!)

Appendix H: EcoHouse Hamilton

Website: <http://ecohouse.greenventure.ca/>

Other Contact Information: Environment Hamilton arranges these tours as well at the home of Dave Braden, former councillor.

EcoHouse contact info: 905 549 0900 or contactus@environmenthamilton.org

3 Appendix D: SWOT Analysis Roll-Up Report

PURPOSE

The Hamilton Conservation Authority and its stakeholders are preparing a 50-year Vision and Strategy to protect and conserve the Dundas Valley. As part of this project, HCA and its stakeholders have developed a 50-year vision, identified key goals, and prepared a current state analysis.

Based on the current state analysis, and the Vision and Goals the community wishes to realize, the Task Team established to oversee the preparation of the Strategy is conducting a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) to inform the development of the Vision and Strategy.

The working session was conducted in two parts, including discussions on:

Internal Strengths and Weakness (e.g. organizational and institutional frameworks/abilities to achieve the Vision and Goals); and,

External Opportunities and Threats (e.g. Surrounding Context – planning, growth, ecological, economic and societal issues that may affect the future of the Valley.

Below is the roll-up of all comments and feedback during the working session with the Task Team, Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group.

INTERNAL STRENGTHS (Positive attributes, tangible, intangible)

Considering the Vision and Goals, please identify the organizational and institutional frameworks/programs that can provide a backdrop for positive achievement of the Vision and Goals:

INTERNAL STRENGTHS (Positive attributes, tangible, intangible)	Reference
Extensive knowledge of the local environment	Task Team Meeting # 3
Long term land management experience	Task Team Meeting # 3
Dedicated, knowledgeable staff	Task Team Meeting # 3

HCA’s commitment to the Dundas Valley: these lands are ranked as the “gem” in our “crown”.	Task Team Meeting # 3
HCA’s general strength is its ability to partner with peers and stakeholders.	Task Team Meeting # 3
HCA’s reputation as a champion of the Dundas Valley and its role in conserving and protecting Niagara Escarpment lands.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Knowledge and dedication of staff throughout institutions and environmental agencies	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
History of environmental preservation	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Good working relationships between the CA, the city and other agencies	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Strength in the fact that the community highly values the Dundas Valley	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
They value not only the Valley but the HCA that has the strength to carry this out	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
The HCA being an innovative body towards the natural heritage preservation	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Recognition as the Dundas as a significant geographical asset;	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
There’s several levels of input; Stewardship, Education, Ecology, Engineering, Planning	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
The HCA and all it does at the present time	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
The NEC, pick out significant things here and standards they have for what parks should be	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Our past history of land acquisitions	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
On top of the Direction and the Goals	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2

INTERNAL WEAKNESSES (negatives, detractors)

Considering the Vision and Goals, please identify institutional/organizational weaknesses or challenges:

INTERNAL WEAKNESSES (negatives, detractors)	Reference
Lack of knowledge of CA purpose and goals especially relating to land management in the Valley (passive recreation and protection of sensitive areas)	Task Team Meeting # 3
Lack of funding to improve public education	Task Team Meeting # 3
Lack of staff and resources to attack problems such as Encroachments along property boundaries, trail etiquette enforcement, ATV use, new trail creation by mountain bikes, bad weather usage by horses, bikes etc via patrols and enforcement	Task Team Meeting # 3
The process is another priority in a long list of priority projects for HCA managers and staff.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Financial and human resources are finite.	Task Team Meeting # 3
We are not masters of our own destiny in this process. Our organization, alone, cannot succeed.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Fiscal constraints	Steering Committee Meeting # 2; Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Conflicting mandates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political agendas • Agriculture vs. natural environmental preservation • Water quality vs. agricultural practices • The policy is in place but not all the practices are in place 	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
There needs to be a stronger connection between urban life and the natural environment;	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
It's not clear how Lura will provide ecologically friendly solutions to people enjoying the environment while still maintaining it	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
It's unclear how organizations such as the City of Hamilton and the HCA will be involved;	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2

The HCA has limited ability on what they can implement and what they can control	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Lack of control over activities outside HCA properties	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
People getting to the sites is difficult	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Recognition of the need, not just the funding, to have an empowered HCA	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2

EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

Considering the Vision and Goals, please describe the External Opportunities in the next 20 years:

EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES	Reference
Increasing population will seek out natural areas, recreation opportunities – increasing education opportunities and funding and political support	Task Team Meeting # 3
Environmental issues are becoming more top-of-mind and more important to the average citizen. This evolving state of mind could produce a more receptive & responsive constituency.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Fundraising, if required, might become more lucrative as affluent and environmentally aware baby boomers retire and look for places to seed their philanthropy as a way of leaving their mark.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Hamilton will continue to grow and develop. An urban wilderness in the geographical heart of a thriving community becomes an even greater asset — and visioning goals become easier to “sell”.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Dundas Valley property owners understand the Valley’s value and want assurances about how the treasure will be safeguarded and allowed to compound as an asset.	Task Team Meeting # 3
HCA’s reputation as conservationists and watershed managers will only grow in time. We are trusted by those who know about us and what we do. If the visioning plan is realistic, the odds are good that we will attract the community and stakeholder support we require to turn that vision into reality.	Task Team Meeting # 3
The community needs to understand exactly how HCA intends to steward this	Task Team Meeting

important community resource. The timing is right.	# 3
The process could enhance HCA’s reputation as a conservation leader in the community.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Increasing public interest in heritage protection	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Greater support from the municipalities, even from the province (e.g. Greenbelt)	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Another opportunity is pro-active health programs related to the environment	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Transportation is an element: new transportation systems will cause reduction of carbon footprint and increased access to the Dundas Valley via transportation	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
People pay less money to be fit because we have access to trails and other outdoor facilities, which means they have increasing interest in these types of facilities;	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
There’s a change in demographic that is an opportunity, which encourages the use of outdoor facilities	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
A really well developed existing network of environmental groups and outdoor groups	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
There’s a lot of significant recognition on an international scale about the importance of the land	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2

EXTERNAL WEAKNESSES (Inhibitors, outside of your control, that could threaten your success)

Considering the Vision and Goals, please identify and describe any potential or real Threats to the success of the Dundas Valley Vision and Strategy in the next 20 years:

EXTERNAL WEAKNESSES (Inhibitors, outside of your control, that could threaten your success)	Reference
Niagara Peninsula Highway – its route may impact valley and/or watershed and/or escarpment	Task Team Meeting # 3; Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Development pressure to convert farms into residential areas	Task Team Meeting # 3; Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Water and air pollution impacts on the environment due to increasing population	Task Team Meeting # 3; Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
Increased usage of natural areas may impact and cause them to be “loved to death” i.e. carrying capacity	Task Team Meeting # 3
HCA has a high profile in the Hamilton environmental community and among its peers and partners. Awareness of our organization beyond that needs to be strengthened. This awareness factor could influence plan outcomes.	Task Team Meeting # 3
The process is a complicated one. Despite precise communications and outreach, there is a possibility some segments of the community may not understand it. We must ensure that we “dumb it down”.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Climate change/Global Warming	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Potential for public interest to turn against environmental matters as the population increases	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Problem species	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
The land vs. recreational use (land use)	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
There’s attractiveness to the valley, which attracts developers	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
There’s a bit of this small town protectionism, which can limit opportunities and may cause backlash in terms of elitists	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Financing	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2

EXTERNAL WEAKNESSES (Inhibitors, outside of your control, that could threaten your success)	Reference
There's a research component to what we have to do for the project but it's very expensive	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
We have problems in natural areas that are used by certain groups	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2
The potential of the organization of the HCA to limit the progress of the plan;	Stakeholder Group Meeting # 2

Consider Implications:

- How to use strengths to maximize external opportunities
- How to minimize/eliminate weaknesses
- How to minimize/eliminate threats?

AND, Lastly...

- What are the most promising opportunities?
- What are the most crucial issues?

IMPLICATIONS	Reference
1. How to use strengths to maximize external opportunities	
Make the plan simple and realistic. Bring our commitment, abilities and reputations to bear	Task Team Meeting # 3
The ability to use this area for healthy communities, make it more accessible	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
Being more aware of the value of nature	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
With the physical end of things is setting priorities, what is it that you feel is most important and then try and direct the resources there	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
We want to build on the credibility of the conservation authority, the vision, the opportunities and to support the planning, which is coming into its own, on the provincial levels at least to support that	Steering Committee Meeting # 2

IMPLICATIONS	Reference
2. How to minimize/eliminate weaknesses	
Find the RIGHT partners. Empower those partners to have visions of their own and to champion the plan.	Task Team Meeting # 3
3. How to minimize/eliminate threats?	
Keep it simple. Communicate. Communicate. Communicate.	Task Team Meeting # 3
4. What are the most promising opportunities?	
A far greater community appreciation of the importance of the Valley. A willingness to support and fund appropriate development of the Valley’s resources so it becomes even more valuable. Enhanced awareness of HCA and its work is possible as a result.	Task Team Meeting # 3
Health	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
As the community grows we need to have increased protection for the environmental areas and encouraging alternatives to the recreational use in the Valley (in other ways, other areas, etc.)	Steering Committee Meeting # 2
5. What are the most crucial issues?	
Realism and 1, 2, 3, 4 above.	Task Team Meeting # 3

CONCLUSION

The SWOT analysis proved to be quite effective in adequately understanding the potential strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats associated with the development of the Vision and Strategy. The outcomes have enabled the strategy team to better assess the parameters in which the Strategy will take place.

4 Appendix E: Current State Matrix

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
<p>Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement:</p> <p>1 To protect the Valley's beauty, biodiversity, and natural resources¹</p>	<p>1.1 Maintain and improve the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Littering or dumping in the Valley³ Wetlands being sacrificed to development / transportation networks⁴ Deforestation⁵ Pesticides⁶ Encroachment on public lands⁷ over use⁸ Threats to corridor between RBG/Cootes Paradise (York Road) and the conservation lands below the escarpment⁹ 	<p>LARGER PLANNING /PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost all of the study area is subject to the Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP) (what portion of the study area is protected by NEP), except for parts of the former towns of Dundas and Ancaster. The planning policies affecting these urban areas are contained within the City of Hamilton's Official Plan, as are policies regarding Copetown and Greensville, which are designated "Minor Urban Settlements" in the NEP. Almost all of the other land in the study area is designated as Escarpment Natural Area, Escarpment Protection Area, or Escarpment Rural Area.¹⁰ "Escarpment Natural Areas" are areas subject to the most restrictive land use policies in the NEP. A significant portion of the study area includes Escarpment Natural Areas, including most of the Dundas Valley Conservation Area, as well as lands in the north west of the study area, along the CP rail corridor, north from Governors Road to the northern edge of the study boundary.¹¹ The Escarpment Natural Areas aim to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the most natural escarpment features, streams, valleys, wetlands and related significant natural areas and associated cultural heritage features; Encourage compatible recreation, conservation and educational activities; Maintain and enhance the landscape quality of the escarpment features¹² "Escarpment Protection Areas" include largest parts of the western half of the study area, including lands surrounding the switch-back part of the Rail Trail, as well as the 156-acre site of the Dundas Valley Golf and Curling Club. Although Escarpment Protection Areas prohibit golf courses, the Dundas Valley Club was founded in 1930 and predates the development of the Niagara Escarpment Plan. For this reason, it is considered a non-conforming use.¹³ Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open space system objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect ecological and historical areas Provide adequate opportunities for outdoor education and recreation Provide adequate public access to the Niagara Escarpment Complete a public system of major parks and open spaces through added land acquisition Secure route for the Bruce Trail Maintain and enhance the natural environment of the Niagara Escarpment Support tourism by providing opportunities on public land for discovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCA owns 2584 acres in DV³⁵ Managed Forest Plan has description of all property owned by HCA including acreage, residence (presence/absence), description of site characteristic, tree species, age, height, diameter, basal area, density, habitat and animals presence³⁶ 6 zones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature reserve Access zone (11 access zones) Bruce trail corridor Natural zone (majority of passive recreation facilities and trails) Development zone Historical zone (centered around Griffin house, Hermitage and Gatehouse Museum)³⁷ 100 species of birds³⁸ 4 species of fish (blacknose dace, creek chub, white sucker, fathead minnow) have been found at sample sites in Borer's Falls³⁹ 67 birds, 7 amphibians and reptiles, 46 butterflies, 10 mammals, and 309 vascular plants have been surveyed in Borer's Falls CA⁴⁰ Borer's Falls little encroachment⁴¹ Borer's Falls includes a research plot established by RBG under the National Ecological 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat zones – types, sizes – ecological land classifications, species diversity counts (amphibians, birds, reptiles, fish, mammals, invertebrates, plants) (Hamilton-Wentworth Natural Areas Inventory site summary for Dundas Valley) Wetland habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percent wetlands in watershed (target: >6-10%) Amount of natural vegetation adjacent to the wetland (target: 100m to total catchment area) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type Location Size Shape⁴⁸ Forest habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percent forest cover (target: 30%) Size of largest forest patch (target: at least 1 over 200ha) Percent of watershed that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E- Parks and Open Space zones map and Management Plan showing ANSIs map⁵⁰ E-Hamilton Wentworth OP amendment Map 4 ESAs⁵¹ E- Governors Road CA vegetation/wildlife map, microclimate map, master plan map⁵² R-Hamilton Wentworth Natural Areas Site Summary Inventory map for Dundas Valley study area⁵³ R-Maps of wetland habitat, forest habitat, and composite showing key areas for connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of forests, particularly Carolinian forest remnants⁵⁴ Count a tree inventory⁵⁵ Ensure that regeneration is allowed in heavily used areas of the Valley⁵⁶ Investigate mechanisms and policies to help protect the Valley⁵⁷ Expanded birding area⁵⁸ Take aerial photos every 10 years to document any changes⁵⁹

¹ TT, SC1, SG1, CS3, 5,8,15,37,73,74,79

² June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, SG1, CS15,52

³ CM1, CS10, 13,14,16,46

⁴ SG1

⁵ CS74,79

⁶ CS11

⁷ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, CS4,39

⁸ CS6

⁹ CS51

¹⁰ Niagara Escarpment Commission, 2005. Niagara Escarpment Plan, p. 3

¹¹ Niagara Escarpment Commission, 2005. Niagara Escarpment Plan, p. 9

¹² Borer's Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.7

¹³ Niagara Escarpment Commission, 2005. Niagara Escarpment Plan, p. 12

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>and enjoyment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Provide common understanding and appreciation of the Niagara Escarpment¹⁴ • Niagara Escarpment Nodal Park objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o DVCA function as visitor and information centre and provide orientation, education, interpretation and recreation¹⁵ • DVCA part of Escarpment Protection Area and Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System and designated as a Nodal Park within this system¹⁶ <p>4.1 Rural Official Plan Natural Heritage System (NHS) Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply to the portions of Hamilton identified as part of the NHS in the Greenbelt Plan. The NHS goals are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o protect and enhance biodiversity and ecological functions o achieve a healthy, functional ecosystem o conserve the natural beauty and distinctive character of Hamilton’s landscape o maintain and enhance the contribution made by the NHS to the quality of life of Hamilton’s residents o restore and enhance connections, quality and amount of natural habitat o provide opportunities for recreational and tourism uses where they do not impact natural heritage features o monitor and periodically assess the condition of Hamilton’s natural environment. • The Rural OP also identifies Core Areas of the NHS, which are the most important in terms of biodiversity, productivity, and ecological and 	<p>Monitoring Network, annual tree growth is being measured⁴²</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spencer Creek Watershed MP indicates that residential encroachment into natural areas; erosion and urban run-off are stresses on the Borer’s Creek watershed.⁴³ • Spencer Creek has 25,753ha of which 11% is wetland; 15% is urban; 45% is agriculture; and 23% is forest⁴⁴ • Spencer Creek fish communities identified in Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p.82 • Spencer Gorge/Webster Falls – 500+ spp of plants including prairie grasses, New Jersey tea, downy yellow false foxglove (rare wildflower) + several rare spp.⁴⁵ • Spencer Gorge/Webster Falls – Nesting birds include orioles, tanagers, warblers, thrushes, flycatchers, sparrows, vultures, etc.⁴⁶ 	<p>is forest cover 100 m and 200 m from forest edge (target: >10%, and >5% respectively)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Forest shape o Proximity to other forested patches (target: within 2km) o Fragmented landscapes and the role of corridors (target: 50-100m width for migration, breeding is spp dependent) o Forest quality – species composition and age structure (target: full diversity of 		

³⁶ Managed Forest Plan, William & Associates, Forestry & Environmental Consultants Ltd., Sept 2007, p5-27

³⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Master Management Plan, 1997, p21 and 29

³⁸ IBA, <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/iba/site.jsp?siteID=ON005&seedet=Y>

³⁹ Borer’s Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.2

⁴⁰ Borer’s Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.3

⁴¹ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.6

⁴⁸ How Much Habitat is Enough, 2nd edition, Environment Canada, 2004, p7

⁵⁰ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Master Management Plan, 1997, p21 and 29

⁵¹ Official Plan of the former Hamilton-Wentworth Amendment No. 28, Schedule A-1, map4, Sep 2006

⁵² Governor’s Road Conservation Area Dundas Valley North Master Plan Report, IMC Consulting, 1991

⁵³ Spencer Creek Watershed Plan, 1997, p.45

⁵⁴ SG1 – response to value of the Valley, CS55,77

⁵⁵ ECJune2007

⁵⁶ SG1

⁵⁷ SC1 – response to what want in the future

⁵⁸ CS64

⁵⁹ ECJune2007

¹⁴ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p17

¹⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p18

¹⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p13

⁴² Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.6

⁴³ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.8

⁴⁴ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p.19

⁴⁵ Your Guide to Hamilton Conservation Areas brochure

⁴⁶ Your Guide to Hamilton Conservation Areas brochure

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>hydrological functions. The policies in the OP serve to preserve and enhance Core Areas to ensure that any development or site alteration within or adjacent to them shall not negatively impact their environmental features or ecological functions. Rural OP Policy recognizes the importance of sustaining linkages between Core Areas and seeks to protect and enhance these linkages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rural OP also has Parkland Policies and establishes a hierarchy of parks and open spaces. Policy 3.5.1.3 states that lands designated as Natural Open Space in the Secondary Plans are generally part of a park or conservation area. They have environmental features and are intended to be preserved in their natural state. Where appropriate, limited recreational activities/uses may be permitted including trails, picnic areas, forest management, conservation management. • The Rural OP watershed planning policies support working with CA's to develop watershed plans. • The Rural OP supports tree and woodland protection by encouraging sustainable forestry practices, protecting/restoring trees and forests, enforcing a Woodland Conservation By-law and Street Tree Management policy, and supporting development of a Woodland Protection Strategy. • Natural Heritage System Implementation guide identifies the Borer's Falls CA as a core natural area with linkages to Cootes Paradise¹⁷ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environment Canada's Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN) is made up of linked organizations and individuals involved in ecological monitoring in Canada to better detect, describe, and report on ecosystem changes. The network is a cooperative partnership of federal, provincial and municipal governments, academic institutions, aboriginal communities and organizations, industry, environmental non-government organizations, volunteer community groups, elementary and secondary schools and other groups/individuals involved in ecological monitoring. The main goal of EMAN is to improve understanding of ecosystem changes in Canada – what is changing and why by examining integrated data and knowledge sets. <p>4.2 DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA Procedures and Policies identifies policies for ESAs including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development shall be directed away from all ESAs as defined in the 2003 Natural Areas Inventory and any amendments ○ HCA staff will bring updated information on ESAs to the City of Hamilton as it is developed, and encourage the incorporation of new designations into their Official Plan. ○ Any development proposed for lands within, overlapping or adjacent to an ESA will require the completion of an environmental impact statement (EIS) by the proponent. ○ Wherever appropriate, HCA will offer its assistance to the municipality and individual applicants in reviewing environmental impact statements. ○ In instances where lands of an ESA are being used for agricultural purposes, HCA will encourage the use of best management practices. ○ In instances of land acquisition HCA will place a high priority on acquiring ESAs.¹⁸ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spencer Gorge/Webster Falls – Red-backed salamanders are common, scarce ring-necked snake⁴⁷ • List of Native Trees and shrubs in HCA Policies document Appendix C <p>TONY HORVAT NOTES/COMMENTS: Rick W may be able to get NEC reg area if digital overlay exists – otherwise very labour intensive</p> <p>Habitat percentages will be very labour intensive to determine even with digital mapping.</p> <p>Not sure what HW Natural Areas inventory map refers to – there are maps in Nature Counts document – is this adequate</p> <p>Connectivity maps can only be produced if specific studies undertaken – there was a greenway/corridor study some years ago by the Region- not sure if the info there is useful</p> <p>City takes aerial photos – not sure about frequency (either 2 year or 5 year) – not sure if HCA will ever have financial resources to do this on regular basis</p>	<p>forest types)⁴⁹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs/activities of Hamilton Naturalist Club 		

¹⁷ Borer's Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.8

¹⁸ Hamilton Conservation Authority Planning & Regulation Policies And Guidelines, 2005, p.44

⁴⁷ Your Guide to Hamilton Conservation Areas brochure

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA manages the Dundas Special Policy Areas (SPAs) floodplains as <i>floodway</i> and <i>flood fringe</i> management zone areas. There are now four officially recognized SPAs within the former municipality of Dundas, which are regulated through a set of policies separate from those used for the HCAs one zone areas. The policies for the Dundas SPAs are provided in section 3.1.9 of the natural hazards policy.¹⁹ • It is the intent of Council to limit development within Floodplain areas defined by HCA, of Spencer, Ann and Sydenham Creeks. Council will request the proponent to contact HCA to determine if and what flood protection measures are necessary, or other limitations to development; it is intended that the <i>floodway</i> be kept unobstructed, and free of all structures or the placement of fill. It is the intent of Council that limited development may be permitted within the <i>flood fringe</i> subject to protection from flooding. In this regard such protection will include the placement and stabilization of fill to or above the limit of flooding, identified by the HCA, flood proofing, or a combination of both²⁰ • HCA Policies also address development for forested areas, wetlands, and ANSIs. • Water Management Strategy goal – protect watershed citizens property, wildlife and natural resources through flood and erosion control, low-flow augmentations and water quality improvement²¹ • Natural areas goal – continue habitat restoration, including tree, shrub and wildflower plantings, wetland restoration and water quality improvement projects²² • Improve fish habitat in our reservoirs and lower Spencer Creek²³ • 1976 DVCA MMP Recommendation that the utilization philosophy of the DVCA be conservation, restoration, presentation and maintenance²⁴ • 1997 DVCA – DV designated an ESA in 1995 consisting of variety of ecosystems including residential areas, active and abandoned agricultural fields, mature forest and ravine areas²⁵ • MNR Provincially significant ANSI-ES – Spencer Gorge Escarpment Valley, ANSI-LS-Spencer Creek Bedrock Gorge, Webster’s Falls Provincially significant ANSI, ANSI-ES Dundas Valley, ANSI-LS Dundas Valley Forest and Sulphur Creek Valley²⁶ • ESA designation – Dundas Valley, Tiffany Falls, Copetown bogs (Summit Bog Muskeg Preserve – Nature Reserve under NEP), Copetown Ball Woodlot, Ancaster Prairie?, Spencer Gorge (confirm w Sandy)²⁷ • Designated a Carolinian Canada site²⁸ • Borer’s Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classified as Nature Reserve under Open Space and Parks system of the NEP ○ Rock Chapel (ESA and ANSI-LS) provides linkage to Spencer Gorge and 				

⁴⁹ How Much Habitat is Enough, 2nd edition, Environment Canada, 2004, p30

¹⁹ Hamilton Conservation Authority Planning & Regulation Policies And Guidelines, 2005, p.17

²⁰ Hamilton Conservation Authority Planning & Regulation Policies And Guidelines, 2005, p.30

²¹ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.14

²² Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.15

²³ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.15

²⁴ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p2

²⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p9

²⁶ Niagara Escarpment Plan, p112-113.

²⁷ Official Plan of the former Hamilton-Wentworth Amendment No. 28, Schedule A-1, map4, Sep 2006

²⁸ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p9

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>to Cootes Paradise ESA, it has some of the largest south-facing escarpment talus slopes, red oak, sugar maple and white oak forests in excess of 100 years old and old growth cedar are found within its area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o BioMAP score for the site within Borer’s Falls CA indicates unimpaired water quality. • Borer’s Creek Subwatershed Plan 2000 identifies recommendations to complete Borer’s Falls CA MP, continue to identify, protect and enhance existing stream corridors with buffers, and improve public awareness through interpretative signs stating the location and attributes of ESAs.²⁹ • Borer’s Falls CA goals are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Focus on conservation, permit recreational activities which encourage appreciation of the natural features that exist o Ecological and biological research o Natural areas management that allow for succession, improvement of existing habitats, and limited opportunities for non-native plant species to invade the area.³⁰ • Working with landowners and community groups, the HCA will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Develop projects o Protect rare, very rare and extremely rare vegetation communities o Monitor Borer’s Creek to ensure erosion is not detrimentally affecting fish habitat³¹ • Borer’s Falls Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o New activities assessed for compliance with goals o Projects that enhance stream habitat or upland habitat will be supported as funds become available o Property managed such that research projects are not compromised o Consult with RBG and encourage and support the management of abutting RBG lands o Work with Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club to improve trail access and safety o Work with neighbours on stewardship³² • Borer’s Falls CA MP recommends that where contiguous properties become available, acquisitions may be purchased, particularly for those where the areas has been identified as a natural heritage features or linkage between natural heritage features.³³ • Spencer Creek recommendations to reduce livestock erosion of stream banks, restore habitat by using fencing, reconstructing ditches along the Spencer Creek channel in Dundas incorporating natural design, and introducing larger woody debris for in-stream cover.³⁴ 				
	1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley ⁶⁰	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat loss/degradation⁶¹ • fragmentation⁶² 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as above • Borer’s Falls CA MP recommends that new trails within undistributed areas should not be created to protect the available interior forest, protect research sites, and minimize potential transfer of non-native species.⁶³ • Spencer Creek recommendations to modify barriers to allow fish passage in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx 50 in-stream barriers in Spencer Creek which limit fish movement⁶⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data on habitat fragmentation/corridors (see forest habitat data required above) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See required above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance connectivity and create green corridors⁶⁶ • Connect Spencer

²⁹ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.8

³⁰ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.10.

³¹ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.10

³² Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.11

³³ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.12

³⁴ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p97

⁶⁰ SG1,CS74

⁶¹ CM1, CS9

⁶² CS74,79

⁶³ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.9

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			Spencer Creek, remove low-head dams or lower Spencer Creek, mitigate on-line ponds in Sulphur Creek ⁶⁴		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of priority connections/corridors 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creek to Webster's Falls⁶⁷ • Connect HCA properties to Lake Ontario and Cootes Paradise along Spencer Creek⁶⁸
	<p>1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including vistas from the urbanized areas⁶⁹</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEP protection through Escarpment Rural Areas include minor escarpment slopes and landforms, and lands in the vicinity of the Escarpment necessary to provide an open landscape, and/or are of ecological importance to the environment of the Escarpment. Permitted uses include agriculture and small-scale commercial and industrial development servicing agriculture, recreation, including the Bruce Trail, campgrounds and golf courses; transportation and utilities; inns, bed and breakfasts, vacation homes; and pits and quarries⁷⁰ • Greenbelt Protected Countryside Environmental Protection Goals - Protected Countryside lands identified in this Greenbelt Plan are intended to enhance the spatial extent of agriculturally and environmentally protected lands currently covered by the NEP and the ORMCP while at the same time improving linkages between these areas and the surrounding major lake systems and watersheds. Collectively, the lands in these three plans form the Greenbelt. The Protected Countryside (as shown on Schedule 1 of this Greenbelt Plan) is made up of an Agricultural System and a Natural System, together with a series of settlement areas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protection, maintenance and enhancement of natural heritage, hydrologic and landform features and functions, including protection of habitat for flora and fauna and particularly species at risk; ○ Protection and restoration of natural and open space connections between the Oak Ridges Moraine, the Niagara Escarpment, Lake Ontario, Lake Simcoe and the major river valley lands, while also maintaining connections to the broader natural systems of southern Ontario beyond the Golden Horseshoe such as the Great Lakes Coast, the Carolinian Zone, the Lake Erie Basin, the Kawartha Highlands and the Algonquin to Adirondacks Corridor; ○ Protection, improvement or restoration of the quality and quantity of ground and surface water and the hydrological integrity of watersheds; and ○ Provision of long-term guidance for the management of natural heritage and water resources when contemplating such matters as development, infrastructure, open space planning and management, aggregate rehabilitation and private or public stewardship programs.⁷¹ <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetative management and naturalization plan will address how historic and existing views and vistas will be recreated and maintained. Specifically: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of scenic vistas on HCA properties and within the Valley, are they protected? • Landscape Evaluation Study (NECC) identifies significant visual units on the Escarpment⁷⁵ • Percentage or acreage of rural countryside (from Escarpment Rural Area, Protected countryside from Greenbelt Plan, overlaps) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E- viewshed analysis maps⁷⁶ • E-Escarpment Rural Area map • E-Greenbelt Protected countryside • R- composite map showing all rural countryside protection and views/vistas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petition for by-law to control height of buildings⁷⁷ • Protect the Peak⁷⁸

⁶⁵ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p.23

⁶⁶ ECLJune2007, SC1, SG1

⁶⁴ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p97

⁶⁷ CM1 recommended action

⁶⁸ ECNov2007

⁶⁹ SC1 and CM1 – response to what is valued about the Valley now and what would want for the future, CS10,14, 29,31

⁷⁰ Niagara Escarpment Commission, 2005. Niagara Escarpment Plan, p. 17

⁷¹ Greenbelt Plan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005, p3.

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Valley Vista Trail North of the Old Ancaster Road parking lot o Valley Vista Trail on top of the Hill West of Old Ancaster Road o Various locations along the Rail Trail, o Lookout trail towards Martins Road⁷² • Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis objectives provide guidelines to vista identification and site selection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Develop detailed and objective analysis of the visual resource of the DV o Develop visual impact guidelines to be used in evaluation of proposals o Record the methods used to allow for replication o Map the results in a form which will enable widespread use⁷³ o Vistas from Regional Roads 299 and 399, 1 along the Bruce Trail and 5 strategic points along public roads were assessed and criteria developed to ensure vistas are included in site planning activities⁷⁴ 				
	1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk ⁷⁹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors disturbing wildlife⁸⁰ • Impacting species loss of diversity and eco-health⁸¹ 	<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ontario's Endangered Species Act lists 128 species for protected in Ontario, provides greater support for volunteer stewardship projects and a stronger commitment to recovery of species and habitats, and allows more opportunity for businesses to work with the Ontario government to mitigate for species at risk if one is found on their property.⁸² • Species At Risk Act is designed to prevent Canadian indigenous species, subspecies and distinct populations from becoming extirpated or extinct, to provide for the recovery of endangered or threatened species, and encourage the management of other species to prevent them from becoming at risk. It is the result of the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. The act provides federal legislation to prevent wildlife species from becoming extinct and top provide for their recovery. Six species of fish classified by SARA have been observed in the Hamilton Harbour⁸³ • Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy (OBS) provides an umbrella framework for biodiversity protection including generic, species and ecosystem levels. It provides strategic directions that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Promote understanding, commitment and participation in biodiversity conservation in Ontario o Promote stewardship amongst private landowners, farmers, non-farmers, businesses and private resource-based companies operating on Crown land o Promoting collaboration o Integrating Biodiversity Conservation into Land Use Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 endangered/ threatened species including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Jefferson salamander o Black redhorse o 5 nationally vulnerable, threatened or endangered bird species including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hooded Warbler nationally significant numbers (i.e., greater than 1% of their national population). ▪ Louisiana Waterthrush ▪ Cerulean Warbler (nationally vulnerable) is also present within the valley, but not in nationally significant numbers. ▪ Yellow-breasted Chat (nationally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species presence/absence, population abundance for species at risk, designations for species • Species at Risk protection and monitoring programs 		

⁷⁵ Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis, 1985

⁷⁶ Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis, 1985

⁷⁷ CM1

⁷⁸ CS76

⁷² Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p24

⁷³ Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis, 1985, p9

⁷⁴ Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis, 1985, p10

⁷⁹ SC1, NECC interview, CS10

⁸⁰ CS73

⁸¹ CS6,57

⁸² Ontario Species at Risk Program, MNR, <http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Species/index.html>

⁸³ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p.9

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Prevention through reducing threats o Expanding scientific knowledge and new mapping, etc.⁸⁴ • Ontario Species at Risk Act sets out a plan for protecting and conserving Ontario’s biodiversity including genetic, species, subspecies and ecological communities. It accounts for the significant growth that is forecasted for Ontario and acknowledges that sensitive areas need to be planned in a responsible manner so that biodiversity is retained as populations increase. The strategy describes Ontario’s 4 major ecological regions, presents a vision for the future, outlines goals and principles, highlights the threats and opportunities facing Ontario, and provides a series of strategic directions and recommended actions.⁸⁵ <p>SAR list of species and ranges to add- http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Species/2ColumnSubPage/246809.html</p> <p>SARA http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/default_e.cfm</p> <p>MNR Species at Risk Stewardship Program - program includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o education and outreach o incentive programs to support private landowners, and o funding for stewardship activities⁸⁶ o Rural Official Plan policy states that new development and site alteration shall not be permitted within significant habitat of threatened and endangered species. (applies to Core Areas of NHS outside of the Greenbelt Plan Area) <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA Procedures and Policies indicates that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Development will not be permitted in the significant habitat of threatened and endangered species. o When reviewing planning applications, HCA staff will check proposals against the 2003 Natural Heritage Inventory and any amendments, in order to determine if any endangered or threatened species could be impacted by the proposed development. o In the absence of HCA listings of endangered and threatened species, HCA staff shall consult the MNR and Federal Resources list of Species at Risk in Ontario o Development shall not be permitted on lands adjacent to the habitat of threatened or endangered species (within 50m of the boundary of the habitat) o Statements are addressed to the satisfaction of the HCA through the completion of an environmental impact statement by the proponent.⁸⁷ • Borer’s Falls CA MP indicates that a plan for managing tall grass prairie community will be developed 	<p>vulnerable) and Acadian Flycatcher (nationally endangered) have also been recorded within the valley, but only on an irregular basis⁸⁹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red mulberry (endangered understory tree) found in Carolinian Life Zone of Ontario found in Borer’s Fall CA⁹⁰ • Borer’s Falls CA MP identified significant species and full list found on the site including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Yellow-breasted chat (COSEWIC species of concern) o Loggerhead shrike (COSEWIC endangered) o Red mulberry (COSEWIC endangered)⁹¹ 			

⁸⁴ Ontario’s Biodiversity Strategy, 2005, p.21-22

⁸⁵ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p.59

⁸⁶ Species at Risk Stewardship Program, MNR, http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Species/2ColumnSubPage/STEL01_131229.html

⁸⁷ Hamilton Conservation Authority Planning &Regulation Policies And Guidelines, 2005, p.46

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Recovery plan for red mulberry will be applied Spencer Creek has declines in native species abundance in Upper Spencer – recommendation is to protect and improve base flow, groundwater, temperature, and sedimentation, monitor fish community through RBG fish monitoring program, enhance/restore redds in upper reaches of the Spencer Creek⁸⁸ 				
	1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley ⁹²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive species: Deer, garlic mustard, gypsy moths purple loosestrife, buckthorn, squirrels⁹³ Methods of eradication for invasive species⁹⁴ 	<p>LARGER PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) co-ordinates and manages aquatic invasive species programs and projects to prevent the introduction and spread of these non-native species into Ontario waters.⁹⁵ Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters in partnership with MNR have an Invading Species Awareness Program designed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise public awareness of invasive species and encourage their participation in preventing their spread. Monitor and track the spread of invading species in Ontario waters through citizen reports to the Invading Species Hotline and the Invading Species Watch program Conduct research on the impacts and control of invasive species⁹⁶ <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1997 DVMMMP deer survey conducted to obtain information about deer damage to private property and types of vegetation consumed (no results provided). As a result deer damage was not identified as a major management issue within DVCA. HCA to conduct further study to monitor deer population and associated damage⁹⁷ Borer’s Falls CA MP recommends restricting new access points to limit introduction of non-native species⁹⁸ <p>HCA Deer Exclusion Monitoring Program: The purpose of this study is to determine whether the population of deer in the Dundas Valley and Iroquoia Heights conservation areas is exceeding the carrying capacity of these forested natural areas, therefore detrimentally affecting the forest’s overall health and plant biodiversity. As the health of these systems decline, the health of other plant and animal populations decline correspondingly. Once HCA has accumulated enough data to draw statistically significant conclusions from their data, recommendations will be made as to how the deer population in these areas should be managed in the future. In 2009, HCA will be undertaking an aerial deer census in the Dundas Valley and Iroquoia Heights conservation areas. These</p>	<p>Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common buckthorn Garlic Mustard Dog-strangling vine Norway Maple Purple Loosestrife Emerald Ash borer Gypsy moth Long-horned Beetle Amur, Morrow and Tatarian Honeysuckles and Glossy buckthorn Common Reed Eurasian Watermilfoil European frog-bit Fanwort Flowering Rush Giant Hogweed Japanese knotweed Common carp Grass Carp Bighead Carp Silver Carp Black Carp Northern Snakehead Round Goby Rudd Ruffe Bloody Red Shrimp Fishhook Water Flea Rusty Crayfish Spiny Water Flea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive species: species presence/absence, distribution, and abundance if available HCA Invasive species management plans, programs or strategies Nuisance species – species (deer, raccoons, skunks, mice, rabbits, squirrels, other), abundance HCA or other Management plans for nuisance species Programs/activities of Hamilton Naturalist Club 	<p>Consider doing a deer count to see if the Valley can support those that are here¹⁰¹</p> <p>Implement an invasive plant pick day¹⁰²</p>	

⁸⁹ Important Bird Areas of Canada, <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/iba/site.jsp?siteID=ON005>

⁹⁰ Borer’s Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.3

⁹¹ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, Appendix A and B

⁸⁸ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p97

⁹² SC1, SG1, NECC interview, CM1

⁹³ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, ECJune2007, Ecnov2007, SG1, CM1, CS15,22,36,73,75

⁹⁴ CM1

⁹⁵ MNR Aquatic Invasives Program website, http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Biodiversity/2ColumnSubPage/STEL02_167267.html

⁹⁶ Ontario Anglers and Hunters website, <http://www.invadingspecies.com/indexen.cfm>

⁹⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p7

⁹⁸ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.8

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			data will be compared to those acquired from the deer enclosure surveys to help make future decisions about the management of deer in these areas. ⁹⁹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zebra Mussel Borer's Falls CA has little evidence of invasive plant species, high percentage of native species (72%)¹⁰⁰ 			
	1.6 Preserve and protect the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls ¹⁰³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality monitoring does not appear to be done on a regular basis¹⁰⁴ Areas like Spencer Creek are in great need of restoration and naturalization.¹⁰⁵ Erosion and run-off compromising water quality¹⁰⁶ Engineering of natural systems (e.g. concrete water channels)¹⁰⁷ Water consumption (industrial) and water taking permits in the Valley¹⁰⁸ Wells going dry and impacts to water table¹⁰⁹ 	<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ontario Water Resources Act - The purpose of this Act is to provide for the conservation, protection and management of Ontario's waters and for their efficient and sustainable use, in order to promote Ontario's long-term environmental, social and economic well-being. The OWRA discusses situations where water quality is considered impaired. The Act oversees applications of sewage works, approvals and permits to take water. Permit to Take Water (PTTW) program is designed to protect a sustainable supply by managing water takings. The regulation requires anyone taking more than a total of 50,000 litres of water in a day from a lake, stream, river or groundwater source, with some exceptions, to obtain a PTTW. Water taking rules help to protect water supply by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure tough reviews of applications for takings; ensure water conservation measures are implemented; refuse certain water takings in high use watersheds; increase local knowledge of proposed takings; requires annual monitoring and reporting of takings.¹¹⁰ Clean Water Act - The intent of the legislation is to ensure communities are able to protect their municipal drinking water supplies through developing collaborative, locally driven, science-based protection plans. Communities identify potential risks to local water sources and take action to reduce or eliminate these risks. Municipalities, conservation authorities, property owners, farmers, industry, community groups and the public all work together to meet common goals. Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWOOs) - are non-regulatory standards, identified in "Water Management", which outlines the Ministry's policies and procedures regarding water protection. PWQOs are used as a benchmark of ambient water quality, to designate waters (Policy 1 or 2) and as a starting point in developing effluent limits in Certificates of Approval. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are a total of 11 precipitation stations, 3 water level stations, 5 stream flow stations and 4 snow course stations within the Hamilton Conservation Authority Watershed check frequency of monitoring¹²¹ Dundas area statistics indicate that 75% or more of the creeks are buffered, Ancaster/Flamborough areas report 37.5-74.9% are covered (but need for DV)¹²² PWQMN samples collected Mar-Oct¹²³ (check watershed characterization report) OBBN samples are collected in spring and fall¹²⁴ Water quality around Dundas listed as good, Ancaster as marginal¹²⁵ (check for DV) Doesn't look like and PWQMN stations in DV - check watershed char report 45 fish monitoring stations in watershed using Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol (OSAP) – 49 fish species identified.¹²⁶ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed characterization data – water table quantity/quality flow rate, temperature, etc (see watershed characterization report)(to insert) Data on riparian zones including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percent of stream naturally vegetated (target: 75%)¹³² Amount of natural vegetation adjacent to streams (target: 30m for cold water creeks, 15m for warm water creeks)¹³³ Total suspended sediments (target: below 25 milligrams/litres be consistent with Canadian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> R-1996 map of riparian buffer data¹³⁶ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection through Source Water protection plans¹³⁷ Monitor water quality¹³⁸ Develop long-term erosion prevention plan¹³⁹ Naturalize water channels¹⁴⁰ Protection of Webster's Falls¹⁴¹ Protection of wells and aquifers¹⁴² Build more ponds¹⁴³ Restore Spencer Creek¹⁴⁴

¹⁰¹ ECJune2007

¹⁰² ECJune2007

⁹⁹ HCA deer enclosure monitoring program, Fall 2008

¹⁰⁰ Borer's Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.3

¹⁰³ SG1 – response to threats/issues, CS44,67,70

¹⁰⁴ SG1 – response to threats/issues

¹⁰⁵ SG1

¹⁰⁶ SG1, CS39,68,70,73

¹⁰⁷ CM1

¹⁰⁸ ECJune2007, CS6

¹⁰⁹ ECJune2007

¹¹⁰ Ministry of the Environment, Green Fact sheet, Permit to Take Water, 2005.

¹²¹ Watershed Characterization Report, p75

¹²² HCA Watershed Report Card, p2.

¹²³ HCA Watershed Report Card, p3

¹²⁴ HCA Watershed Report Card, p3

¹²⁵ HCA Watershed Report Card, p3

¹²⁶ HCA Watershed Report Card, p3

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>The primary purpose of PWQOs is the protection of aquatic life. Some PWQOs are developed to protect against recreational uses of waters (e.g. E. coli).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport Fish Contaminant Monitoring Program - The Sport Fish Contaminant Monitoring Program, which started in 1976, is the largest testing and advisory program of its kind in North America. Fish have been tested from approximately 1,700 locations in Ontario’s inland lakes and rivers and Great Lakes. Between 4,000 and 6,000 fish per year are tested through the program. The results are used to develop the tables in the Guide, which give size-specific consumption advice for each species tested from each location. This advice is based on health protection guidelines developed by Health Canada. • Provincial Stream Water Monitoring Network (PWQMN) collects surface water quality information from rivers and streams at close to 400 locations across Ontario. Monitoring provides an understanding of the impacts of land use activities (e.g., urbanization) on water quality so that informed can be made decisions about managing and protecting our water resources. Monitoring also helps measure the effectiveness of programs and policies that are designed to protect and restore water quality. • Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN)- The Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Environment Canada (Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network) are developing an aquatic macroinvertebrate biomonitoring network for Ontario’s lakes, streams, and wetlands. This program is built on the principles of partnership, free data sharing, and standardization. • Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines, CCME - Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life: Helps to protect all plants and animals that live in lakes, rivers, and oceans by establishing acceptable levels for substances or conditions that affect water quality such as toxic chemicals, temperature and acidity • Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines, CCME - Canadian Sediment Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life: Protect aquatic organisms that live in or on the sediment that forms on the bottom of lakes and rivers. Many toxic chemicals entering lakes and rivers end up in the sediment. Some of these substances may leave the sediment, 	<p>(include abundance data and percentage that are deformed/diseased etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish assessed using Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI). Dundas area recorded as fair.¹²⁷ • Spencer Creek average discharge 11.2 m3s-1; mean min discharge m3s-1, drainage area 169km2; basin yield 169 m3s-1km2; mean min discharge/average discharge 0.006¹²⁸ • Spencer Creek riparian zone has a high percentage of stream length (421 km) with 85.5% retaining a >5m buffer¹²⁹ • Spencer Creek watershed – Ancaster Creek = 8 waterfalls; Lower Spencer Creek = 1, mid Spencer= 6, Spring Creek = 3; Sulphur Creek = 6; Sydenham Creek = 4;¹³⁰ • 12-16 cascades and waterfalls in DV including the following each with an accessibility ranking (a, b, or c): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Borers (A) o Websters (A) o Baby Webster (A) o Dundas (B) o Mineral Springs o Hermitage (A) o Mills (B) o Lower mills (B) o Canterbury (A) 	<p>Council of MOE 1999 guidelines)¹³⁴</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Percent of an urbanizing watershed that is impervious (target: 10-30%)¹³⁵ o Fish communities -- diversity and abundance of intolerant or sensitive species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stream/creek restoration plans • Erosion instances and plans for addressing • Number of engineered channels • Permits to take water data • Number of private wells in watershed • BioMAP 2001 Results for Spencer Creek Watershed (relevant sites) 		

¹³² How Much Habitat is Enough, 2nd edition, Environment Canada, 2004, p2

¹³³ How Much Habitat is Enough, 2nd edition, Environment Canada, 2004, p24

¹³⁶ HCA Watershed Report Card, p.2

¹³⁷ NECC interview

¹³⁸ SG1

¹³⁹ SG1 recommendation on how to address issue of erosion, stream health protection

¹⁴⁰ CM1

¹⁴¹ CS37,76

¹⁴² ECJune2007

¹⁴³ ECJune2007

¹⁴⁴ ECTNov2007

¹²⁷ HCA Watershed Report Card, p3

¹²⁸ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p18

¹²⁹ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p18

¹³⁰ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades: Research and Inventory Report, 2007, p.25

¹³⁴ How Much Habitat is Enough, 2nd edition, Environment Canada, 2004, p25

¹³⁵ How Much Habitat is Enough, 2nd edition, Environment Canada, 2004, p27

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>returning to the water or entering the food web.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Drinking Water Act - The purpose of the Safe Drinking Water Act is to gather in one place all legislation and regulations relating to the treatment and distribution of drinking water. The Safe Drinking Water Act expands on existing policy and practice. The Act's purpose is to protect human health through the control and regulation of drinking-water systems and drinking-water testing. Key components of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The authority to require mandatory licensing and accreditation of laboratories that perform drinking water testing; ○ Requirements for the Minister to establish a standards advisory council and provide authority to set standards for drinking-water treatment, distribution, quality and testing; ○ The authority to require the certification of all drinking-water operators; ○ Requirements for an owner's license for municipal drinking-water system; ○ Provisions to hold municipalities with oversight functions to a statutory standard of care; and ○ The authority to strengthen compliance and enforcement provisions, including the creation of the new position of chief inspector. • Safe Drinking Water Act Ont. Reg. 170/03: This regulates municipal and private water systems that provide water to year-round residential developments and designated facilities that serve vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly. Designated facilities include children's camps, child and youth care facilities, health care and social care facilities, a school or private school, a university, college or institution with authority to grant degrees. • Safe Drinking Water Act Ont. Reg. 243/07: The purpose of the regulation is to provide increased protection for children vulnerable to the effects of lead particularly children under 18 years of age. • Fisheries Act outlines regulatory requirements for fishing through the Ontario Fisheries Regulations and protecting and managing fisheries habitats (DFO, MNR). • Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan aims to support diverse, well-balanced and healthy aquatic ecosystems that provide sustainable benefits to meet society's present and future needs by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protecting healthy aquatic ecosystems ○ Rehabilitating healthy aquatic ecosystems ○ Improving cultural, social and economic benefits from aquatic resources of Hamilton Harbour and watershed. The plan covers the harbour, number of watersheds including the Spencer Creek watershed.¹¹¹ <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use BMP to maintain, restore and enhance our flood and erosion control infrastructure ○ Operate flood control system to minimize flooding and sustain summer flows ○ Strengthen groundwater protection through source protection plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sherman (A) ○ Tiffany (A) ○ Filman ○ Middle syndeham? (C) ○ Lower syndeham? (B) ○ Tews? (A) ○ Scenic? (A)¹³¹ In study area? 			

¹¹¹ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p7

¹³¹ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades: Research and Inventory Report, 2007, 46-47

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>and implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explore new water-related initiatives that are environmentally and fiscally sustainable ○ Minimize flooding and erosion problems in urban areas and Lower Spencer Creek¹¹² ○ Assess all watershed concrete channels to create more naturalized channels ○ Continue to monitor and improve aquatic systems¹¹³ ● Groundwater monitoring program include: the mapping of aquifers; installing 380 electronic instruments to monitor water levels across the province; periodic chemical analysis of water samples; and the establishment of a groundwater information database. The HCA and its sister authorities are assisting in the design, operation and maintenance of the system. Within the HCA, there are 9 groundwater wells that collect data on both groundwater quantity and. Quarterly, groundwater level data are downloaded from the wells and processed for analysis. Annually, the groundwater levels are sampled for groundwater quality testing¹¹⁴ ● Surface Water monitoring program (BioMAP) - helps determine the health of surface water by studying the number and variety of small aquatic animals, insects and invertebrates at various spots along a creek. To date, the HCA has conducted BioMAP water-quality assessments with help from McMaster University students and local volunteers.¹¹⁵ ● Spencer Creek Watershed Plan aims to identify the natural attributes of the watershed and recommend appropriate strategies for protection, restoration, and enhancement of these features with consideration for the social and economic needs of watershed residents¹¹⁶ ● HCA Watershed Report Card: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ issued every 5 years to report on the health of the watershed¹¹⁷ ○ HCA committed to work with private landowners to establish as wide a riparian buffer as their property permits¹¹⁸ ○ HCA monitors surface water quality as part of the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) and the Ontario Benthos Bio-monitoring Network (OBBN)¹¹⁹ ● Watershed Characterization Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spencer Creek Watershed had high electrical conductivity, suggesting the presence of dissolved solids in the waters in many parts of the watershed. The water quality in some reaches in the watershed was poor as a consequence of extensive urban development and agricultural activities. Stream outlets from Spencer Creek had elevated nutrient and bacteria concentrations. Secchi depth, total phosphorous, nitrite, nitrate, suspended sediment and E. Coli levels were high due to agricultural activities and urban land uses. Nitrite concentrations were high exceeding the CEQG in the Spencer Creek watershed. ○ Spencer Creek & Dundas Valley: Spencer Creek system drains to Cootes Paradise, located at the western end of Hamilton Harbour 				

¹¹² Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.14

¹¹³ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.14

¹¹⁴ HCA Water quality website, <http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/environment/watersheds/water.asp>

¹¹⁵ HCA Water quality website, <http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/environment/watersheds/water.asp>

¹¹⁶ Spencer Creek Watershed Plan, 1997, p15.

¹¹⁷ HCA Watershed Report Card, p4

¹¹⁸ HCA Watershed Report Card, p2

¹¹⁹ HCA Watershed Report Card, p3

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spencer Creek is the prominent stream within the DV. The valley also has rolling kame landscape and kettle terrain, which are dissected by the many small creeks, including Sulphur Creek, Spring Creek, and Ancaster Creek. ○ The DV is about 12 km long, 4 km wide and over 200 m deep. The valley extends up to 6 km across its full width and about 9 km along its axis. ○ Relatively extensive forest cover also occurs in the Spring Creek and Sulphur Creek subwatersheds and in the downstream area of the Ancaster Creek subwatershed. This forest cover is associated with the Dundas Valley. ○ Lower Spencer Creek Subwatershed: Urban areas dominate the drainage basins of Lower Spencer Creek, the upper portions of Ancaster and Tiffany Creeks. Drainage area is about 7.58 km². Does not support any wetlands or receive significant groundwater discharge. ○ Middle Spencer Creek Subwatershed: The main branch of Spencer Creek runs through Webster’s Falls, located in Dundas on Fallsview Road. The creek then flows into the Spencer Gorge. There are two waterfalls within the Spencer Gorge. One of two waterfalls is a beautiful, classical waterfall that is the largest in the region with a crest of 30 m. Receives some groundwater discharge from wetlands, but is mostly surface-water driven. A short reach of it is classified as coolwater habitat, but most of the main channel is warmwater habitat. ○ Spring Creek Subwatershed: drainage area of 13.4 km². Located in the former Town of Dundas between the Middle Spencer Creek and Sulphur Creek subwatersheds. Spring Creek originates on the margins of the DV and drains east to confluence with Lower Spencer Creek near the intersection of York Road and Cootes Drive. ○ Ancaster Creek, Tiffany Creek and Sulphur Creek Subwatersheds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tiffany and Sulphur Creeks flow into Ancaster Creek, which discharges into Lower Spencer Creek ▪ The drainage areas of the Ancaster Creek, Sulphur Creek and Tiffany Creek subwatersheds are 13.96 km², 18.03 km² and 9.1 km² respectively, for a total drainage area of 39.2 km² at the confluence with Lower Spencer Creek. ▪ Ancaster Creek and Tiffany Creek arise on the Escarpment tablelands south of Ancaster and flow north, descending the south wall of the DV as small waterfalls before proceeding east down the valley. The large natural area of the valley has an important hydrological function. ▪ <i>Tiffany Creek:</i> at the headwaters there is an ESA; it meanders through the forested area of Tiffany Falls ESA above the Niagara Escarpment and into the Dundas Valley. The majority of the Tiffany Creek drainage basin consists of cleared agricultural lands and urban areas. Receives some groundwater input, as some of the headwater streams are classified as warmwater, while areas farther downstream are coolwater. Nonetheless, most of the first-order tributaries are intermittent, and the entire stream frequently dries up indicating that groundwater discharge is minimal ▪ <i>Sulphur Creek:</i> Approx 20% of the Ancaster/Sulphur Creek subwatershed to the north of the Niagara Escarpment has urban development, especially in the flatter portions of the basin. 				

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions																								
			<p>Sulphur Creek originates on the margins of the DV. The Copetown Bog locally significant wetland is located at the head of the DV and is the only kettle bog community in the City of Hamilton. Most of its upper tributaries are intermittent, while the lower reaches are permanently flowing coolwater habitat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ancaster Creek</i>: does not support significant wetlands, but contains 4 ESAs <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subwatershed</th> <th>Wetland area (ha)</th> <th>Total Stream Length (km)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ancaster Creek</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>22.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lower Spencer Creek</td> <td>249.3</td> <td>16.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middle Spencer Creek</td> <td>393.5</td> <td>74.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spring Creek</td> <td>11.2</td> <td>27.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sulphur Creek</td> <td>9.4</td> <td>29.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tiffany Creek</td> <td>32.0</td> <td>18.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Upper Spencer Creek</td> <td>918.1</td> <td>44.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008 indicates that the Spencer Creek has the largest average discharge and base flow of the streams in the Hamilton Harbour watershed. The loss of base flow in the mid-Spencer Creek may be due to water takings or the creek is recharging the groundwater table. However groundwater discharge increases near Dundas.¹²⁰ • Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades Research and Inventory Report – investigates waterfalls inventory and tourism potential. Recommendations provided in Appendix A, cultural history (see cultural goals below) • The City of Hamilton Stormwater Master Plan guiding principles is to “<i>treat rainwater as a resource to be protected and managed, rather than a waste product to be quickly moved from where it falls.</i>” The objectives are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Study and review existing storm sewer infrastructure and operating strategies to identify system upgrades. ○ Establish appropriate stormwater management practices to maintain/enhance the existing stream system water quality. ○ Develop a stormwater quality management program for the City (other than for lower Stoney Creek, which has recently been completed as part of a separate Master Plan). ○ Identify system requirements based on preliminary and final GRIDS growth scenarios. ○ Identify the preferred alternatives through consultation with potentially affected parties and systematic and comprehensive evaluation of the alternatives in terms of their advantages and disadvantages. ○ Develop a recommended implementation program for the preferred alternatives in the master plan. ○ Develop a monitoring plan for the recommended program and for the existing system. 	Subwatershed	Wetland area (ha)	Total Stream Length (km)	Ancaster Creek	2.0	22.8	Lower Spencer Creek	249.3	16.5	Middle Spencer Creek	393.5	74.4	Spring Creek	11.2	27.2	Sulphur Creek	9.4	29.1	Tiffany Creek	32.0	18.8	Upper Spencer Creek	918.1	44.8				
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¹²⁰ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p.17

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
	<p>1.7 Create a strategy to confront climate change¹⁴⁵</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution¹⁴⁶ • Effects of drought – on sensitive areas like wetlands, but also forested areas – hot summers, winter changes – what will happen to vegetation, water cycle¹⁴⁷ • Global warming¹⁴⁸ • Acid rain¹⁴⁹ • Air pollution¹⁵⁰ 	<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go Green: Ontario’s Action Plan on Climate Change goals are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce Ontario’s greenhouse gas emissions to six per cent below 1990 levels by 2014 – a reduction of 61 megatonnes relative to business-as-usual ○ By 2020 Ontario will reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 15 per cent below 1990 levels – a reduction of 99 megatonnes relative to business-as-usual ○ By 2050 we will reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80 per cent below 1990 levels¹⁵¹ • Clean Air Hamilton Clean Air Hamilton is a multi-stakeholder group dedicated to improving air quality in Hamilton’s community. The group is committed to improving citizens’ health and quality of life through communication and promotion of realistic, science-based decision-making and sustainable practices. Clean Air Hamilton works to improve air quality in Hamilton by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initiating research on air quality ○ Providing policy advice to all levels of government ○ Encouraging emission reductions amongst companies operating in Hamilton ○ Promoting behavioural changes amongst individuals living and working in Hamilton • Clean Air Hamilton was instrumental in establishing an Idling Control By-Law, Anti-Idling Campaign, Commuter Challenge and Tree Planting programs for Hamilton. • Environment Canada’s National Air Pollution Surveillance Network to add <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA not mandated to monitor air quality¹⁵² • Monitor how rapid changes in climate may be affecting the general environmental well-being of the watershed¹⁵³ • Climate change monitoring site by NECC (add) <p>Federal Regulatory Framework for Air Emissions (Clean Air Regulatory Framework) includes mandatory and enforceable reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants. It provides a regulatory framework for short-term industrial emission reduction targets, actions for transportation sources, actions on consumer and commercial products, and the regulatory framework for improvement of indoor air quality.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NECC Climate change monitoring data (Station location, goals, monitoring frequency, substances, etc) • Air quality monitoring (CO2, NOx, SOX, PPM) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support NECC’s climate change investigative monitoring plot¹⁵⁵ • More controls for industry¹⁵⁶

¹⁴⁵ SC1

¹⁴⁶ CM1, CS2,7,10, 21,23,50,66,70,71,80

¹⁴⁷ NECC interview

¹⁴⁸ ECJune2007, CS9

¹⁴⁹ CS41

¹⁵⁰ CS43

¹⁵¹ MOE Climate Change website, <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/air/climatechange/reduction.php>

¹⁵² HCA website, <http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/environment/watersheds/air.asp>

¹⁵³ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.14

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>National Pollutants Release Inventory (NPRI) is a national, legislated, publicly-accessible inventory. It tracks on-site releases of pollutants to air, water, land, and underground; off-site transfers for disposal; and off-site transfers for recovery, re-use, recycling and energy recovery. Industrial, institutional and commercial facilities which meet NPRI reporting requirements are required to report under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999¹⁵⁴.</p> <p>Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations, 1998 (SOR/99-7- Canada has adopted regulations to control the import, manufacture, use, sale, and export of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and amend the list of toxic substances in Schedule 1 of CEPA. The regulations also require that permits be obtained to import or export used, recovered, recycled and reclaimed ODS.</p> <p>Pollution Prevention Plans - Part 4 of CEPA gives the Minister of the Environment the authority to require the preparation and implementation of pollution prevention plans (P2 plans) for CEPA 1999 toxic substances. Pollution prevention is defined in CEPA 1999 as "the use of processes, practices, materials, products, substances or energy that avoids or minimize the creation of pollutants and waste and reduce the overall risk to the environment or human health."</p> <p>Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines, CCME - Canadian National Ambient Air Quality Objectives: National goals for outdoor air quality that protect public health, the environment, or aesthetic properties of the environment.</p> <p>EPA Air Pollution: Local Air Quality (O. Reg. 419/05) - This is the regulation for Certificate of Approval applications. The regulation includes lists of point of impingement air standards for a wide range of contaminants including cancer related compounds. The regulation describes what facilities have to do to demonstrate compliance with these standards.</p> <p>EPA Airborne Contaminant Discharge Monitoring and Reporting (O. Reg. 127) - This program requires that Ontario-based facilities emitting certain quantities of substances report to the government and also requires that the reports be available to the public. Ontario facilities provide information to Ontario Ministry of the Environment through One Window to National Environmental Reporting System (OWNERS) web reporting portal maintained by Environment Canada.</p>				
<p>Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and</p>	<p>2.1 Recognize the rich history of First Nations people within the Valley¹⁵⁸</p>		<p>List of historical sites can be found in background documents entitled 'cross-melville' and 'dundas bus museum tour' forwarded by Stan Nowak – no plan or policy concerning them, however.</p>		<p>Identification of First Nation sites of significance within the</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate the public about features of the Dundas Valley such as the Mohawk

¹⁵⁵ NECC interview

¹⁵⁶ CS43

¹⁵⁴ CEPA 1999

¹⁵⁸ CM1

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
Enhancement 2 To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources ¹⁵⁷					Valley (discussion with First Nations)		trail ¹⁵⁹ • Identify native portage trail running through the valley and linked Cootes Paradise with the Grand River ¹⁶⁰
	2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites		LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Plan Protected Countryside Culture, Recreation and Tourism Goals - To enhance our urban and rural areas and overall quality of life by promoting the following matters within the Protected Countryside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support for the conservation and promotion of cultural heritage resources¹⁶¹ • Ontario Heritage Act by-laws (a) 90-91 and (b) 90-92 confirm the designation of the Hermitage and Griffin property as lands and buildings of historic value, architectural value and interest¹⁶² DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Plan 2007-2011 for Built Heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain HCA-owned historic buildings and ruins ○ Complete a review of HCA-owned historic buildings, ruins and their historic gardens and grounds¹⁶³ • Griffin House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Griffin house now owned by HCA since 1988, was the home of first black settler in the area from the US – designated by the Ancaster Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee for its unique historical and architectural significance¹⁶⁴ ○ 45-acre land, four-room farmhouse built in 1827, currently open from May to October on holiday Mondays¹⁶⁵ ○ Member of Central Ontario Network of Black History¹⁶⁶ ○ Motion put forward to designate as Parks Canada National Historic Site¹⁶⁷ (plaque ceremony in 2010) Over 3,000 artifacts have been unearthed including stoneware, porcelain, clay pipe and masonry.¹⁶⁸ • Hermitage Ruin and Gatehouse (the Lodge) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1855 home now ruin owned by HCA consideration for stabilization¹⁶⁹ ○ Tails on this property include sections of the Headwaters, Main Loop and Bruce Trails¹⁷⁰ • Mineral Springs and Sulphur Springs Roads 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of historical sites owned by HCA, management plans • Are there others outside DVCA? What are they, size and management plan • Other data from Ancaster's Local Architectural Conservation of Ontario or Dundas Valley Historical Society 		

¹⁵⁷ June 2007 Consultation Backgrounder by HCA, SC1, CM1, CS15,26,52,68

¹⁵⁹ CM1 recommended action

¹⁶⁰ CM1

¹⁶¹ Greenbelt Plan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005, p5

¹⁶² Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.6, as recommended by Ancaster's Local Architectural Conservation of Ontario (Part IV Ontario Heritage Act) and listed as designated properties in Hamilton's Heritage (Volumes I and II)

¹⁶³ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.15

¹⁶⁴ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p6

¹⁶⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.4

¹⁶⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.4

¹⁶⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.10

¹⁶⁸ Dundas Valley Brochure

¹⁶⁹ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p6

¹⁷⁰ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.2

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Log grist mill replaced by two-storey stone mill in 1840. Remains of the mill demolished in 1917¹⁷¹ o George Leith 18-room brick house 1865 on private property (#999 Mineral Springs Road), converted to Sulphur Springs Spa. Destroyed by fire 1900 ruin/fountain¹⁷² • Thomas A Beckett Living Forest – each year supporters of the Conservation Foundation Living Forest Fund are invited to help plant trees and shrubs in the Thomas A. Beckett Forest. Named after well-known conservationist and the first chairman of HCA. Under his leadership from 1966-1972 the HCA began a major land acquisition program including the DV.¹⁷³ • Woodend House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Owned by Heslop c1842¹⁷⁴ o Donated to HCA in 1971, currently part of HCA administrative offices¹⁷⁵ • DVCA Heritage Zone Objectives and Strategies include the following programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Meet Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Spaces objectives o Achieve conservation, preservation and operational sustainability for the DVCA heritage zone o Expand the variety of activities offered to appeal to a more diverse visitor market o Preserve essential elements of Ancaster’s 19th Century history o Provide public education opportunities o Provide opportunities for community involvement o Encourage partnerships with community groups¹⁷⁶ • Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades Research and Inventory Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Borers – once powered a sawmill in the village of Rock Chapel that has been owned by Borer family for over 100 year¹⁷⁷ o Dundas – were owned by Fisher family. In July 1863 Fisher bought Gore Paper Mills on the property ran until 1929 when it was torn down for a school¹⁷⁸ o Mineral springs – Named after the hamlet of Mineral Springs¹⁷⁹ o Hermitage – see Hermitage Ruin info o Mills and Lower mills – named after the flour mills that were on this property. First 3 mills were destroyed by fire. 4th was built in 1863, property was bought and created the Ancaster Old Mill Restaurant in 1978¹⁸⁰ o Canterbury (A) o Sherman – owned by Dofasco family in 1912. 				
	2.3 Promote local history among adults and youth		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVCA Heritage Report puts forward a series of recommendations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Develop and implement an interpretative plan about the Dundas Valley’s 19th century settlement history that would include exhibits, collections, brochures, tours, signage staffing 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and types of programs designed to convey local history at HCA and by other 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a new slogan that reflects the areas rich history and progressive culture¹⁸²

¹⁷¹ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.3

¹⁷² Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.3

¹⁷³ Dundas Valley brochure

¹⁷⁴ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.5

¹⁷⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.5

¹⁷⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.9

¹⁷⁷ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades: Research and Inventory Report, 2007, Appendix B

¹⁷⁸ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades: Research and Inventory Report, 2007, Appendix B

¹⁷⁹ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades: Research and Inventory Report, 2007, Appendix B

¹⁸⁰ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades: Research and Inventory Report, 2007, Appendix B

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement the Griffin House interpretative plan Assess feasibility of increased and/or changed open house hours at Griffin House and Gatehouse¹⁸¹ 		organizations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add more signage in the Valley describing aspects of its cultural history¹⁸³ Promote the historical role of the Spencer Creek to the development of the Dundas community,¹⁸⁴ Ensure the long term sustainability of historic buildings and resources like the Griffin House¹⁸⁵
	2.4 Preserve small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces ¹⁸⁶		<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenbelt Plan Protected Countryside Settlement Areas Goals - To enhance our urban and rural areas and overall quality of life by promoting the following matters within the Protected Countryside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for a strong rural economy by allowing for the social, economic and service functions through the residential, institutional and commercial/industrial uses needed by the current and future population within the Greenbelt, particularly within settlements; Sustaining the character of the countryside and rural communities.¹⁸⁷ 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide quaint shopping experience in the Valley's downtown core¹⁸⁸
<p>Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use</p> <p>3 Promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces¹⁸⁹</p>	3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise ¹⁹⁰		<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenbelt Plan Protected Countryside Culture, Recreation and Tourism Goal - To enhance our urban and rural areas and overall quality of life by promoting the following matters within the Protected Countryside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of a wide range of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation including facilities, parklands, open space areas, trails and water-based/shoreline uses that support hiking, angling and other recreational activities¹⁹¹ Conservations Areas are requested to develop and make accessible areas for recreational uses where such use would not have an adverse impact on the environment.¹⁹² Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan – one of the goals is to “promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles” through the development of a comprehensive multi-use trail system. Bruce Trail Conservancy Strategic Plan – 2007 to 2010. Contains goals and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borer's Falls trails are narrow paths, showing some degree of erosion and widening. No survey of use has been conducted, but most used in late summer and fall¹⁹⁶ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active living plans? Types of recreational activities occurring and number of users 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of trails in the Valley¹⁹⁷ Take steps to maintain and improve the Bruce Trail¹⁹⁸ Support Bruce Trail Conservancy¹⁹⁹ maintaining Warren Park, Spring Creek Trail Consider including Frisbee, golf area, grass volleyball, or tennis courts²⁰⁰ Promotion of

¹⁸² CM1
¹⁸¹ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.15
¹⁸³ CM1
¹⁸⁴ CM1 recommended action
¹⁸⁵ CM1
¹⁸⁶ SG1 – response to what value now - Retaining current state of quaint villages and greenspaces, CM1 - There is a strong sense of community within Dundas, and members noted that this was something they strongly wished to preserve - easy-going character, CS5,38,46,51,62
¹⁸⁷ Greenbelt Plan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005, p5
¹⁸⁸ CS24,51
¹⁸⁹ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, SC1, CS9,15,24
¹⁹⁰ SC1 response to what they Valley should be/include in the future, ECJune2007
¹⁹¹ Greenbelt Plan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005, p5
¹⁹² Borer's Falls Conservation Areas Management Plan, 2002, p.7

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>strategies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure and Steward a Permanent Conservation Corridor along the Niagara Escarpment that contains the Bruce Trail Secure Adequate Resources to Support the Mission of the BTC Cultivate a Healthy BTC Organization that is Aligned with its Mission Increase Awareness and Support for the BTC <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <p>Sanctuary Park in Dundas provides playing fields, washrooms, parking facilities and play structures¹⁹³</p> <p>Rail Trail will be available for passive recreational activities including hiking, bird watching and nature appreciation, cycling, running or cross country skiing. Motorized vehicles will not be permitted¹⁹⁴</p> <p>Borer’s Falls CA permitted uses include hiking, picnics, informal education programs, research. Mountain biking and motorized vehicles are not permitted.¹⁹⁵</p> <p>See below</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> camping opportunities²⁰¹ Promote activities that encourage youth, parents and seniors to be more active²⁰² Consider wider trail area along rail trail²⁰³ Bring trails up to the standard of the Main Loop²⁰⁴ Create more loop alternatives²⁰⁵
	<p>3.2 Preserve integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages²⁰⁶</p>		<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ontario Trails Strategy is a long term plan that establishes strategic directions for planning, managing, promoting and using trails in Ontario.²⁰⁷ Trends affecting trails are identified as the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Stakeholders report that the cost of liability insurance for trail organizations is becoming prohibitive. Although ownership of all-terrain vehicles (ATV) in Ontario has increased, the development of ATV trails has not kept pace with the growth in demand. With few designated ATV trails, many ATV users frequent trails that are not suitable for their vehicles. Fifty-two per cent of Ontarians are still not active enough to realize optimum health benefits. A 2001 study found that 28 per cent of Ontarians cited lack of pleasant places to walk and/or bicycle as a barrier to participation in physical activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DV has 40km trail system²¹⁷ 32km rail trail of which 18 km–major corridor for pedestrians, horseback riders and cyclists in and out of DVCA²¹⁸ Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan has trails mapping, GIS information for all trails²¹⁹ Borer’s Falls trails are narrow paths, showing some degree of erosion and widening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composite trails map for DV HCA properties and those btw properties through Dundas/Ancaster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-management plan with trails (authorized and Bruce) 1997²²⁰ E-Governors Road CA Landscape Character and Context showing trails, slope map, soils and geology map²²¹ E-HCA Rail Trail MP shows natural features E-City of Hamilton Bikeways, Trails and 	

¹⁹⁶ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.6

¹⁹⁷ CS18,59,61

¹⁹⁸ SC1 – response to what wanted in the future

¹⁹⁹ NECC interview

²⁰⁰ ECJune2007, CS34,46

¹⁹³ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan, 1992, p.9

¹⁹⁴ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan for West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, p.27

¹⁹⁵ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.11

²⁰¹ CS50

²⁰² ECJune2007

²⁰³ ECJune2007

²⁰⁴ ECJune2007

²⁰⁵ ECJune2007

²⁰⁶ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, ECJune2007, CS12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19,31,43,46,47,52,53,56,57,58,59,66,68,70,71,78

²⁰⁷ Ontario Trails Strategy, Ministry of Health Promotion, 2005, Message from the Minister

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While Ontario’s trails have traditionally been developed independently, trails organizations increasingly recognize that they must work together to use their resources more efficiently, make the most of their investment in trails and effectively educate the public and trail users. ○ There are increasing pressures on the natural and cultural features of trails because of growing population and densities around the Province and increasing numbers of off road vehicles, many of which are used off trail as well.²⁰⁸ ● Five strategic directions are identified which comprise the Ontario Trails Strategy. These are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ improving collaboration among stakeholders; ○ enhancing the sustainability of Ontario’s trails; ○ enhancing the trail experience; ○ educating Ontarians about trails; and ○ fostering better health and a strong economy through trails.²⁰⁹ ● Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan prescribed a comprehensive multi-purpose off-road recreational trail system to connect natural areas, cultural features and major land use destinations within the City of Hamilton. Among the recommendations of the Master Plan are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a comprehensive multi-purpose system of trails • implement measures to preserve natural and cultural trail features ● implement co-management strategies and measures to achieve system objectives on trails facilities developed and managed by other public and not-for-profit organizations The Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan recognizes the HCA as an important local owner/manager (i.e., Dundas Valley CA) within the City. The Authority owns and/or operates several conservation areas within the internal trails’ system and together with other trail organizations support trails interconnecting these conservation areas. ● The Bruce Trail Conservancy is a charitable organization committed to establishing a conservation corridor containing a public footpath along the Niagara Escarpment, in order to protect its natural ecosystems and to promote environmentally responsible public access to this UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. The Conservancy has set “user codes” for trail users and provides educational resources and opportunities about the Niagara Escarpment. ● Cycling Network Strategy - prepared as part of the overall Transportation Master Plan for Hamilton being undertaken as an integrated master planning process called GRIDS. Goals of this Strategy are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate efficient and safe travel for commuters and other cyclists through expansion and improvement of the network of on-street cycling facilities and Escarpment connections; and • Promote recreational cycling and active transportation through the development of offstreet facilities. 			Parks map (2005)	

²¹⁷ DV brochure

²¹⁸ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p26

²¹⁹ Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan, PPT Planning Group Meeting Summary April 19, 2007

²²⁰ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p29

²²¹ Governor’s Road Conservation Area Dundas Valley North Master Plan Report, IMC Consulting, 1991

²⁰⁸ Ontario Trails Strategy, Ministry of Health Promotion, 2005, p.9

²⁰⁹ Ontario Trails Strategy, Ministry of Health Promotion, 2005, p.12

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets developed in the Transportation Master Plan call for an increase in walking and cycling to 10% of daily trips in the near term and 15% in the long term. Meeting these targets will require a holistic approach including initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality and extent of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure; • Encourage shorter average distances between home, work and other major destinations; • Increase awareness of non-motorized networks and safety requirements; • Enhance the co-ordination of transit trips with walking and cycling trips; and • Ensure the bicycle and pedestrian friendliness of new development. • Town of Dundas Recreation Trails (to add) <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA acquired and developed 2 multi-use rail trail systems: (1) 16km Chippawa Rail Trail (links Hamilton to Caledonia) (outside study area) and (2) 32km Hamilton-to-Brantford Rail Trail. Both are part of the Trans Canada Trail system. Also opened Lafarge 200 trail.²¹⁰ • 1976 DVCA MMP recommendation that the DVCA provide passive, low intensity recreational uses²¹¹ • 1995 trail review conducted (1997 DVCA MMP) identified the following areas of concern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bridge at Waterfall along the Bruce Trail and Heritage trail, ○ Unauthorized trails ○ Headwaters trail at Pistol range ○ Closed section of Monarch Trail ○ Headwaters Trail ○ Heritage trail link at Ontario street ○ Tiffany falls trail ○ Tom Beckett trail ○ Trail from Pleasant avenue subdivision to rail trail²¹² • Trail use monitored for period of 2 years to determine use and environmental impact²¹³ • Mapping of trails and trial signage to be revised in brochure form and installed in the DV Visitor Centre and entrances to DVCA (Comprehensive Signage Study²¹⁴ • West Hamilton to Jerseyville Rail Trail is 18km long, majority of greenway is 30m wide, trails are 3m wide, maintains a 2% continuous climb, and aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MP designed to involve watershed residents as active stewards of their local environment ○ Conserve environmentally sensitive and significant natural areas ○ Enhance the quality and variety of live by providing greenspace and opportunities for recreation ○ Conserve HCA owned heritage resources²¹⁵ • At Borer’s Falls, Bruce trail and side trails will be maintained and improved 				

²¹⁰ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA p.8

²¹¹ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p2

²¹² Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p11

²¹³ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p26

²¹⁴ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p27

²¹⁵ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, p.4

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installing bridges where trail crosses Hopkin’s Creek Correct trail stability problems Install stairs along the main Bruce Trail to provide safe access from the Escarpment rim Discontinue all other existing trails Develop and implement an erosion monitoring program (was this done?)²¹⁶ 				
4 Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all but managed ²²²		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail integrity sacrificed to user accessibility²²³ Negligent trail use²²⁴ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1976/1997 DVCA MMP recommendation there be 3 activity centres, and that vehicle access to the centres be from peripheral roads, parking areas by visually separated from recreational facilities²²⁵ 1997 DVCA MMMP recommended fee stations be redesigned to integrate to surrounding environment. Most are in and additional stations are being considered²²⁶ Bruce Trail to be maintained as footpath, areas that are also authority trails will be maintained for multi-use²²⁷ Governors Road MP indicates trail use for hiking and cross country skiing on most trails, equestrian and mountain biking on areas east of Weir Land.²²⁸ Visitors with mobility limitations may find it difficult, if not impossible to use the DVCA trail system to access Hermitage ruins and Griffin House. Griffin House is accessible from the parking lot, and visiting can be transported by vehicle to the House. The first floor is wheelchair accessible.²²⁹ The Rail Trail includes 6 proposed nodes to provide facilitates for trail users: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>West Hamilton Node</i> – trail head, linkage to Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Bikeway Network, facility to include parking (how many cars), trail information kiosk, interpretative facility (where these developed?) <i>Sanctuary Park Node</i> – the park has washrooms, playing fields, parking (how many cars – Town was interested in expanding), play structures and linkages to DV trails, provides local access for Pleasant Valley neighbourhood <i>Dundas Valley Node</i> – main feature is the DV Trail Centre which provides interpretative facilities, displays and information kiosk, and washrooms, snack bar, bike racks, lockers. The Bruce Trail intersections at this junction <i>Old Highway #99 Node</i> – proposed to resolve access and traffic problems at the trail centre, parking lots include 4 stalls for horse vans, 10 parking spots, hitching posts, tacking/untacking areas, bicycle racks and benches, serves as main equestrian access to the rail trail and DVCA trail network <i>Highway #52 Node</i> – truck traffic is heavy and requires special safety considerations for crossings. 25 car parking lot, and open picnic area <i>Field Road Node</i> – minor access point, 10 stall parking, bicycle racks and benches.²³⁰ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1997 DVCA MMP – 11 access zones, 10 of which include parking (Old Ancaster Road to Heritage Trail access point is pedestrian only)²³⁵ Governors Road CA 4 trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> McCormack Trail loop – 2.9km Meadow Marsh spur loop 1 km Ravine trail 2.9 km Restoration trail 1,4 km North trail 1.9 km Weir’s lane and Bruce trail create secondary loops Trails include interpretative signage at Meadow Marsh, Old Field Succession, Oak-Maple forest, Hawthorn-buckthorn stand, conifer plantation, maple-beech forest, meadow brook, ravine, woodland pond, Dundas valley formation Base facility structure 56 parking spots, overflow additional 20 cars, 1 interpretive centre²³⁶ Hermitage parking accommodates 3-4 cars²³⁷ Griffin House parking accommodates 4 cars, site plan to expand to 9 cars²³⁸ HCA Works Office parking lots accommodates 24 cars²³⁹ Governors Road CA – demonstration area for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility plan? Safety or risk management plan? Snow removal on trails? Lighting? Safety rails? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> R-Map indicating access points, facilities, services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make areas more accessible to families, the elderly and those with disabilities²⁴² Control parking fees²⁴³ No additional access fees for smaller, more remote areas²⁴⁴ Make the peak at Webster’s Falls more accessible²⁴⁵ Better technology at pay stations to ensure people are paying what they should²⁴⁶ Include speed bumps and crossings where trails cross roadways²⁴⁷ Develop a small trail centre at the Administrative building area²⁴⁸ Provide adequate washroom facilities for visitors²⁴⁹ Create parking near the Trail Centre to avoid conflict between trail users with residents²⁵⁰ NECC plan has a provision for non

²¹⁶ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.12

²²² SC response to what needed in the future, CS4,6,9,23,47,74

²²³ SC1

²²⁴ EJune2007, SC1, CS75

²²⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p2

²²⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p24

²²⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p31

²²⁸ Governor’s Road Conservation Area Dundas Valley North Master Plan Report, IMC Consulting, 1991, p1

²²⁹ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.12

²³⁰ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan for West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, p.19-21

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rail Trail includes safety rails at key points to prevent users from straying off the trail²³¹ DV trails have limited accessibility. Wheelchairs and scooters are encouraged to use the Rail Trail. An all-terrain wheelchair is available at the Dundas Valley Trail Centre by appt.²³² Dundas Valley Trail Centre provides: snack bar, washroom, interpretative display, gift shop, trail maps, facility rentals, schools and youth programs²³³ Occupiers Liability Act – Requires that an occupier of premises owes a duty of care to persons coming onto the premises. Subsection 4. (1) reads: “The duty of care provided for in subsection 3 (1) does not apply in respect of risks willingly assumed by the person who enters on the premises, but in that case the occupier owes a duty to the person to not create a danger with the deliberate intent of doing harm or damage to the person or his or her property and to not act with reckless disregard of the presence of the person or his or her property.” Subsections 4. (3) and (4) go on to provide that persons entering on “recreational trails” for recreational purposes and without paying a fee, are deemed to have willingly assumed all risks and are subject only to the reduced duty set in subsection 4 (1). However, lawsuits can still arise and the courts may be reluctant to find an injured plaintiff entirely responsible for his/her own injuries. Common practice is to apportion or divide responsibility between the injured plaintiff and the occupier. The Hike Ontario Risk Management Manual states that “a prudent trail association will do all it can to ensure a safe trail.” HCA Policies and Procedures - Maintaining slope stability as part of preventative hazard land management is one of the responsibilities delegated to HCA. Ensuring the long term stability of slopes protects structures and residents from the dangers potentially associated with such features and contribute to the conservation and long-term protection of valley features. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development activities and uses on natural valley slopes will generally be prohibited. At its discretion, HCA may permit the following uses: 	restoration (still there) ²⁴⁰ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borers’ Falls includes 15 car parking spots off York Road²⁴¹ 			motorized vehicles in natural areas – only certain areas for motorized vehicle use ²⁵¹

²³⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p19

²³⁶ Governor’s Road Conservation Area Dundas Valley North Master Plan Report, IMC Consulting, 1991, p4

²³⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.12

²³⁸ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.12

²³⁹ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.12

²⁴² ECJune2007, CS26

²⁴³ CS46

²⁴⁴ CS19

²⁴⁵ CS2

²⁴⁶ CS35

²⁴⁷ ECJune2007

²⁴⁸ ECJune2007

²⁴⁹ CS30,37,58

²⁵⁰ CM1 suggested action

²³¹ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan for West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, p.26

²³² Dundas Valley Brochure

²³³ Dundas Valley Brochure

²⁴⁰ Governor’s Road Conservation Area Dundas Valley North Master Plan Report, IMC Consulting, 1991, p6

²⁴¹ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.6

²⁵¹ NECC interview

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ passive recreation and associated structures (e.g. fencing and staircases); ○ structures associated with erosion and sediment control. ○ HCA will recommend that development is not permitted in significant valleylands unless it can be demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or the ecological functions for which the area is identified. ○ Any development proposals adjacent to valleylands must be located outside of the erosion hazard limit and incorporate a buffer appropriate for the features associated with that valley. ○ Increased fragmentation of ownership within valleylands and riverine systems will be discouraged by HCA. Possible occurrences of fragmentation should be monitored through the plan review process. ○ HCA will encourage the municipality to designate all valleylands in their Official Plans in a manner that recognizes their inherent environmental characteristics and limitations to development and to zone valleylands within appropriate open space zoning. ○ Where new lots are created near valleylands HCA will encourage their creation outside of the setback areas. ○ The proponent shall be required to demonstrate to the satisfaction of HCA that the proposed development includes the presence of a building envelope that incorporates all relevant setbacks from the natural features of the property and conforms to all applicable zoning by-law requirements. ○ HCA will encourage the re-establishment of native and locally appropriate vegetation on disturbed valley slopes in order to minimize soil erosion both during and after construction. Where staff deems it to be necessary, the proponent will be required to submit a vegetation plan based on those guidelines established in s. 6.0 (Vegetation Plans) of this document. ○ HCA will encourage overland drainage to be directed away from valley slopes when reviewing lot grading and drainage plans for new subdivision, condominium or site plan control development, in areas adjacent to valley systems.²³⁴ 				
<p>5 To establish a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent residents²⁵²</p>	<p>5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Multi-use trails which can lead to conflict between trail users²⁵³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Trail etiquette issues and rules posted at various entrances²⁵⁴ ● HCA staff to provide trail user education to ensure all know etiquette and rules²⁵⁵ ● Rail Trail MP indicates there are 4 homes that require special consideration to ensure that development of the greenway does not conflict with existing land use, gates and fences will be improved to provide security and to demarcate the boundary of the corridor.²⁵⁶ ● Rail Trail MP indicates a list of rules and regulations governing the use of the trail will be printed and posted at all major access pts²⁵⁷ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DVCA MP indicates that the average length of lot – 233m, min length 12.2m, max length 4,572m ● 50 of 231 landowners adjacent to DVCA have fencing, 7/231 said it was in poor condition, 14/231 said fair, 20/231 said good condition.²⁵⁸ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land ownership around CAs (roll numbers) ● Land use around CAs, identification of trails that cross private property ● Reported complaints from landowners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● R-same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More free community facilities²⁶¹ ● Create an education campaign about trail etiquette²⁶² ● Cultivate relationships between private

²³⁴ Hamilton Conservation Authority Planning & Regulation Policies And Guidelines, 2005, p.33-37

²⁵² SC1 and SG1

²⁵³ SG1

²⁵⁴ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p25

²⁵⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p25

²⁵⁶ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan for West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, p.10

²⁵⁷ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan for West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, p.27

²⁵⁸ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, 1997, p11 and Appendix A

²⁶¹ CS46

²⁶² SG1 response to what needed in the future, CM1

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail Trail included identification of landowners by roll numbers • Rail Trail adjacent landowner survey results indicate that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ave length of property adjacent is 55 m, min length – 9m, max length – 914m, ○ 115/261 are residential, 17/261 agricultural ○ 114/261 have fences between property and rail trail, 36/114 said in poor condition, 33/114 said fair condition and 45/114 said good condition²⁵⁹ • 12 residences around Borer’s Falls²⁶⁰ 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • landowners and public stewards²⁶³ • Encourage land owners to allow walking trails through properties²⁶⁴ •
<p>Land Use: Economic Sustainability and vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community²⁶⁵ BUSINESS</p> <p>6 Promote small, community-based businesses²⁶⁶</p>	<p>6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/ industrial areas²⁶⁷</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chain and big box stores²⁶⁸ • Aggregate companies²⁶⁹ 	<p>The City of Hamilton has prepared an economic development strategy to support and encourage economic growth. The intent is to provide a cost competitive environment and to develop a skilled labour supply within the area. Hamilton intends to build on its existing industries, whilst maintaining and improving the quality of life of its residents.²⁷⁰</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hamilton Business Development provides programs available for business from the municipal, provincial and federal level of governments and/or related agencies. These programs include re-development programs, business immigration, employment/training, export assistance and research and development. • In 2001, the City established its first downtown improvement and business improvement area program which promote the rehabilitation and development of properties within downtown areas such as Dundas and Ancaster, as well as others; and twelve business improvement areas. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of existing small scale businesses in watershed • Number of large retailers (chain/box stores) • Business plan (Chamber of commerce) for new commercial industrial • Dundas and Ancaster Chamber of Commerce/BIA stats and initiatives to retain business 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address issue of rate of taxation for businesses as a barrier to new businesses establishing in Hamilton area²⁷¹ • Investigate and implement an item swap system to encourage reuse (e.g: Moms-to-Moms program)²⁷² • Promote reusing and recycling in the Valley’s communities²⁷³
<p>AGRICULTURE</p> <p>7 To encourage agriculture and</p>	<p>7.1 Restore appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle²⁷⁵</p>	Lack of knowledge and respect for the profession and lifestyle of farming. As a result, many	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to 2001 Census data for Hamilton, Flamborough and Dundas had the highest number of farms, totalling to 557. This is to be expected since the area accounts for more than 50% of Hamilton’s land area. The highest average gross farm receipts within Hamilton were \$1,971 per acre, recorded 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of farms in watershed • Number of farmers markets or retailers 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the public about farming as a lifestyle and profession²⁸¹

²⁵⁹ HCA Rail Trail Master Plan for West Hamilton to Jerseyville, 1992, Appendix B

²⁶⁰ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.6

²⁶³ SC1

²⁶⁴ EJune2007

²⁶⁵ SC1 - Response to what want in the future - more economic vibrancy, Sustainable town - To promote economic, environmental and social sustainability in all aspects of life in the communities adjacent to the Dundas Valley

²⁶⁶ SC1, CS68

²⁶⁷ CS39

²⁶⁸ CS22,24,68,69

²⁶⁹ CS36,53

²⁷⁰ City of Hamilton Socio-Economic Profile, http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/93B67223-1C31-4A6B-BD14-2798717D170C/0/SHIR2005SocioEconomic_Profile.pdf

²⁷¹ SG1 - response to what value now

²⁷² CM1

²⁷³ CM1

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
local food production ²⁷⁴		farms in the Dundas Valley are being abandoned or sold off because farming is becoming less viable ²⁷⁶	<p>for Flamborough and Dundas. The City generated \$222,342,429 in gross farm receipts; 61% of those were recorded for Flamborough and Dundas and 13% in Ancaster.²⁷⁷</p> <p>Dundas has a small agricultural industry within its boundaries, while Flamborough has an extensive agricultural industry. Dundas recorded a total of 480 acres of farmland, while Flamborough recorded a total of 86,482 acres. Ancaster has a relatively large agricultural industry, accounting for 28,185 acres of land. This land is made up of prominent agricultural farming types such as nursery and sod, which are generally included as part of the miscellaneous specialty group. In addition, there are a number of cash crop operations as well as poultry, fruit, vegetable, horse, pony and greenhouse operations within the area.²⁷⁸</p> <p>Within the City’s boundaries, the former municipality of Glanbrook experienced a 3%, or 946 acre increase in the area under production between 1996 and 2001. Ancaster and Flamborough/Dundas saw a decline of 8%, or 2,470 acres and 9%, or 6,427 acres respectively.²⁷⁹</p> <p>There seems to be an increasing understanding that agricultural land provides critical habitat for the conservation of biodiversity. In areas subject to urban growth pressures, farmland provides linkages for wildlife corridors and critical habitat for all species. In addition, to maintain a healthy ecosystem there must be opportunity for landscape biodiversity.</p> <p>From interviews with farmers, some issues and concerns identified included the potential for apprenticeship and cooperative programs to better educate new farmers. In addition to primary training needs, there are numerous ongoing training requirements for farmers to ensure that they remain current with ongoing concerns such as pesticides, nutrient management, veterinary medicine and equipment operation. Also, the age is an ongoing issue of concern. It was noted that promotion of agriculture careers could assist in encouraging a younger population to consider such a prospective. There are also variable labour requirements for agriculture, as it largely a physical job, with long and seasonal hours. Programs such as the <i>Off Shore Labour Program</i> and labour pools assist in filling the labour requirement. There also are issues regarding transportation to rural areas.</p> <p>Food production in the City of Hamilton consists of a seafood production manufacturer and a bakery in Dundas (5.3% of Hamilton’s food production); a confectionary, meat packing plant and a bakery in Ancaster (7.9%); and a</p>		who sell local produce		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate opportunities for agricultural knowledge and best practice sharing between youth and seniors²⁸² • Promote low impact, organic agriculture²⁸³

²⁷⁵ CM1

²⁸¹ CM1

²⁷⁴ CM1

²⁷⁶ CM1

²⁷⁷ City of Hamilton Agricultural Economic Impact & Development Study, <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/601C2966-C4E2-4641-AD3E-9B839592A990/0/HamiltonAgReport.pdf>, p 4.1

²⁷⁸ City of Hamilton Agricultural Economic Impact & Development Study, <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/601C2966-C4E2-4641-AD3E-9B839592A990/0/HamiltonAgReport.pdf>, p 6.4

²⁷⁹ City of Hamilton Agricultural Economic Impact & Development Study, <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/601C2966-C4E2-4641-AD3E-9B839592A990/0/HamiltonAgReport.pdf>, p 9.5

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			<p>meat packing plant in Flamborough (2.6%). There is only one beverage manufacturer which is located in Flamborough.²⁸⁰</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ontario Rural Council programs The Rural Official Plan includes a set of policies to maintain the right to farm, preserve farmland for agriculture, direct non-farm, rural-oriented development to Rural Settlement Areas and Rural Areas provide opportunities for on-farm diversification. 				
	<p>7.2 Make locally grown and processed crops accessible to residents²⁸⁴</p>		<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines, CCME - Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Agricultural Water Uses: Helps to protect sensitive crop species that may be exposed to toxic substances such as pesticides in irrigation water. Similarly, the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for Livestock Water are based on how livestock are affected by their drinking water and whether certain substances, such as toxic chemicals, accumulate in the animals' bodies. Greenbelt Plan Protected Countryside Goals - To enhance our urban and rural areas and overall quality of life by promoting the following matters within the Protected Countryside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of the specialty crop area land base while allowing supportive infrastructure and value added uses necessary for sustainable agricultural uses and activities; Protection of prime agricultural areas by preventing further fragmentation and loss of the agricultural land base caused by lot creation and the re-designation of prime agricultural areas; Provision of the appropriate flexibility to allow for agriculture, agriculture-related and secondary uses, normal farm practices and an evolving agricultural/rural economy; and Increasing certainty for the agricultural sector to foster long-term investment in, improvement to, and management of the land.²⁸⁵ <p>DUNDAS SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1976 DVCA MMP recommendation that lands suitable for agriculture be retained until there is a proven need to use them for recreational purposes²⁸⁶ 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reintroduce a farmers' market in the Valley's adjacent communities²⁸⁷
<p>DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>8 Investigate and promote development that is compatible with the natural environment²⁸⁸</p>	<p>8.1 Focus intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development²⁸⁹</p> <p>8.2 Create mechanisms to limit development within</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensification as described under the "Places to Grow Act" is a threat to the natural and cultural aspects of Dundas²⁹² Over-population²⁹³ Sub / urban sprawl²⁹⁴ 	<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Provincial Policy Statement (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005b) identifies the provincial policy foundation for regulating the development and use of land. The Province has identified specific policies aimed at ensuring that the natural system, cultural heritage, and archaeological resources are managed such that essential ecological processes are protected, there are minimal environmental impacts, and cultural resources are conserved. The Provincial Policy Statement seeks a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Permits Issued in 2004: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dundas 122 infill/11greenfield Ancaster – 22infill/386 greenfield Flamborough – 2 infill/80 greenfield³⁰² 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of impervious surface – indicator of urbanization (EC target 10% is healthy, over 30% is unhealthy) – area around Dundas – 11- 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and use NECC criteria and guidelines for development³⁰⁴ Provisions in NECC plan stops urban expansion, stops sub division in rural

²⁸² CM1

²⁸³ CM1

²⁸⁰ City of Hamilton Agricultural Economic Impact & Development Study, <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/601C2966-C4E2-4641-AD3E-9B839592A990/0/HamiltonAgReport.pdf>, p 5.12

²⁸⁴ CM1

²⁸⁵ Greenbelt Plan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005, p5.

²⁸⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p3

²⁸⁷ CM1

²⁸⁸ SC response to what want in the future

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
	<p>the Valley²⁹⁰</p> <p>8.3 Keep development within current boundaries²⁹¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urbanization and too much development growth²⁹⁵ Incompatible development of privately owned lands in the Valley²⁹⁶ Pressure from developers²⁹⁷ Plans for a new airport²⁹⁸ 	<p>balance between environmental, economic and social benefits and supports a coordinated approach between municipalities to managing natural heritage, cultural heritage, and archaeological resources. In keeping with the objectives of the Provincial Policy Statement, the Ontario government has produced a number of plans with which all municipalities must comply in making land use decisions. These plans include the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and the Places to Grow Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niagara Escarpment Plan - The Niagara Escarpment Commission came into existence in June 1973 under the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act. The Act and Commission provided for the protection of the Escarpment as a 725 kilometre continual natural area stretching from the tip of the Bruce Peninsula in the north through to the Niagara River in the south. The Commission administers the Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP), which is Canada’s first, large-scale environmental land use plan. The purpose of the NEP is “to provide for the maintenance of the Niagara Escarpment and land in its vicinity substantially as a continuous natural environment, and to ensure only such development occurs as is compatible with that natural environment.” The NEP meets this objective through a set of land use designations and development controls. In 1990, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) named Ontario’s Niagara Escarpment a World Biosphere Reserve. This designation recognizes the natural features and ecological importance of the Escarpment and endorses the Niagara Escarpment Plan. <p>Almost all of the Dundas Valley study area is subject to the NEP (Schollen: what portion of the study area is protected by NEP), except for parts of the former towns of Dundas and Ancaster. The planning policies affecting these urban areas are contained within the City of Hamilton’s Official Plan, as are policies regarding Copetown and Greensville, which are designated “Minor Urban Settlements” in the NEP. Almost all of the other land in the study area is designated as either: Escarpment Natural Area, Escarpment Protection Area, or Escarpment Rural Area. The definitions and permitted uses for each of these designations are identified under goal #1:</p>		20% - check watershed characterization report ³⁰³		<p>area.³⁰⁵</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and promote alternative power supplies (wind, solar)³⁰⁶ Establish land use guidelines³⁰⁷ Establish a policy that the HCA will influence all regulatory bodies to minimize residential and commercial development in all sections of the valley other than those designated by NECC today³⁰⁸ (Tony Horvat thinks there is policies in place against open space conversion – not sure simple policy can encompass all issues)

²⁸⁹ CM1

²⁹² June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, CM1

²⁹³ CS1,28,31,33,39

²⁹⁴ ECJune2007, CM1, CS20, 21,23,27,35,36,48,54,59,69,71,73,75,76,77

³⁰² MKI, 2006. Hamilton Residential Intensification Study: Final Report. Accessed at <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/420C6349-F987-45C8-8343-9D3C10C8BC1F/0/HRISChpt4ResIntenseScenarios.pdf>

³⁰⁴ NECC interview

²⁹⁰ SC1, CS36,49

²⁹¹ CS5

²⁹⁵ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, CS5,8,9,10,11,12, 18,22,30,45,53,55,57,67,74

²⁹⁶ TT, SC1, SG1, CS3,52

²⁹⁷ SC1, CM1

²⁹⁸ CM1

³⁰³ HCA Watershed Report Card, p2.

³⁰⁵ NECC interview

³⁰⁶ CS36

³⁰⁷ SG1

³⁰⁸ ECJune2007

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Plan (see above goal 3) • Places to Grow Act, 2005 provides the legislative framework for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (referred to as Growth Plan). The Growth Plan includes population and employment growth forecasts for the City of Hamilton and other areas in the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) area, and establishes guidelines for how municipalities must accommodate this growth. Several policies are especially significant for the City of Hamilton and the Dundas Valley study area, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The establishment of an intensification target, which specifies that by 2015 and each year thereafter, a minimum of 40 percent of new residential development will occur within the built-up areas of each municipality; ○ The establishment of Built Boundaries and Designated Greenfield Areas specifying where intensification (i.e., infill development) and new (“greenfield”) development can occur; ○ Support for transit, walking and cycling for everyday activities; ○ The achievement of appropriate transition of built form to adjacent areas. <p>The City of Hamilton is currently in the process of finalizing an updated Official Plan, which will integrate the targets and policies stemming from the Growth Plan. The new Official Plan will identify key elements of the urban structure, including the Built Boundary (where the existing urban area was built out to as of 2006) and the Designated Greenfield Areas. It is expected that the new Official Plan will be completed by June 2009.</p> <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town of Dundas OP – needs to be purchased • City of Hamilton Official Plan will integrate the requirements of the Niagara Escarpment, Greenbelt and Places to Grow plans. The anticipated completion date for the Official Plan (OP) is June 2009; however, several components of the OP are available in draft form, and are undergoing public consultation or approval by the province. • Rural Official Plan - was adopted by City Council in September 2006, but is still awaiting approval by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). The Plan takes into account the planning restrictions of the NEP, the Greenbelt Plan, and the Growth Plan, but the MMAH has requested that the City significantly increase protection of thousands of acres of rural lands and strengthen environmental protection rules. These specific issues concern areas in Stoney Creek, Elfrida, and the proposed “Aerotropolis” development around the airport. They do not affect the Dundas Valley study area. <p>Mapping carried out for the Rural Official Plan includes a map of non-renewable resources in the City of Hamilton, most notably mineral aggregate resources. This map identifies a large area to the southeast of Copetown as a potential sand and gravel extraction area. There is some overlap with both the Dundas Valley study area and the NEP area, and includes lands owned by the HCA. The area encompasses part of the Copetown Woods and Summit Bog adjacent to Highway 52. This bog</p>				

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			<p>contains a 12,000 year-old peat deposit that is eight metres deep. The bog is situated on a topographic high and drains into both Big Creek (tributary of the Grand River) and Ancaster Creek (tributary of Spencer Creek). It is home to many regionally rare and uncommon plant species, and is identified as a provincially significant natural area.</p> <p>The Rural Official Plan also identifies several Rural Settlement Areas (RSAs). RSAs are areas where a variety of land uses and developments have clustered together on a small scale outside the main urban area of the City. These areas are intended to be residential and service centres that serve the immediate community and the surrounding rural area. Most notable for the Dundas Valley study area are the Copetown and Greensville Settlement Areas, both of which have had secondary plans prepared.</p> <p>Copetown, located at the intersection of Governor’s Road and Highway 52, is a small community of 235 people. A background study for the Rural Official Plan recommended that Copetown concluded that there is a large amount of development potential within the RSA boundary, and it proposes that as many as 110 units could be added with a resultant population increase to 330. Only a minor “rounding-out” of the RSA boundary on the northeast corner of Highway 52 and Governors Road is proposed as part of the town’s secondary plan.</p> <p>Greensville is significantly larger, with a population of approximately 2500. Greensville is located immediately adjacent to the northwest boundary of the Dundas Valley study area. As of 2006, there is a development freeze on Greensville due concerns about the water supply. As a result, no expansion to Greensville’s RSA is being considered.</p> <p>The Rural Official Plan also identifies several Rural Special Policy Areas. These are areas requiring additional studies to determine ultimate land uses and establish policies to address unique conditions. Once such area is Pleasantview, which includes lands located between the eastern limits of the former Town of Dundas, Cootes Paradise, Highway 6 and Old Guelph Road. This land is adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Dundas Valley study area, immediately east of Borer’s Falls Conservation Area and west of the Royal Botanical Gardens. Current municipal and provincial policies have designated Pleasantview as a rural area, but the province is now considering transferring it to the NEP area. Under current planning regulations in both the Rural Official Plan, only one unit per 25 acres is permitted, but a development application has been submitted requesting a total of 760 units on 200 acres of property north and south of York Road, near Valley Road. An Official Plan amendment will be required to permit this development, and significant local opposition is anticipated.</p> <p>Prime agricultural land is another significant resource in close proximity to the Dundas Valley study area. Within the boundaries of the City of Hamilton, a total of 46,716 hectares (115,438 acres) has been identified as prime</p>				

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			<p>agricultural area. The prime area is located primarily in the former municipalities of Glanbrook and Ancaster. Although there is no land designated as agricultural in the Dundas Valley study area, there is prime agricultural land directly adjacent to the northwest corner of the study area at the intersection of 2nd Concession Road West and Highway 52. It falls with the "Protected Countryside" Greenbelt designation, which allows for agriculture and its associated uses, as well as mineral aggregate resource extraction, and recreation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Area Official Plan - awaits approval by the MMAH, the City of Hamilton is proceeding with the development of a new Official Plan for the urban areas of the City. One of the greatest challenges in preparing this plan is the need to accommodate the Growth Plan population and employment forecasts in a very constrained urban area. The City of Hamilton's significant natural areas and prime agricultural farmland—now protected at the provincial level—have severely limited the extent to which the City can accommodate new residential and employment growth in greenfield areas. For this reason, Hamilton will need to accommodate the majority of its population and employment growth by intensifying built-up areas. The proposed intensification of some built-up areas is being met with resistance due to the fear of ruining the character of existing neighbourhoods. Within the Dundas Valley study area, this is especially true of Ancaster. <p>An Urban Structure Report was recently made available in draft form, and was approved by Council to go out for public consultation in May 2008. City staff will report back on the results of the consultation in September 2008. The Report recognizes Dundas, Ancaster, and Meadowlands (all of which are contained within or adjacent to the Dundas Valley study area) as "Community Nodes." These nodes are intended "to provide services to residents within the former area municipalities and/or to several surrounding neighbourhoods in a mixed use environment." The Urban Structure Report recommends achieving Community Node densities of 100 persons and jobs per hectare, but it is noted that this is an average, and that this density will not be appropriate for all Community Nodes, most notably Ancaster, which has a 50 persons and jobs per hectare density target.</p> <p>Specific direction on mix of uses, heights, densities, built form and design will be further specified in detailed Secondary Plans for each Community Node, but there are several general policies, once the Urban Structure Report is approved by Council, that will apply to all Community Nodes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They should have a strong pedestrian focus, especially in the historic former downtowns (i.e., Dundas and Ancaster); ○ They should contain a broad mix of uses; ○ New development should respect the existing built form of adjacent neighbourhoods; ○ They should provided opportunities for active transportation; ○ Parking should be on street or at the rear of retail businesses, and reductions in parking requirements should be considered in order to encourage a broader range of uses and to support higher levels of 				

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			<p>transit service.</p> <p>The Urban Structure Report identifies several undeveloped areas within the Dundas Valley study area that have been included within the urban boundary, and are therefore could be considered for development in the future. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The parcel of land to the north of Sulphur Springs Road and south of Dundas Valley Conservation Area, bounded on the east by Wilson Street in Ancaster. This land has been designated residential. ○ A parcel of land adjacent to Davidson Boulevard south of the CN Rail Corridor in Dundas. ○ A parcel of land northeast of Valley Road, between York Road and Patterson Road (this parcel is adjacent to, but not in the study area; this is the area subject to the old Parkway Belt West Plan, and is under consideration for being added to the NEP area); ○ A parcel of land north of Mohawk Road in Ancaster, which is outside the built boundary but may be at risk for residential expansion because of adjacent residential areas. <p>The Urban Structure Report will help to inform the policies in the final Official Plan, for which the expected completion date is June 2009.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vision 2020 - Since its adoption in 1992, Vision 2020 has provided Hamilton with a vision of a strong and healthy community striving to be sustainable through simultaneous achievement of social, economic and environmental goals. There are four principles embedded in Vision 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fulfillment of human needs for peace, clean air and water, food, shelter, education, arts, culture, and useful and satisfying employment; ○ Maintenance of ecological integrity through careful stewardship, rehabilitation, reduction in wastes and protection of diverse and important natural species and systems; ○ Provision for self-determination through public involvement in the definition and development of local solutions to environmental and development problems; and, ○ Achievement of equity with the fairest possible sharing of limited resources among contemporaries and between our generation and that of our descendants. <p>The City of Hamilton and its many stakeholder groups have made efforts to respect these principles in decision-making processes. In recent years, the Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS) was subject to a “Triple Bottom Line” assessment to ensure that the plans to accommodate the provincial grow targets would achieve social, economic and environmental benefits for the entire Hamilton community. The Triple Bottom Line assessment was built on the principles of Vision 2020, and was most recently used to evaluate the Urban Structure Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The HCA’s 50-Year Vision and Strategy for the Dundas Valley will help to achieve multiple objectives in Vision 2020, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To improve understanding of agriculture concerns by urban dwellers, new comers to rural areas and local governments. 				

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To ensure The City of Hamilton is a community of people educated with regards to agriculture and healthy, sustainable food production and consumption patterns. ○ To develop and protect a system of interconnected natural areas which provides for the growth and development of native plants and wildlife and, where appropriate provides access for all citizens of The City of Hamilton. ○ To restore adequate habitat for fish and birds so that populations are healthy and productive. ○ To ensure the quality of groundwater throughout the City is suitable for drinking and is a source of pure recharge for surface waters. ○ To ensure that water quality is not affected by run-off and sedimentation due to changes in the landscape. ○ To encourage a shift in personal lifestyle and behaviour towards transportation choices that enhance personal health and fitness, save money, and have the lowest environmental cost. ○ To curb urban sprawl and suburban encroachment onto rural and agricultural lands. ○ To encourage development which makes efficient and economical use of infrastructure and services. ○ To minimize the environmental, social, and financial costs of new development to the residents of The City of Hamilton. ○ To preserve our natural and historical heritage. ○ To use alternative modes of movement, such as, walking, bicycling, and public transit every day. ○ To celebrate and preserve the diversity of our natural and cultural heritage and recognize the contribution of first nations people. ○ To develop cultural institutions, public facilities and parks and open space which inspire community pride and sense of place. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hamilton requires 26,500 new residential units required by provincial intensification rules. Dundas targeted for just under 100. Ancaster's downtown currently has a density of only 35 residents and employees per hectare and the consultants see 50 as a reasonable target. Many residents of Ancaster are opposed to this target, and are concerned that the unique small-town heritage characteristics of the town will be lost with intensification. Other residents are concerned about the transportation implications of intensification, especially the lack of public transit serving the community and the resultant increase in private vehicles and parking problems. <p>Dundas is experiencing mostly infill development, with 122 infill building permits issued in 2004, and only 11 Greenfield permits issued in the same year. The situation was reversed in Ancaster and Flamborough, where Greenfield building permits far out-numbered infill permits.²⁹⁹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ancaster and Dundas have already experienced some success in recent years selling condominium apartments to older households. Hamilton will capture an increasing share of household growth in GTA over the period from 2001 to 2031. This is likely to occur as supply constraints limit future development of ground-related housing in Burlington and some of this growth spills over into Hamilton, especially the former Town of Flamborough.³⁰⁰ 				

²⁹⁹ MKI, 2006. Hamilton Residential Intensification Study: Final Report. Accessed at <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/ronlyres/420C6349-F987-45C8-8343-9D3C10C8BC1F/0/HRISChpt4ResIntenseScenarios.pdf>

³⁰⁰ MKI, 2006. Hamilton Residential Intensification Study: Final Report. Accessed at <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/ronlyres/420C6349-F987-45C8-8343-9D3C10C8BC1F/0/HRISChpt4ResIntenseScenarios.pdf>

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local opposition to intensification in Ancaster³⁰¹ The City of Hamilton Site Plan Guidelines list the following secondary plans for Ancaster in its chapter on “Areas of Special Character.” The general site plan guidelines apply to these areas as well, but the secondary plans provide more detailed design guidance. No secondary plans apply to the former town of Dundas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copetown Secondary Plan Garner Neighbourhood Secondary Plan Meadowlands Mixed Use Area Secondary Plan Meadowlands Neighbourhood III Secondary Plan Meadowlands Neighbourhood V Secondary Plan Meadowlands Neighbourhood IV Secondary Plan Shaver Neighbourhood Secondary Plan Meadowbrook West Secondary Plan 				
TRANSPORTATION 9 Ensure towns are more pedestrian and bicycle friendly ³⁰⁹		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancaster is not walkable or bike friendly³¹⁰ Activities like biking and walking aren’t considered safe in many parts of the town, which makes it difficult to promote these forms of exercise and transportation³¹¹ Highways³¹² Traffic³¹³ Traffic and safety concerns on Mineral Springs Road that impact cyclists, hikers, and other drivers³¹⁴ 	LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005, the City of Hamilton completed an Urban Design Study for Hatt Street in Dundas to identify revitalization and strategic implementation strategies to guide future development of the Hatt Street area within downtown Dundas. The study identified a focus on strengthening pedestrian connections and accessibility with emphasis on incremental implementation. Following the completion of the study and adoption by Council, the City identified the need to complete a Master Transportation Plan for the Downtown Dundas area, following the completion of the City-wide Transportation Master Plan process.(source) The City of Hamilton initiated a Downtown Dundas Transportation Master Plan to further develop the recommendations made in the Hamilton Transportation Master Plan and the Hatt Street Urban Design Study. The study will outline short-, medium-, and long-term recommendations for Dundas encompassing improvements to the transportation network as well as a review of the impact of proposed developments in Downtown area. Neighbourhood traffic and transportation concerns will be identified and addressed through the master planning process to provide the City with a ‘roadmap’ for required improvements in the area.³¹⁵ Issues and constraints identified in the Downtown Dundas Transportation Master Plan include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Heritage Resources</i> – There are several buildings deemed to be of 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of bike paths in communities now (new City bike plan) Design guidelines for new developments Municipal policies and plans data 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform traffic surveys to find problem areas³¹⁸ Add or maintain foot trails and bike paths in the downtown core (in addition to green spaces)³¹⁹ Improve transit within the area and to the area from neighbouring municipalities³²⁰ Promote active modes of transportation like cycling and walking³²¹ Creation of “no car zones”³²² Improvements to roads³²³

³⁰¹ MKI, 2006. Hamilton Residential Intensification Study: Final Report. Accessed at <http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/420C6349-F987-45C8-8343-9D3C10C8BC1F/0/HRISChpt4ResIntenseScenarios.pdf>

³⁰⁹ SC1, SG1, CM1

³¹⁰ SG1

³¹¹ CM1 response to issues/threats

³¹² CS18,25,59

³¹³ ECJune2007, CS17,31,66

³¹⁴ ECJune2007

³¹⁵ Downtown Dundas Transportation Master Plan, <http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/CityDepartments/PublicWorks/CapitalPlanning/StrategicPlanning/StrategicEnvironmentalPlanningProjects/Downtown+Dundas+TMP.htm>

³¹⁸ CS33

³¹⁹ CM1 – what is valued now and to be maintained in future, CS66

³²⁰ SC1 response to what want in the future

³²¹ SC1, CMI – what is valued – Dundas is very walkable town as a result of its geographical boundaries.

³²² SC1 recommended action

³²³ CS36

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>historic significance along King Street and Hatt Street within the study area. The alternatives will consider and assess the degree of impact to the heritage resources;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Integration With Previously Identified Roadway Improvements</i> – The City of Hamilton Road Network Strategy identified roadway improvements between 2012 and 2021 that are anticipated to include: two-way left turn lanes along Governor’s Road between Creighton Drive and Bridlewood Drive and widening Governor’s Road from Creighton Drive to Osler Drive. It will be important to ensure that the planned improvements are considered in light of the Master Plan; o <i>Improved Pedestrian/Cycling Connections</i> – The Hatt Street Urban Design Study identified a focus on strengthening pedestrian connections and accessibility along the Hatt Street corridor. The alternatives identified will include opportunities for improving pedestrian access and accessibility throughout the study area. The availability and connectivity of cycling facilities and routes will also be reviewed as part of the master plan strategies and policies; o <i>Safety</i> – There have been a number of vehicular intersection and mid-block collisions within the downtown area. The alternatives will address safety concerns to ensure that the alternatives put forward will improve and enhance safety; o <i>Integration of Travel Modes</i> – It is evident, based on current available transit services, that there is a need to improve available transit services to/from the downtown area. A better choice of integrated travel modes, emphasizing active transportation and public transit should be supported.³¹⁶ <p>The progress of the Master Plan is currently between the Stakeholder Meeting #1 (May 2008) and the Stakeholder Meeting #2 (September 2008).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City has initiated the Ancaster Transportation Master Plan process to establish the requirements to address short, medium and long term transportation improvements (if necessary) for the Ancaster area. The Plan will build on the City-wide Transportation Master Plan. The study will provide the City with a plan to manage transportation needs safely, effectively, and cost efficiently while providing Ancaster residents with a range of transportation choices to meet their needs. Ultimately, the plan will result in a more liveable community that supports the mobility needs of its residents, businesses and visitors. The Notice of Commencement was released in late April/early May 2008. • The Hamilton Recreation Trails Master Plan includes a goal to “provide a safe cycling and pedestrian environment.” <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1976 DVCA MMP recommendation that the role of the automobile within the valley be minimized and that the expansion of the present road system be discouraged and public transit system be expanded to provide bus service to the valley³¹⁷ 				

³¹⁶ Downtown Dundas Transportation Master Plan, <http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/CityDepartments/PublicWorks/CapitalPlanning/StrategicPlanning/StrategicEnvironmentalPlanningProjects/Downtown+Dundas+TMP.htm>

³¹⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p2

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
10 Promote preservation of special character of rural roads through Valley ³²⁴	10.1 Address use and impacts of roads ³²⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road networks through the Valley³²⁶ Integration of highways³²⁷ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sulfur Springs Road³²⁸ Mineral Springs Road³²⁹ 	Roads impact assessment?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> keep transportation out of the Valley that its not a thru fare³³⁰
11 Provide or promote community transportation linkages ³³¹			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check for public transit routes to CA properties, escarpment and in between Dundas/Ancaster 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and frequency of public transit trips to CAs Number of rideshare programs 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a safe walking route up the Escarpment³³² Improve transit to conservation areas³³³
TOURISM 12 Promote sustainable tourism in the valley ³³⁴		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a lot of people know about the Valley³³⁵ Destructive tourism³³⁶ 	<p>LARGER PLANNING/PROTECTION CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenbelt Plan Protected Countryside Culture, Recreation and Tourism Goals - To enhance our urban and rural areas and overall quality of life by promoting the following matters within the Protected Countryside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the conservation and promotion of cultural heritage resources; Provision of a wide range of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation including facilities, parklands, open space areas, trails and water-based/shoreline uses that support hiking, angling and other recreational activities; and Enabling continued opportunities for sustainable tourism development.³³⁷ Hamilton Waterfalls and Cascades Research and Inventory Report – investigates waterfalls inventory and tourism potential. Recommendations provided in Appendix A, cultural history <p>DUNDAS VALLEY SPECIFIC CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism Hamilton Strategic Plan 2008-2010 aims to achieve 4 objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, implement and evaluate annual sales and marketing programs Support tourism industry development through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing tourism research and evaluation Facilitating access to industry-based customer service training, customer satisfaction assessments and visitor services support programs Undertake communications and education programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Canadian visitors to Hamilton: 3,023,530 (92%)³³⁹ Number of American visitors to Hamilton: 197,738 (6%)³⁴⁰ Other visitors: 72,830 (2%)³⁴¹ 437, 425 (61%) were on pleasure trips³⁴² 24% were participating in outdoor/sports activities, 22% sightseeing, 12% visiting historic sites, 10% visiting nation or provincial parks³⁴³ Visitor spending generates \$132,159,000 contributions to GDP, provide 2,384 local jobs³⁴⁴ Attendance by school groups at the DVCA trail centre: 3123³⁴⁵ Visitors to Griffin House are estimated at 50 people per open house (5/year)³⁴⁶ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism statistics Discussion with Tourism Hamilton to gather statistics for Dundas Valley (if available) Number of visitors to HCA properties including attendance by school groups at trail centres (data on left is 2005) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with Tourism Hamilton³⁴⁷ Provide more opportunities for eco-tourism³⁴⁸ 	

³²⁴ ECJune2007

³²⁵ SC1 response to what they Valley should be/include in the future

³²⁶ SC1, SG1

³²⁷ CS8

³²⁸ Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis, Niagara Escarpment Commission, 1985, p.8

³²⁹ Dundas Valley Viewshed Analysis, Niagara Escarpment Commission, 1985, p.8

³³⁰ SC1 recommended action

³³¹ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA

³³² CM1

³³³ CS27,28,30,67

³³⁴ SC1 response to what want in the future, SG1 response to what value now and recommended action

³³⁵ NECC interview

³³⁶ SC1, SG1, CS36

³³⁷ Greenbelt Plan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2005, p5

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build awareness amongst community members of the benefits and opportunities that tourism offers the community ▪ Ensure visitor programs exist to provide information to tourists ○ To develop and participate in strategic partnerships locally, regionally, nationally that enhance tourism opportunities in Hamilton³³⁸ 				
<p>Education and Stewardship</p> <p>13 To ensure the Valley's ecological features are valued by the community³⁴⁹</p>	<p>13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them³⁵⁰</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of information/respect for the ecosystem's carrying capacity³⁵¹ • Lack of appreciation for the inherent value of the Valley³⁵² • vandalism³⁵³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA partnership with Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Project (HHWSP) that provides watershed education and assistance to private landowners by encouraging them to take responsibility for restoring and maintaining the natural features of their properties and in some cases partnering for rehabilitation work³⁵⁴ • Natural area goal – develop a fund to assist agricultural and other private land owners with the cost of habitat restoration and water quality improvements projects³⁵⁵ • Strategic plan goal for conservation and awareness – strengthen public awareness of the important benefits of conservation through outdoor education and initiatives such as HCA's website and the Conservation Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain position as environmental educators for elementary, secondary, college and university students ○ Provide environmental information to urban areas ○ Continue to deliver HHWSP program to private landowners ○ Implement more community programs to increase public awareness of the importance, benefits and life-long appreciation of conservation ○ Continue to partner with organizations and agencies to deliver conservation programming and information to the public³⁵⁶ • HCA staff, conservation areas visitors, adjacent landowners and Friends of the DV must work together to continue monitoring the conditions of the various facilities in the DV.³⁵⁷ • Managed forest plan management schedule included for all parcels that defines management strategies including maintain trails, assess for thinning in next 5 years, assess for thinning at the end of the planting period, consider planting conifers, removing dying trees, monitoring for disease and insects, planting³⁵⁸ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1997 DVCA MMP 231 landowners adjacent to DV HCA lands (could be larger if single family lots are included) ○ 84 residential ○ 5 agricultural ○ 4 vacant lots³⁷⁵ • Average length of lot – 233m, min length 12.2m, max length 4,572m • 50% with fencing • 88 supported use as a passive day use recreational facility including multi-use trails and education • Land owners used the valley: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cycling 37% ○ Walking/jogging 95% ○ Cross country skiing 38% ○ Nature appreciation 70%³⁷⁶ • Borer's Falls few acts of vandalism³⁷⁷ • Borer's Falls Rock Chapel, RBG has educational displays related to Escarpment geology and other natural features. Better 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of HHWSP participants, actions taken • Number and types of landowner education programs and level of uptake, actions reported • Number and types of events HCA participating in to promote education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the public about how to be conscientious watershed residents³⁸⁰ • Promote an understanding of the uniqueness of the Carolinian ecosystem³⁸¹ • Educate residents about lesser known conservation area sites³⁸² • Educate residents about the many beneficial uses of local native plants in their area³⁸³ • Encourage land owners adjacent to conservation areas to make their properties more like conservation areas³⁸⁴ • Engage youth in conservation through

³³⁹ Leveraging Partnerships, Tourism Hamilton Marketing Plan, 2008, p.6

³⁴⁰ Leveraging Partnerships, Tourism Hamilton Marketing Plan, 2008, p.6

³⁴¹ Leveraging Partnerships, Tourism Hamilton Marketing Plan, 2008, p.6

³⁴² Leveraging Partnerships, Tourism Hamilton Marketing Plan, 2008, p.6

³⁴³ Leveraging Partnerships, Tourism Hamilton Marketing Plan, 2008, p.7

³⁴⁴ Leveraging Partnerships, Tourism Hamilton Marketing Plan, 2008, p.7

³⁴⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.8

³⁴⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Area Heritage Zone Report, 2005, p.9

³⁴⁷ SG1

³⁴⁸ CS48

³³⁸ Tourism Hamilton Strategic Plan 2008-2010, p4

³⁴⁹ SG1

³⁵⁰ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA

³⁵¹ TT, CS37

³⁵² SG1

³⁵³ EJune2007, CS13, 15

³⁵⁴ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA p.8

³⁵⁵ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.15

³⁵⁶ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.16

³⁵⁷ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p21

³⁵⁸ Managed Forest Plan, Williams & Associates, Forestry & Environmental Consultants Ltd, 2Sept 2007, p 27+

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spencer Creek Subwatershed Stewardship Action Plan objective to create awareness by educating the public on the environmental issues within their local sub watershed and, in turn, to improve the ecological functions of each sub watershed through restoration and rehabilitation initiatives.³⁵⁹ Spencer Creek to encourage stewardship provide specific signage on lower Spencer Creek regarding its significance to Cootes Paradise and Lake Ontario³⁶⁰ HHWSP identified the following stewardship programs and recommendations:³⁶¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Planting – one area of focus on define priority areas such as watershed plans and Carolinian corridors and provide directory for services to landowners³⁶² New Funding Initiatives - need for new or better incentive programs for private landowners to tap into to encourage good land and water stewardship projects and practices, need a strategic approach to land and water stewardship in the community to use to secure the right funding; Developing a local capital fund for projects is a possible solution. Private sector fundraising for enhancement and restoration projects could provide the immediate pool of dollars needed to fund projects and sustain the program while government grants are being sought. Action Plans include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby government to expand the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP) to include tax incentives for landowners who own natural areas that may not have official ‘designations’ but are undergoing enhancement and restoration works to bring them up to better quality standards. Lobby government for more sustainable and secure grant programs for private landowner stewardship. The HHWSP should work even more collaboratively with local conservation and stewardship groups to pool funds and resources for joint projects and programs. Prioritize activities (create a common vision with all stewardship partners) to help support stewardship activities – develop a strategic vision The HHWSP needs to strategize to use the private sector more to develop a seed capital fund for local projects – can then use government and private sector grants to supplement this fund and create a more sustainable and secure local funding program. A local fund of this kind will help even out the spikes in funding from government grant programs. Investigate the use of Endowments to run a local capital projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> trail marking is required.³⁷⁸ HHWSP has encouraged landowners in the HH watershed to improve approx 14 km of riparian habitat and protect approx. the habitat on both sides of another 97km stream. They have also encouraged landowners to improve approx 11ha of wetland habitat and 33 ha of forest habitat and protect approx 2,246ha of natural area which include forests in HH watershed³⁷⁹ 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> schools and Envirothon³⁸⁵ Add more signage in the Valley describing aspects of its natural history³⁸⁶ Create an Artist in Residence program for the HCA (ecology-based art)³⁸⁷ Create a new scenic map of the conservation area with points of beauty , vistas, historical, etc.³⁸⁸ Include guided hikes and interpretation (currently ltd attendance)³⁸⁹ Encourage the community to report any issues they see (fallen trees, erosion, damages, etc.)³⁹⁰ Stewardship Forum³⁹¹

³⁷⁵ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, 1997, p11 and Appendix A

³⁷⁶ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p11 and Appendix A

³⁷⁷ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.6

³⁸⁰ SC1

³⁸¹ NECC interview response

³⁸² CM1

³⁸³ CM1

³⁸⁴ EJune2007

³⁵⁹ Spencer Creek Subwatershed Stewardship Action Plans: Priority planning 2007-2011, PPT, p.4

³⁶⁰ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p97

³⁶¹ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.10

³⁶² “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.12

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<p>fund – i.e. of interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to tie strategic actions into marketing initiatives to effectively secure public and private sector funding programs for the Halton and Hamilton watersheds³⁶³ ○ Engaging Landowners/How to Better Communicate With Stewards/Community Action - Lawyer & realtor awareness to restriction on property development; Introduce levels of stewardship (bronze, silver, gold); · Create a Stewardship Club; use the Rural Non-Farm Stewardship Guide as a starting point for producing a similar guide in the HHWSP; create/sponsor a single clearing house for resources, opportunities, benefits, etc.; factsheets: a simple, yet valuable, resource³⁶⁴ ○ Engaging New Canadians - Involvement of children in outdoor education is important for future engagement, development of long term values, and creation of good environmental advocates when adults. · It is difficult to engage adults right now – hard to get them to come out to our meetings and projects – need them so they can help plan their own programs that work for their community. A number of barriers to participation by new Canadians, one of which is language/culture. Need a person to act as a cultural bridge to communicate to ethno cultural communities - e.g. informed consent from parents for children’s participation is more difficult due to language barriers. RBG has used individual meetings to go through form – you can’t just send a form home for a signature – RBG works with Settlement and Integration Services Organization (SISO) to do this – RBG pays a staff member to work at SISO on a part-time basis when running programs for new Canadians; Transportation is a barrier to participation by poor populations.³⁶⁵ ○ Priority Setting and Implementing Actions - need to identify short-term, mid-term and long-term priorities – and make these priorities visible to stakeholders; Priority setting workshops – engage funders, stakeholders, regulators, etc. to encourage their buying and establish integrated effort. Landowners would better appreciate where and how they fit into the strategy (what they can do). Need to enhance contact with participants to ensure sufficient turn-out and participation. Corporate sponsors with \$ and/or in-kind (realignment of creek – heavy equipment/materials etc.) in return for advertising their participation and maybe tax write-offs; Important to show progress through completed projects or by meeting targets (e.g. sub-watershed is restored)³⁶⁶ 				

³⁷⁸ Borer’s Falls Conservation Area Management Plan, 2002, p.9

³⁷⁹ Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management plan, 2008, p18-19

³⁸⁵ SG1 response to what is needed in the future

³⁸⁶ CM1

³⁸⁷ CM1

³⁸⁸ CM1

³⁸⁹ CS36

³⁹⁰ EJune2007

³⁹¹ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.35

³⁶³ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.13

³⁶⁴ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.15

³⁶⁵ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.16

³⁶⁶ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.18

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Instilling a Stewardship Ethic – one rec - Attempt to develop a locally relevant ecological footprint model³⁶⁷ o How Do We Continue To Engage and Involve Watershed Stewards/ Engaging - Landowners are interested in having people come to look and learn from their properties and their experiences so develop a tour or event to allow this sharing to happen landowner to landowner³⁶⁸ o Demonstration Sites/Education/ How Do We Engage Public Agency Landowners to Be Good Stewards - Tour landowners’ properties too in addition to public lands. Many landowners will be proud to show others their land e.g. the Emsons. In developing demonstration sites start with those that are relatively easy to initiate and build on that concept over time. Benefit to having demonstration sites on CA lands is that the foot traffic is already there to see what is being promoted. Have stewards do a demonstration project on public land. Utilize churches and community centre locations for demonstration projects but also to invite small groups together to present information to them and learn what their needs are³⁶⁹ o Is Protecting Natural Ecosystems Possible In The Long Run? - We need to develop strategic vision that all partners buy into and that links with recognized existing provincial and regional strategies (NCC Conservation Blue Print, Carolinian Canada Big Picture, etc.) The vision should go beyond stewardship – permanent protection of key natural areas is essential to meet long-term goals – set targets for how much and where, work with landowners. Need to look at Hamilton/Halton’ s balance sheet using a triple bottom line accounting approach – environmental and social costs & benefits as well as economic³⁷⁰ o Adapting to Climate Change - Climate change must be part of our education message; stress positive as well as negative. Every action no matter how small will help. Draw parallels to everyday life experiences. Don’t wait for exact science or perfect solutions. Enact the right restoration actions for the right areas i.e. the right species for the right place³⁷¹ o Measuring Success - “Index of Watershed Recovery” was suggested. This would be similar to an Index of Biotic Integrity used for fishery improvements. But how do you integrate measures / matrix of stewardship actions with ecological outcomes? Measures of program monitoring may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of landowners contacted ▪ Promoting stewardship in community ▪ Trees planted or other specific project types ▪ Measures of performance monitoring (ecological success) ▪ Increases in riparian buffers ▪ Forest community increases ▪ Water quality improvements (perhaps look at bugs under rocks not physical chemical parameters)³⁷² o Invasive Plant Species - Need more information when it comes to preferred control methods: 				

³⁶⁷ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.20

³⁶⁸ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.22

³⁶⁹ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.24

³⁷⁰ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.29

³⁷¹ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.34

³⁷² “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.36

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Herbicides - how they should be applied, negative impacts to the natural environment ▪ Active cutting ▪ Pulling out – maybe more destructive than actually beneficial to the environment ▪ Increase awareness of the common invasive species that landowners may come in contact with when or if they live near a natural area (woodland) ▪ Increase awareness of negative impacts that can occur if dumped into a significant / natural area³⁷³ ○ How Do We Engage More Landowners to Undertake Restoration Projects? - better engage landowners and included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subsidies ▪ Justify Restoration ▪ Awards Ceremonies ▪ Displays/Kiosks ▪ Newspaper - Showcase local projects ▪ Recognize Landowners who “Do Nothing” ▪ Endowment Fund ▪ Promote Alternatives to City Laws ▪ Demonstration Projects ▪ Restoration Database ▪ Photo Library ▪ Workshops/Courses³⁷⁴ • The Woodland Conservation By-Law (R00-054) regulates tree cutting and destruction in woodlands of 2 acres (0.81 hectares) or more in size. The purpose of this by-law is to protect the woodlands throughout the City of Hamilton against abusive forest cutting and destruction and to encourage good forestry practices that will result in sustainable, healthy, and productive forests. This by-law is enforced through a Memorandum of Agreement with the HCA. Enforcement officers for the Woodland Conservation By-Law are appointed through a by-law. 				
	13.2 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough ³⁹²		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue and strengthen HCA role in providing sound environmental planning advice to public and private sectors³⁹³ 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • needs more road signs along major routes³⁹⁴ • more publicity for parks and events³⁹⁵ • send out newsletters to community about key issues, events³⁹⁶
	13.3 Provide outdoor education		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic plan goal: provide high quality, diverse conservation areas to promote greater physical activities, health and well-being for all and to act as tourist destinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVCA offers over 30 outdoor environmental education adventures for students in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 programs – what are they (check materials from Beth, 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more children’s events/activities⁴⁰¹

³⁷³ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.38

³⁷⁴ “Changing Minds, Practices and Landscapes: How Do We Collaborate To Create A Healthy Watershed?” Report of Proceedings, Hamilton-Halton Watershed Stewardship Program, 2007, p.39-40

³⁹² SG1 vision of the Valley in the future

³⁹³ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.14

³⁹⁴ CS4

³⁹⁵ CS21

³⁹⁶ EJune2007

⁴⁰¹ CS1,30,48

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
	opportunities ³⁹⁷ s		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain, restore and enhance existing outdoor recreation infrastructure to ensure their role as profit centres and HCA's main financial engine ○ Restore and expand the Dundas Valley Trail Centre in partnership with Giant's Rib Discovery Centre³⁹⁸ 	<p>Grades 1-12. Weekend programs are also available for special interest groups³⁹⁹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dundas Valley Volunteer Patrol provides information and assistance to trail users⁴⁰⁰ 	<p>website, and confirm with Sandy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Level of participation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add more outdoor education programs to school curriculum⁴⁰² ● Promote youth education opportunities that address consumerism, sustainable land use practices (transportation and agriculture)⁴⁰³ ● Preserve the Escarpment centre⁴⁰⁴
	13.4 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents ⁴⁰⁵						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Incorporate idea of a living museum that serves the Dundas and surrounding areas, while promoting public understanding of conservation, preservation and nature⁴⁰⁶
<p>Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies</p> <p>14To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley⁴⁰⁷</p>	14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission) ⁴⁰⁸	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is also a challenge to determine who has responsibility with all of the agencies involved, and that there is too much reliance on voluntary initiatives for stream stewardship⁴⁰⁹. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2006 Strategic Plan goal: provide high quality, diverse conservation areas to promote greater physical activities, health and well-being for all and to act as tourist destinations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase marketing activities to attract more visitors to the conservation areas ○ Explore partnership opportunities among public and private sectors for outdoor recreation and healthy living initiatives⁴¹⁰ <p>From our 2007 statements, HCA's self-generated revenue in the form of user fees and other revenues represented approximately 50% of expenditures. If you only want user fees, then it would be approximately 31%.⁴¹¹</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current revenue generation activities (Strategic plan/Business plan, 2007) ● Level of revenue generated in comparison to operating costs (user fees represented approx. 50% of expenditures, if only 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establish responsibilities between entities caring for the Valley⁴¹² ● Continue relationship with RBG⁴¹³

³⁹⁷ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, EJune2007

³⁹⁸ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.15

³⁹⁹ Dundas Valley brochure

⁴⁰⁰ Dundas Valley brochure

⁴⁰² CS76

⁴⁰³ CM1

⁴⁰⁴ EJune2007

⁴⁰⁵ TT, CM1

⁴⁰⁶ CS8, 10

⁴⁰⁷ TT, SG1

⁴⁰⁸ SG1 – response to what valued now - revenue generation is important with respect to the HCA - The Dundas Valley cannot be gated and admission charged. Yet economic health is central to the overall health of the community.

⁴⁰⁹ SG1

⁴¹⁰ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.15

⁴¹¹ Info from BrianRodgers, secretary-treasurer/finance manager HCA – from email

⁴¹² SG1

⁴¹³ CS48

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
					user fees, approx. 31%)		
	14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands ⁴¹⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of funding⁴¹⁵ 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same Identify funding sources 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure Provincial financial support – grants or awards⁴¹⁶ When HCA acquires properties of cultural or historical significance, it should partner with historical groups to ensure protection (museums)⁴¹⁷
	14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and implement ⁴¹⁸						
	14.4 To bring additional land into protection ⁴¹⁹	Mechanisms should be put into place through which residents can play a greater role in the development of their communities. There is little faith that municipal politicians are responsive to their constituents ⁴²⁰	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2006 Strategic plan for natural areas and built heritage protection – objective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize potential land acquisitions, based on considerations such as endangered habitat and species, connections, corridors, core areas and waterfalls Acquire high priority properties as they become available⁴²¹ 1976 DVCA MMP recommendations that a program for land acquisition and development control be carried out in the valley to ensure that the land use concepts set out in the DV Master development Plan are upheld⁴²² Priority areas for land acquisition are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infill properties to solidify holdings in DV Significant ESA as identified in 1993 Natural Areas Inventory or ANSIs identified by MNR or Hamilton Wentworth Greenway Strategy⁴²³ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Land ownership % (HCA, residential, industrial, commercial), current lands available for purchase, purchasing priorities, Number and size of collaborative arrangements (conservancy, easement, land trust, lease, etc) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate alternative methods to land acquisition (e.g. land easements or land trusts including with the Ontario Realty Corporation⁴²⁴ Encourage landowners of valley properties continue to donate or sell their lands or participate in stewardship

⁴¹⁴ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA, ECJune2007

⁴¹⁵ CS4

⁴¹⁶ ECJune2007, Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.16

⁴¹⁷ ECJune2007

⁴¹⁸ CM1

⁴¹⁹ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA identified land acquisition and disposal, ECJune2007, SC1, CS10,20,21,49

⁴²⁰ CM1

⁴²¹ Leading Conservation Forward 2007-2011, HCA, p.14

⁴²² Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p2

⁴²³ Dundas Valley Conservation Areas Master Management Plan, p30

⁴²⁴ SC1

Goals	Strategic Directions	Threats	Current State (Policies, Programs and Plans)	Current State (data)	Data required	Maps E= existing R= required	Actions
							<p>programs to contribution to protection⁴²⁵</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate easements⁴²⁶ • Partner with Nature Conservancy Canada which would secure lands and raise profile of the Valley nationally⁴²⁷ • Incur no debt to purchase lands⁴²⁸

⁴²⁵ ECJune2007, CS10

⁴²⁶ June 2007 Consultation backgrounder by HCA

⁴²⁷ Partner with Nature Conservancy Canada

⁴²⁸ ECJune2007

5 Appendix F: Task Team Meeting Minutes and Corresponding Presentations

Task Team

As part of the Strategy organizational process, three groups were formed to provide multiple avenues for collaboration and input throughout the study.

The Task Team consisted of Hamilton Conservation Authority staff members and as well as Lura Consulting's project team. This team provided direction, vision and strategies throughout the process. All meeting minutes follow.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Task Team Meeting #1

DATE: February 29, 2008, 1:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell, Manager, Design & Development
Joan Bell, Manager of Grants and Special
Projects
Susan Hall, Lura
Tony Horvat, Director of Land Management
Sally Leppard, Lura

Bruce Mackenzie, Manager of Customer
Service and Operations
Kathy Menyes, Director of Watershed
Planning & Engineering
Steve Miazga, CAO

1. Summary of Key Actions

- Lura to develop detailed workplan (mid-March)
- Sandy to provide schedule of all Board of Directors, WMAB (Water Management Advisory Board) and CAAB (Conservation Areas Advisory Board) meetings for 2008 (week of March 3rd)
- Lura to develop a First Nations strategy as part of the Stakeholder and Community Engagement and Outreach Plan (mid-March)
- Lura to develop a comprehensive stakeholder list for consideration for the Stakeholder Group for review by the Task Team (mid-March)
- Lura to review City reports on the Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough Councils (mid-March)
- Steve to check on the status of the community councils and how we should be involving them in the process (i.e.: through Steering Committee, etc.) (as soon as possible)
- Kathy to provide, including official plan map overlay, map of land ownership and source protection planning – watershed characterization report (as soon as possible)
- Lura to provide a list of background materials required (week of March 3rd)
- Lura to develop a contract and send to Sandy (week of March 3rd)
- Task Team members to develop proposed membership for the Steering Committee building on the list below (week of March 3rd)

2. Introductions

- Each of the members of the Task Team introduced themselves and identified their division's key responsibilities

3. Overview of Proposal, including:

- **Review goals, objectives, and desired outcomes**
- **Review of organizational design**
- Sally provided an overview of Lura's proposal. She emphasized that it is based on a strategic planning and sustainability planning framework
- She reviewed the organizational structure, process framework, and general timeline for delivery
- She indicated that there is a Steering Committee composed of agency level representatives, a Stakeholder group to engage key stakeholders, and at least 2 formal points of consultation and input from the general public
- Sally indicated our first task is to develop a detailed workplan
- Joan asked if the strategy will address different elements (e.g. biodiversity, education, etc.). Sally confirmed that different elements will be addressed and gaps could be analyzed using a SWOT analysis approach. All elements will be related back to the vision statement

4. Overview of local context, key stakeholders, issues and opportunities

a. Key Stakeholders

- The group identified a number of key stakeholders that should be engaged in the process and considered for the stakeholder group, including:
 - Dundas Valley Coalition
 - Royal Botanical Gardens
 - Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario
 - Niagara Escarpment Commission
 - Hamilton Naturalist Club
 - BARC or BAIT
 - First Nations, including Mississauga of New Credit, Six Nations and Huron
 - others
- The group also discussed the inclusion of Canada Parks and Ontario Parks and determined that they could be considered later in the process
- Similarly the group indicated that the MTO mid-Peninsula Corridor project team should be kept up to date about the project
- Lura committed to developing a First Nations strategy as part of the Stakeholder and Community Engagement and Outreach Plan
- Lura to review City reports on the Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough Councils status available on the City of Hamilton website
- Lura to develop a comprehensive stakeholder list for consideration for the Stakeholder Group for review by the Task Team

- Steve committed to check on the status of the community councils and how we should be involving them in the process (i.e.: through Steering Committee, etc.)

b. Steering Committee

- The group identified a number of key individuals that could be engaged on the Steering Committee, including:
 - City of Hamilton Councillor
 - Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough Council representatives
 - CAAB representative(s)
 - WMAB representative(s)
 - City of Hamilton Planning Staff
 - City of Hamilton Works and/or Parks Staff
 - City of Hamilton Vision 2020 staff
 - Places to Grow (PIR) representative
 - Alan Foster, PhD – environmental educator, former TRCA staff member
- The group indicated that memos should be provided to CAAB and WMAB to request their participation on the Steering Committee and identify who will participate
- The group suggested that the 2 advisory groups should receive a presentation in the fall, before the strategy is presented to the Board at the end of the year
- Lura suggested that regular updates to CAAB, WMAB, and the Board be included on their agendas and that Lura will integrate the meeting timing into the detailed workplan
- The Task Team to develop a proposed membership for the Steering Committee

c. Key issues and opportunities

- Tony indicated that we need to consider July/August as low activity times in preparing the detailed plan
- Sally indicated that car pooling options would be included in the CEO plan
- The group identified the Town Hall in Dundas as a potentially good meeting site

Provision of Background Information/materials

- Sandy provided number of background materials including master plans, and other planning documents for Lura
- Kathy indicated there are others that she can provide, including official plan map overlay, map of land ownership and source protection planning – watershed characterization report
- She indicated that information is also available on:
 - Terrestrial – nature counts

- Water quality on the Spencer reports
- Benthic and fish study reports
- Others
- Lura to provide a list of background materials required

Desire Types of Final Product

- The group indicated that they want to final Strategy to:
 - Be a 50-year legacy
 - Be cognizant of carry capacity and biodiversity needs
 - Protect lands
 - Recognizes users equally with residents/owners
 - Be prepared to address where the Valley will be from a flora perspective and impacts/mitigation plans for pests/invasive species
 - Include an executive summary
 - Be an attractive final product that can be used for a variety of promotional purposes
 - Identify other projects/enrichments/awards and funding opportunities
 - Bring higher profile of the valley within the Dundas Valley

Contract

- Lura to develop a contract and send to Sandy

Other Business

- Sandy is “one window” for communications to HCA, Susan is “one window” for communications to Lura, with cc to Sally on all emails.

Meeting Adjourned

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Task Team Meeting #2

DATE: April 7, 2008, 1:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster,
ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell, Manager, HCA

Steve Miazga, CAO, HCA

Kathy Menyes, Director of Watershed Planning & Engineering

Tony Horvat, Director of Land Management

Garnet Cowsill, Manager of Marketing & Communications

Joan Bell, Manager of Grants and Special Projects

Susan Hall, Lura Consulting

Kim Peters, Lura Consulting

Regrets:

Bruce Mackenzie, Manager of Customer Service and Operations

1. Summary of Key Actions

- Steve Miazga to investigate having representation from the Community Council(s) on the Steering Committee. He will contact Russ Powers.
- Lura to revise project organizational chart and clarify reporting relationships between Task Team, Steering Committee, HCA staff, and the Board of Directors (i.e., ensure that recommendations from Steering Committee are filtered through staff before going on to Board of Directors)
- Kathy to ensure study area graphics are sent to Lura (PDF format). Study area map to include major roads to help public orient themselves
- Garnet Cowsill will review events associated with 50th Anniversary celebrations and other community activities and advise if suitable for cross-promoting Dundas Valley plan.
- Kathy to speak to school boards and outdoor education specialists (Beth) regarding opportunities for youth engagement in plan. linkages with Dundas Valley.
- Task Team to review the following and provide comments and feedback by Monday, April 14th:
 - Community Engagement and Communications Plan,
 - Agenda and materials for first Steering Committee meeting

- Mandate, letter of invitation and agenda for first meeting of Stakeholder Group
- Agenda and materials for community meeting #1

- Steve and Sandy to investigate additional members for Steering Committee, including appropriate City of Hamilton staff at the management level
- Lura to prepare information package for Steering Committee to be circulated in advance of the first meeting
- Sandy to send HCA stakeholder list, then Lura to integrate two lists, noting additions and changes made during meeting.
- Lura to determine availability for first Steering Committee meeting
- Steve Miazga to determine availability of Dundas Town Hall when he speaks to Russ Powers.
- Lura and Task Team to finalize dates for Stakeholders Group meeting (April), first community meeting (May), and Task Team meeting #3 (July)

2. Community Engagement & Communications Plan

- Need to ensure that messaging is not limited to “protection and conservation” and recognize that the plan will also address human and economic activity.
- Legitimate stakeholders will be identified by HCA, the municipality, and Lura’s past project experience.
- Stakeholders will be invited to participate on the Stakeholder Group through a letter of invitation issued by the HCA (Lura has provided a draft).
- HCA website can be used for posting meeting notices and minutes and surveys. HCA staff can post information on the website with one or two day turnaround time. Longer turn-around time required for surveys: 2 to 3 weeks.
- Can also make use of the “My Hamilton” portal run by the municipality
- Print and broadcast media can be used for interviews and public service announcements, but there is insufficient budget to buy media time.
- There are many opportunities for cross-promoting the Dundas Valley plan at 50th anniversary celebrations and other events over the summer. However, resource constraints exist and there is a need to be very strategic in cross-promoting, i.e., focus only on events and opportunities in close proximity to the study area.
- It was suggested that a common brochure and comment form be developed for use at all appropriate events.
- Summer camps and activities are key opportunities to engage youth
- Lura clarified that they will design and write public engagement materials, but HCA will be responsible for printing and distributing them.

3. Steering Committee

- Members identified to date: Phil Kreiker, Ann Reddish, Steve Miazga (chairperson), Russ Powers, two City of Hamilton staff (management level preferred), 2 to 3 Community Council members: total of 10 members. Steve and Sandy to determine additional members.
- HCA staff confirmed that Steering Committee meetings will take place during regular business hours (late in the day), and will need to occur during the summer months.
- First Steering Committee meeting will occur the week of April 21 or 28th
- Dates to avoid: Thursdays, April 22nd. Wed 23rd was suggested as a good date.
- A media release for announcing the Steering Committee should be prepared once membership is finalized
- Lura to provide purpose, mandate, terms of reference information for Steering Committee and provide in a package in advance of the first meeting.
- At the first meeting, the Steering Committee will be asked to provide feedback on the Stakeholder Group and ensure all significant stakeholders are identified.
- Task Team to provide feedback on draft agenda for first Steering Committee meeting by Monday, April 14th.

4. Stakeholder Group

- Changes and additions to stakeholders list were noted; Lura to revise based on suggestions and include Sandy's list.
- Lura to draft letter of invitation but HCA to send out;
- Dundas Town Hall was suggested as a location for the first meeting. Steve Miazga to determine availability of Town Hall when he speaks to Russ Powers.
- First meeting week of May 5th. Lura has provided draft agenda. Task Team to submit comments on draft agenda by Monday, April 14th.
- Need to ensure that environmental/outdoor education advocates are included in the Stakeholders Groups. These might include: school boards, Redeemer College, French language school boards.

5. Community Meeting #1

- Draft agenda and materials were provided by Lura. Task Team members to provide feedback by Monday, April 14th.
- The event should be promoted as a family event with lots of visuals. Need to avoid May 10/11 weekend due to Buskerfest and Mothers' Day. Weekend of May 18th is the long weekend: avoid.
-

6. Vision and Key Messages Brainstorming

- Task Team members were asked to provide their ideas on the following questions:

Vision

- *What vision do you have for the Dundas Valley in 50 years from now? What 2-3 words would you use to describe your vision?*
 - Urban wilderness
 - Green
 - Peaceful
 - Oasis
 - Biodiverse
 - Health active community
 - Sustainable ecosystem: people too!
 - Large size: 4 to 5 times the size of Central Park
 - Biosphere Reserve: protect biodiversity, microcosm of the biosphere reserve. Transitional areas, too.
 - Cooperative management

Key Messages

- What do you want the Strategy development process to be known for? What do you want the strategy itself to be known for?
 - Process is open, fair, inclusive, transparent
 - Practical guidance for 50 years of development
 - Visionary, creative, enlightening
 - Award-winning
 - Practical in the sense that people know what to do with it and how to get involved.
 - Science-based as well as community-based
 - HCA-led but community-owned strategy
 - Looking for leadership in the community
 - Sustainable, balanced
 - Ground-breaking. Best practice, model for others
 - Complementary to Royal Botanical Gardens study

Benefits

- What are the benefits of the 50-year Strategy to the community?
 - Gives us a sustainable environmental framework for growth, future land donations
 - Sense of continuity
 - Reassurance: pave or preserve?
 - HCA will be here to protect it.

- Confidence, growth, sustainability (building on continuity)
- Will result in social, economic, environmental health
- Provide overall guidance for all development in the valley. There already with the Greenbelt plan?
- High-level framework for action
- Framework for change management: being able to react to changes when you don't even know what they will be
- Policy position to respond from.
- Education: process of involving the community, ownership over final strategy.
- Will also ask what issues are: what will need to overcome
- Development concerns: don't know what market conditions will be. How to address this?

7. Next Meeting Date

- Avoid both Tues and Thurs.
- Next Task Team meeting will be scheduled for July.

N.B. Approval or review via email of some materials will be required in advance of the next Task Team meeting.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Task Team Meeting #3

DATE: September 24, 2008, 1:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell, Manager
Tony Horvat, Director of Land Management
Garnet Cowsill, Manager of Marketing & Communications
Joan Bell, Manager of Grants and Special Projects
Susan Hall, Lura Consulting
Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting

Regrets:

Bruce Mackenzie, Manager of Customer Service and Operations
Kathy Menyes, Director of Watershed Planning & Engineering
Steve Miazga, CAO, HCA

1. Summary of Action Items

- Lura to revise the upcoming events listing to include suggestions put forward by Task team
- Lura prepare a short proposal 1-2 paragraphs on what we want to go and what need to get done for enhanced community dialogue
- Joan to add “Dundas Valley update” on Foundation agenda
- Sally, Joan and Sandy to discuss enhanced community dialogues to determine path forward
- Lura to revise the draft Vision, goals and strategic direction statements based on feedback
- Tony to lead task team review to indicate what plans/ data / maps available from detailed current state tables– on or before October 3rd
- Task team to conduct SWOT analysis and send to Lura – October 3rd, 10:30 am.
- Lura to send Sandy SWOT analysis instructions.
- HCA to provide study area map that shows names and acreage of HCA land, ESAs including Borer’s Falls, Dundas Valley, Lower Spencer Creek, Tiffany Creek and major roads for upcoming meetings
- Lura to update and circulate revised project schedule

2. Agenda Review

- Task team members added timeline for project to the agenda

3. Progress Highlights – Dundas Valley

Susan provided an overview of the outreach activities that occurred over the summer as well as highlighted events attended, surveys received (81) and key messages from participants.

Task team members had the following feedback on the list of upcoming events:

- Giant's Rib trail talks – every month – would be a good opportunity
- 50th Anniversary Gala – no opportunity at this event
- Task Team members also suggested a number of stakeholder specific meetings that could occur to enhance the outreach program, including:
- October 5th – Open House, afternoon at a home, invite 60 people. 30-40 attendance Judy Love, Ex. Assistant and Joan Bell x112
- Hamilton EcoNet – Acts locally (check this) Green drinks might be a consideration. Contact: Laurel Harrison
- City of Hamilton- Environmental conference in late October, early November – ad was placed in the paper
- Conversation with community – coordinate with Lynda L, Hamilton Community Foundation and Jenn Henneberry (sp?)
- Hamilton Naturalist Club- meeting every month.
- Day Area Leadership Program – September to spring. – Agenda topics for leadership could be case study on environment session pressure on the environment.
- Dundas Valley. Ratepayers association
- Dundas Valley Hamilton Coalition (contacts: Amy Cross / Patrick / Jillian Shaver)
- Sally, Joan, and Sandy to discuss enhanced community dialogue opportunities
- Sally clarified that meeting with these types of organizations is an important aspect of the plan, if the HCA is looking at the future of the Valley as a whole and not just HCA lands. Sandy clarified that this is the case as identified in the original TOR

4. Draft Vision Statement

Task team members provided the following recommendations and considerations:

- Look at the Biosphere reserve model that includes some identification that there are different levels of protection.
- Term “prototype” should be removed.
- Bring IUCN to local level.

- Term ‘urban wilderness’ - consider rewording to recognize that the Valley is at the edge of the urban and wilderness environments in the heart of Hamilton.

5. Draft Goals and Strategic Directions

Task team members provided the following recommendations and considerations:

- Goal 1 - Need to recognize that systems change over time when identifying goals for ‘protection’ or ‘preservation’
 - Remove ‘beauty’ from goal
 - 1.3 Consider change from ‘preserve’ to ‘protect’
 - 1.3 include “selected” to vistas statement
 - 1.3 include a definition of “Escarpment”
 - “1.5 *Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley*” and “1.7 *Create a strategy to confront climate change*” are linked because not as cold winter we are getting more invasives.
 - 1.6 Preserve and protection the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls. Instead of ‘preserve’ change to ‘protect and enhance’
 - 1.7 Create a strategy to confront climate change reword to “Monitor climate to develop adaptive strategies to address climate change”
- Goal 2 - Cultural Heritage -. Could be lead by others with better skills.
 - 2.1 Recognize the rich history of First Nations people within the Valley. Change ‘First Nations’ to ‘Indigenous /aboriginal/ First Nations’
 - 2.3 Promote local history among adults and youth. Remove “adults and youth”.
- Goal 4. *Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all but managed*” - include “accessibility for all ages (where feasible) based on landscape”.
- Goal 5 – add a new strategic direction - 5.2 Add neighbours to environmental sensitive areas.
 - Add “environmentally sensitive” to #6, #7
- Goal 7. To encourage agriculture and local food production
 - Look at Watershed Stewardship program and that there are impacts to water.
 - Check language of Greenbelt language to see if alignment
 - Lead by example for land use/water quality.
 - “Use stewardship Best Practices’ to encourage agriculture and local food production.
 - 7.1 Restore appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle. Change ‘restore’ to “support”
- Goal 8. To investigate and promote development that is compatible with the natural environment. Instead of “investigate and promote development” changed to “to Encourage”
 - 8.1 Focus intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development. “focus” is changed to “support”

- Goal 8 HCA lead, but encouraging partners.
- Goal 9 – add “To encourage”
- Goal 10 – consider removing ‘special character’
- Goal 13 - Add new strategic directions for education around trail etiquette and promote / consider demonstration sites.
 - 13.2 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough. Add “Hamilton”
- Goal 14
 - 14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and implement. Add “and science”
- Sally noted that we need to add marketing but could be in implementation plan.
- Review all goal and strategic direction statements to identify those that are lead by HCA and those where “encourage”
- Joan suggested we put together a short proposal 1-2 paragraphs on what we want to go and what need to get done for enhanced consultation and that this be added as “Dundas Valley update” on Foundation agenda.

6. Highlights of Current State

Joan and Garnett had to leave the meeting early, so current state was not fully presented. Susan indicated that the briefing document provides the status of the current state in broad terms, and that there may be additional program, plans, data or maps available at HCA that we had not received yet. She asked Task team members to review the detailed current state document (Tony to lead with Sandy) and identify any missing components.

- Task team to review and indicate what plans/ data / maps available and conduct SWOT analysis.
- Email Sandy SWOT analysis with instruction – Task Team to do by October 3rd and send summary of discussion.
- Tony to review detailed current state by October 3rd at latest
- Sally suggested that HCA consider a live program database on website from community. Garnett indicated this is good timing because they are revamping the website.
- HCA to identify maps required– connectivity and include where development pressures can occur.
- HCA to provide study area map that shows names and acreage of HCA land, ESAs including Borer’s Falls, Dundas Valley, Lower Spencer Creek, Tiffany Creek and major roads

7. Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group meetings

Susan reminded Task team members that the Steering committee meeting is being held on Sept 30th and the Stakeholder group meeting is being held on October 8th. She asked Task team members to

review the briefing document to identify any red flags prior to distribution. Task team members indicated that it was fine provided reflects discussion of Task team and has 'draft' for discussion on it.

8. Timeline

- Lura to update timeline send to task team.
- Task team members indicated that the public meeting should be held the first week of December or earlier, and will require a lot of publicity.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Task Team Meeting #4

DATE: October 28, 2008, 1:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell

Steve Miazga

Judy Love

Tony Horvat

Kathy Menyes

Joan Bell

Bruce Mackenzie

Garnet Cowsill

Sandy Bell

Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting

Natalia Hahn, Lura Consulting

Michelle Hrabí, Lura Consulting

I. Purpose(s)

- To report on progress to date
- To refine revised draft Vision, goal and strategic direction statements
- To identify actions
- To discuss implementation framework

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Sally Leppard of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Overview of Key Action Items from Meeting #3

Sally went over the Key Action Items from Meeting #3 and gave everyone an update.

Funding: Joan Bell indicated that funding was approved for up to 8 community dialogue meetings.

Project overview: Sally indicated to the TT members that the vision, goals and strategic directions are in the process of being amended. There has also been a lot of feedback from SG and SC meetings and that there was a SWOT analysis conducted with both groups.

4. Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

4.1 Review of Process Framework

Sally provided a review of the process framework and indicated that the vision, goals and strategic directions have been reviewed by the SG and SC. Sally indicated that Lura will be reviewing the feedback received from the SG and SC with the TT. Sally mentioned that there was excellent feedback received from SG and SC; a shortened vision statement, an idea to divide vision statement into a vision statement AND a mission statement, and so forth.

4.2 Task Team Concerns

Members of the Task Team addressed some of their current concerns with Sally Leppard:

- Sandy said he is not completely sure about certain aspects of the Strategy since they're not directly related to the program (Example: statements about local business, agriculture, etc.).
- Another member emphasized the need for a strong brochure in terms of community development to help promote good environmental practices in the future.
- Steve addressed his concerns on how the HCA will fit into the 50-Year Strategy.
- One member inquired on whether the Steering Committee agreed that the boundaries would change.

Sally addressed the fact that all of the above concerns will be addressed during the meeting

- There was no support for changing the community boundaries (Sandy).

4.3 Community Outreach Event State

Natalia provided a summary of the Community Outreach update and indicated that:

- There's been difficulty getting out to events;
- Often vendors are full or won't allow Lura to set up a booth; and the alternative solution that has been put forth is going out to talk to people on the street.

4.4 Upcoming Outreach Events

The Task Team members discussed upcoming Outreach Events. One member indicated that the Day Area Leadership Program would be a good group to receive feedback from. Another member also indicated the Bruce Trail Awards event.

The following concerns were addressed by the TT about community outreach events:

- Increased public contact will not benefit us further at this point;
- The major points have been covered off;
- It plays more as a justification role to ensure people of what we're doing and where we're going with the project;
- Numbers are not going to give it more value but it will give us an idea of what's more important based on numbers;

- Perhaps it would be more valuable in terms of the process to draft the vision and strategy which will then go out to the public at the end of this month and give them a chance to say what's missing; and
- Perhaps do not do the November events but focus on the materials as a strong feedback.

Sally gave the following feedback:

- The purpose of community outreach is to help people be aware of what's going on with the project;
- She understands what is being said in terms of the feedback being negligible; and
- Suggested that perhaps there should be less emphasis on community outreach and more on education for people to know about the project and then line up more meetings.

5. Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Sally discussed proposed changes to the Vision Statement, Goals and Strategic Directions as identified by the SG and the SC.

5.1 Vision Statement

Sally indicated the following about the Vision statements:

- Lura shortened the Vision statements substantially;
- #2 Vision Statement is much more general;
- The Vision statements have been shortened and changed according to SC and SG feedback;
- Sally said she felt there was no need for a mission statement because there's nothing different from the mission statement and mandate of the HCA; and
- Sally indicated that there's a new 4th Vision statement that's shorter.

The TT gave the following feedback about the Vision statements:

- TT agreed that there should be a mission statement for the partners rather than the Strategy; they wanted to add the term 'rural;' put 'persons' in the beginning and then explain how the areas will continue to exist; instead of 'preserve' or 'conserve,' use the word 'protect;' and take out 'continue to' and just put 'will exist.'
- Some TT members felt that the Vision statement is no longer exciting/enthusiastic.
- The members indicated that they liked the Vision statement #4 and that they would re-word it and send it back to Lura.

5.2 Goals and Strategic Directions

The TT worked through the Goals and Strategic Directions and made some comments. Please see Appendix A for more information.

6. Working Session – Identification of Actions and Priorities

Sally asked the TT members what the most important actions are in terms of the Valley.

The Task Team had the following feedback:

- Community buy-in and working continuously towards community buy-in is important;
- They want people to commit to what we have and what we can't afford to let go of;
- The need to have an implementation mechanism for the HCA was emphasized; and
- Steve wants to make it initially in the draft which partners will be responsible for which actions.

6.1 Community Meeting

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MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Task Team Meeting #4

DATE: October 28, 2008, 1:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell

Steve Miazga

Judy Love

Tony Horvat

Kathy Menyes

Joan Bell

Bruce Mackenzie

Garnet Cowsill

Sandy Bell

Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting

Natalia Hahn, Lura Consulting

Michelle Hrabí, Lura Consulting

I. Purpose(s)

- To report on progress to date
- To refine revised draft Vision, goal and strategic direction statements
- To identify actions
- To discuss implementation framework

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Sally Leppard of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Overview of Key Action Items from Meeting #3

Sally went over the Key Action Items from Meeting #3 and gave everyone an update.

Funding: Joan Bell indicated that funding was approved for up to 8 community dialogue meetings.

Project overview: Sally indicated to the TT members that the vision, goals and strategic directions are in the process of being amended. There has also been a lot of feedback from SG and SC meetings and that there was a SWOT analysis conducted with both groups.

4. Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

4.1 Review of Process Framework

Sally provided a review of the process framework and indicated that the vision, goals and strategic directions have been reviewed by the SG and SC. Sally indicated that Lura will be reviewing the feedback received from the SG and SC with the TT. Sally mentioned that there was excellent feedback received from SG and SC; a shortened vision statement, an idea to divide vision statement into a vision statement AND a mission statement, and so forth.

4.2 Task Team Concerns

Members of the Task Team addressed some of their current concerns with Sally Leppard:

- Sandy said he is not completely sure about certain aspects of the Strategy since they're not directly related to the program (Example: statements about local business, agriculture, etc.).
- Another member emphasized the need for a strong brochure in terms of community development to help promote good environmental practices in the future.
- Steve addressed his concerns on how the HCA will fit into the 50-Year Strategy.
- One member inquired on whether the Steering Committee agreed that the boundaries would change.

Sally addressed the fact that all of the above concerns will be addressed during the meeting

- There was no support for changing the community boundaries (Sandy).

4.3 Community Outreach Event State

Natalia provided a summary of the Community Outreach update and indicated that:

- There's been difficulty getting out to events;
- Often vendors are full or won't allow Lura to set up a booth; and the alternative solution that has been put forth is going out to talk to people on the street.

4.4 Upcoming Outreach Events

The Task Team members discussed upcoming Outreach Events. One member indicated that the Day Area Leadership Program would be a good group to receive feedback from. Another member also indicated the Bruce Trail Awards event.

The following concerns were addressed by the TT about community outreach events:

- Increased public contact will not benefit us further at this point;
- The major points have been covered off;
- It plays more as a justification role to ensure people of what we're doing and where we're going with the project;
- Numbers are not going to give it more value but it will give us an idea of what's more important based on numbers;

- Perhaps it would be more valuable in terms of the process to draft the vision and strategy which will then go out to the public at the end of this month and give them a chance to say what's missing; and
- Perhaps do not do the November events but focus on the materials as a strong feedback.

Sally gave the following feedback:

- The purpose of community outreach is to help people be aware of what's going on with the project;
- She understands what is being said in terms of the feedback being negligible; and
- Suggested that perhaps there should be less emphasis on community outreach and more on education for people to know about the project and then line up more meetings.

5. Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Sally discussed proposed changes to the Vision Statement, Goals and Strategic Directions as identified by the SG and the SC.

5.1 Vision Statement

Sally indicated the following about the Vision statements:

- Lura shortened the Vision statements substantially;
- #2 Vision Statement is much more general;
- The Vision statements have been shortened and changed according to SC and SG feedback;
- Sally said she felt there was no need for a mission statement because there's nothing different from the mission statement and mandate of the HCA; and
- Sally indicated that there's a new 4th Vision statement that's shorter.

The TT gave the following feedback about the Vision statements:

- TT agreed that there should be a mission statement for the partners rather than the Strategy; they wanted to add the term 'rural;' put 'persons' in the beginning and then explain how the areas will continue to exist; instead of 'preserve' or 'conserve,' use the word 'protect;' and take out 'continue to' and just put 'will exist.'
- Some TT members felt that the Vision statement is no longer exciting/enthusiastic.
- The members indicated that they liked the Vision statement #4 and that they would re-word it and send it back to Lura.

5.2 Goals and Strategic Directions

The TT worked through the Goals and Strategic Directions and made some comments. Please see Appendix A for more information.

6. Working Session – Identification of Actions and Priorities

Sally asked the TT members what the most important actions are in terms of the Valley.

The Task Team had the following feedback:

- Community buy-in and working continuously towards community buy-in is important;
- They want people to commit to what we have and what we can't afford to let go of;
- The need to have an implementation mechanism for the HCA was emphasized; and
- Steve wants to make it initially in the draft which partners will be responsible for which actions.

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Dundas Valley Vision

Task Team Meeting #2
April 7, 2008

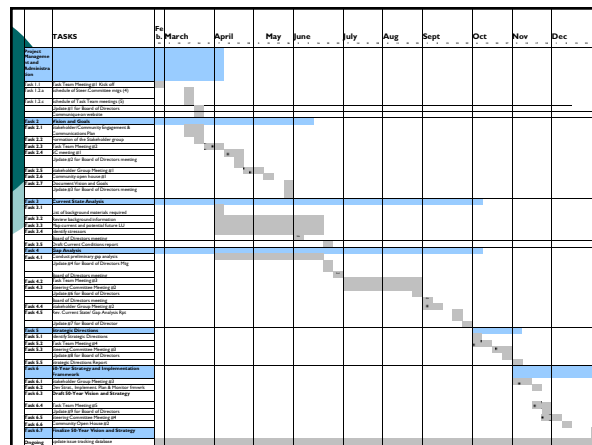
Meeting Agenda

- 1:00 p.m. Agenda Review, Minutes, Action Items and Progress Report – Lura
- 1:10 p.m. Strategy Development Framework & Detailed Workplan
- 1:20 p.m. Community Engagement & Communications Plan
- 1:35 p.m. Steering Committee
 - o Formation/potential membership list
 - o Invitation
 - o Agenda for Meeting #1
- 1:50 p.m. Stakeholder Group
 - o Formation/potential membership list
 - o Mandate
 - o Invitation letter
 - o Agenda for Meeting #1
- 2:05 p.m. Community Open House and Meeting #1
 - o Advertisement
 - o Agenda and format
 - o Meeting schedule
- 2:15 p.m. Discussion on Vision and Key Messages – All
- 2:45 p.m. Other Business
- 2:55 p.m. Next Steps and Meeting Date

Strategy Development Framework

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    graph LR
      A[Process Framework] --> B[Vision and Goals]
      B --> C[Current State and Gap Analysis]
      C --> D[Strategic Direction]
      D --> E[Actions/Implementation and Monitoring Framework]
    
```



Progress Report

Task 1.0: Project Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Task Team (TT) meeting #1 – completed Feb 29th, 2008 o TT Meeting #1 minutes – issued 03/03/08 o Development of Detailed workplan - submitted on 20/03/08 o Schedule of Task Team and Steering Committee (SC) meetings - submitted on 20/03/08
Task 2.1: Develop CEC Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Draft CEC Plan - submitted on 03/04/08
Task 2.2: Formation of the Stakeholder Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Stakeholder list (preliminary) - submitted on 03/04/08 o Draft Stakeholder group invitation, mandate, and meeting #1 agenda - submitted on 03/04/08
Task 2.4: Steering Committee Meeting #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Steering committee membership list – for discussion today o Draft SC meeting #1 agenda - submitted on 03/04/08
Task 2.6: Community meeting #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Draft advertisement - submitted on 03/04/08 o Draft approach and agenda for the session - submitted on 03/04/08
Task 2.7: Vision & goals Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Draft Vision and goals report – to come once all TT, SC, SG and Community input received – ETA May/June

Dundas Valley Vision

Community Engagement & Communications (CEC) Plan:
A Summary

Community Engagement & Communications Plan

- Purpose:
 - outlines various engagement and communications approaches and techniques to be used in the development of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Strategy
 - will ensure that the development of the Strategy is consistent with those who either have responsibility to implement the plan or will be affected by it.

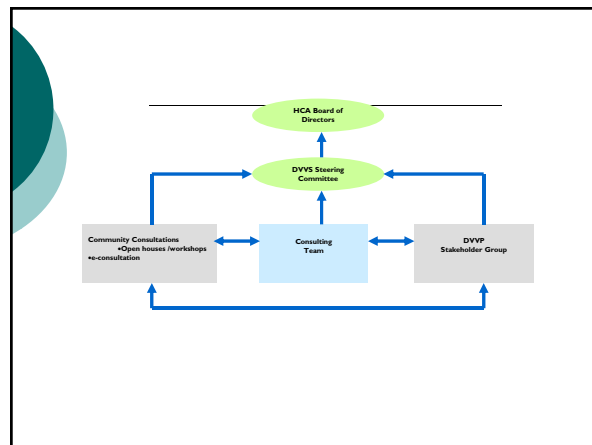
Community Engagement & Outreach Plan

- Approach:
 - multi-tiered
 - informs and engages a Steering Committee, a Stakeholder Group, and the community
 - uses a range of meetings and activities designed to include as many stakeholders as possible in the strategy development process
 - is linked to the stages in the strategy development framework

Community Engagement & Outreach Plan

Plan Components:

- Guiding Principles & Objectives
- Key Audiences, Messages & Messengers
- Communication & Community Awareness
- Community Engagement & Consultation
- Documenting Consultation
- Monitoring, Tracking & Evaluating Effectiveness of Engagement Process



Engagement & Communications Activities	Timing
Orientation & Planning	Project start – April 7
Vision & Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TT Meeting #2, SC and SG Meetings #1 ○ Community open house/meeting #1 ○ Create web presence ○ Media/press releases ○ Participation in Community events ○ Linkages to school and youth programs ○ Preparation of Vision and Goals report 	April 7 – end of May, early June
Current State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussions with TT members on materials available for current state, template for current state presentation (phone, emails) ○ Map existing and potential future land uses ○ Identify stressors ○ Preparation of current state report 	April – end of June

Engagement & Outreach Activity	Timing
Gap Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preliminary gap analysis ○ TT meeting #3, SC and SG meetings #2 ○ Preparation of current state (revised) and gap analysis reports 	June – September
Strategic Directions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify strategic directions ○ TT meeting #4, SC meeting #3 ○ Preparation of strategic directions report 	September - October

Engagement & Outreach Activity	Timing
50-Year Strategy and Implementation Framework ○ SG meeting #3 ○ Develop strategy, implementation and monitoring framework ○ Draft Strategy document ○ TT meeting #5, SC meeting #4 ○ Community meeting #2 ○ Finalize report	October - December
Ongoing Activities ○ website updates ○ Board of Directors' updates ○ update stakeholder list ○ issue tracking	

Discussion/Feedback

- Are all the right audiences captured?
- Communications mechanisms
 - Are the communications mechanisms appropriate?
- Consultation mechanisms
 - Are the communications mechanisms appropriate?
- Timing
 - Does the timing work with other activities?

Recommendation:
 Creation of a Communications subcommittee

Dundas Valley Vision

Steering Committee

Steering Committee


- Membership – status?
- Invitation – status?
- Meeting Schedule
 - Week of April 21st – too soon?
 - July/August
 - Week October 20th
 - Week December 1st
- Meeting location?
- Agenda meeting #1

Stakeholder Group

- Membership – additions to the SG list?
- Mandate – clear?
 The purpose of the Stakeholder Group (SG) is to provide insight, knowledge and support for the completion and approval of the 50-year Dundas Valley Strategy. The SG will provide advice during the planning phase of the Study, and will work with the Steering Committee (SC) to develop the Study. The SG will report to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority through the SC and the Task Team.
- Invitation letter
- Meeting Schedule
 - Week of May 5th – too soon?
 - July/August
 - Week November 10th
- Meeting location?
- Agenda meeting #1


Community Meeting #1

- Advertisement
- Agenda and format
- Meeting schedule




Dundas Valley Vision

Vision, Key Messages & Benefits




Vision

- What vision do you have of the Dundas Valley in 50 years from now?
- What 2-3 words would you use to describe your vision?




Key Messages

- What do you want the Strategy development process to be known for?
- What do you want the Strategy itself to be known for?




Benefits

- What are the benefits of the 50-year Strategy to the community?



Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy


October 28th, 2008, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
Hamilton Conservation Authority





Meeting Agenda

- 1. Welcome, Agenda, and Review of Meeting Minutes – Lura**
- 2. Review of Progress Highlights to Date – Lura**
 - Process framework and project schedule
 - Vision, goals and strategic directions
 - Current state
 - Engagement activities
- 3. Revised Draft Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions – Lura**
- 4. Working session on:**
 - Identification of actions and priorities
 - Input to implementation plan
- 5. Upcoming Consultation events**
 - Steering Committee meeting
 - Stakeholder Group meeting
 - Community dialogue sessions
 - Community meeting
 - Joint Task team and Steering Committee meeting
- 6. Other Business – Status of:**
 - Current state info requests
 - Map requests
- 7. Next Steps and Meeting Dates**
- 8. Adjourn**




Review of Meeting #1 Minutes – Action Items

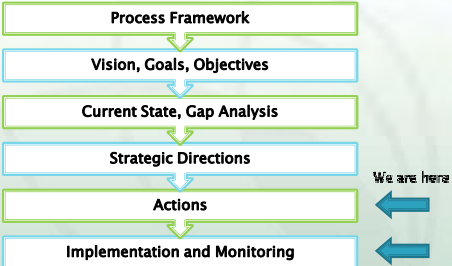


Progress Update

- ▶ Process Framework and Project Schedule
- ▶ Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions
- ▶ Current State
- ▶ Engagement Activities



Process Framework




Project Schedule
on track for completion of Vision Strategy 3rd week in December 2008



Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

- ▶ Reviewed and refined by
 - Task team
 - Steering Committee
 - Stakeholder Group
- ▶ Key Recommendations
 - Shorten vision statement
 - Consider vision and mission statement
 - Good discussion on comprehensive nature of goals included
 - Agreement from all groups that economic and social/community aspects should be retained
 - Wording to be revised and refined

Current State




- ▶ Updated information from Tony received
- ▶ List of HCA contacts for selected data components received
- ▶ Additional studies, policies, plans identified by Steering Committee for inclusion
 - City of Hamilton Transportation Plan
 - Dundas and Ancaster TMPs
 - Greensville Subwatershed Study
 - City-wide Stormwater management plan
 - Open space dev. group: trails master plan
- ▶ Status: ongoing data filling

Outreach Event Update



Date		Event
Month	Day	
October	10-13	Rockton's World's Fair – event was full, not able to do person-on-the-street
November	TBD	Day Area Leadership Program
	TBD	School garage sale (SG member recommended to reach families)
	7-8	Holiday Village and Craft Show – event is full
	11	Hamilton Veterans Events
	22	Artisan's Marketplace
December	23	Giant's Rib lecture and art series
	TBD	Booth at arena
	7	Giant's Rib lecture and art series – display of image contest entries
Other	all	Man-on-the-street discussions at trailheads (HCA, Bruce Trail), banks, arenas, parks, malls

New Communication Tools



I
Dundas Valley
<http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/dvstrategy.asp>


50 Year Strategy for the Dundas Valley

DUNDAS VALLEY:
If You Can Read This You Can Support the 50-Year Strategy



Refined Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Vision Statements




Statements we have seen:

Vision 1: In the next 50 years, the Dundas Valley will have preserved its character – both as a thriving community and as a part of the rich diverse sustainable ecological system of the Niagara Escarpment. The communities in and around the Dundas Valley will have a clear sense of the connectivity between the Valley's history, sustainable community, and an appreciation of their role as environmental stewards and cooperative managers of the Valley.

Vision 2: In 2060, the Dundas Valley Area will continue to exist as a rich and diverse Escarpment ecosystem, connected to strong and vibrant communities within the City of Hamilton. The area showcases the meeting point between urban and rural life.

New Vision Statement – Proposed



In 2060, the Dundas Valley Area will continue to exist as a preserved (conserved?), diverse and sustainable Escarpment ecosystem, connected to strong and vibrant village communities within the City of Hamilton. The area showcases the meeting point between urban and rural life. Residents and businesses alike appreciate their role as stewards of this (natural jewel in Hamilton's crown).

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

1. To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources
 - 1.1 Maintain and enhance the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats
 - 1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley through the use of corridors
 - 1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and rural countryside*, including selected vistas

*as defined by the Greenbelt plan

- 1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk
- 1.5 Combat the impact of existing and future invasive (wide spread non-indigenous) and nuisance species* within the Valley
- 1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls
- 1.7 Monitor climate change to create an adaptive management strategy

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources, specifically those on HCA properties
 - 2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley
 - 2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites on HCA properties
 - 2.3 Support the promotion of local history
 - 2.4 Contribute to the preservation of the small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

3. To promote sustainable passive* recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces
* Includes all non-motorized vehicle activities - hiking, cycling, horseback riding (where designated)
 - 3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise
 - 3.2 Preserve the integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages
4. To ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all ages where feasible based on landscape
 - 4.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members
 - 4.2 Establish a harmonious relationship between visitors, adjacent landowners and natural areas

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Business

6. To promote small, community-based businesses that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas - SG recommended it be removed as it is land use planning goal
 - 6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas (remove)

Agriculture

7. To use stewardship best practices to encourage agriculture and local food production that do not negatively impact particularly sensitive areas
 - 7.1 Support an appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle
 - 7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops accessibility to residents

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Development

8. To ensure development that is compatible with the natural environment
 - 8.1 Support intensification as an alternative to new development
 - 8.2 Support mechanisms to limit development within the Valley
 - 8.3 Support keeping development within current boundaries

Transportation

9. To encourage communities to be more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly
 - 9.1 To promote preservation of special character roads through the Valley
 - 10.1 Address use and impacts of roads

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

11. To promote community transit linkages to access conservation properties

Tourism

12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley

Goals & Strategic Directions 

Education and Stewardship

13. To encourage the community to value the Valley's ecological features


- 13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them
- 13.2 Promote trail etiquette
- 13.3 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough and Hamilton
- 13.4 Provide outdoor education opportunities
- 13.5 Promote integration of the value of the Valley's ecological features into school curriculum and promote education partnership opportunities
- 13.6 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites
- 13.7 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents

Goals & Strategic Directions 

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley

- 14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)
- 14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands
- 14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and science, and implement
- 14.4 To bring additional land into protection



Working Session

Identification of Actions and Priorities



Working Session

»» Implementation framework

Approach to Upcoming Consultation Events 

- ▶ Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group Meetings
 - Refinement of Vision, goals and strategic directions
 - Brainstorming exercise on actions, priorities
 - Working session on implementation considerations
- ▶ Community Meeting
 - Action Planning
 - Facilitated discussion
 - Dotmocracy



Approach to Upcoming Consultation Events 

- ▶ Community Dialogue Sessions Potential Participants
 - Dundas Valley Landowners Coalition
 - Dundas and Ancaster BIAs and Tourism Hamilton Board
 - Residents of Greensville, Dundas and Ancaster
 - Federation of Agriculture – landowners
 - EcoNet Organizations, including Environment Hamilton and Naturalist Club
 - Hamilton Heritage Network – cultural heritage
 - Recreational Trails and User Group – users
 - Outdoor Educators – educators
- ▶ Tasks
 - Develop Contact List
 - Communicate purpose of the meeting and request the organization set up the meeting;
 - Facilitate sessions and take notes
 - Set up refreshments/material requirements etc.
 - Prepare summary of discussions

Other Business




- ▶ Current state information request status
- ▶ Map request – determination of maps/images to be included
- ▶ Other?

Next Steps



- ▶ Communicate on website re: Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions
- ▶ Completion of Current State and Gap Analysis
- ▶ DRAFT Actions based on TT, SC, SG input
- ▶ Image Contest judging and results
- ▶ Draft Implementation framework based on TT, SC, and SG input
- ▶ Community dialogue sessions to inform about strategy, address issues, gather input
- ▶ Community meeting to review and provide input to actions
- ▶ Completion of draft strategy
- ▶ Refinement of draft strategy based on TT, SC input
- ▶ Delivery of final strategy
- ▶ Presentation to the HCA Board (HCA staff)
- ▶ Posting on website (HCA)


Process Moving Forward



Meeting	Purpose	Timing
SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Further comments on refined Vision, goals, strategic directions ▶ Identification of actions ▶ Input to implementation framework 	October 30 th 2:00 – 4:00 pm
SG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Further comments on refined Vision, goals, strategic directions ▶ Identification of actions ▶ Input to implementation framework 	November 12 th 6:30 – 9:00 pm
Community meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Action Planning Workshop 	November 25 th 6:30–9:00 pm
Joint TT and SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Review of draft strategy 	December 9 th 2:00–4:00 pm




Meeting Adjourned


LURA
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Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

September 24th, 2008, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
Hamilton Conservation Authority



1958 • Celebrating 50 Years of Conservation • 2008


LURA
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Meeting Agenda

- 1. Welcome, Agenda, and Review of Meeting Minutes** Lura Consulting
- 2. Review of Progress Highlights to Date** – Lura Consulting
 - Vision and Goals
 - Consultation activities – SC, SG, Community meetings
 - Engagement – Outreach and engagement kits
- 3. Presentation of Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions** – Lura Consulting
 - Discussion: Confirmation of Vision, goals, strategic directions
- 4. Presentation of Current State Highlights**
- 5. Working Session** – All
 - SWOT Analysis exercise
- 6. Next Steps and Meeting Date**
- 7. Adjourn**

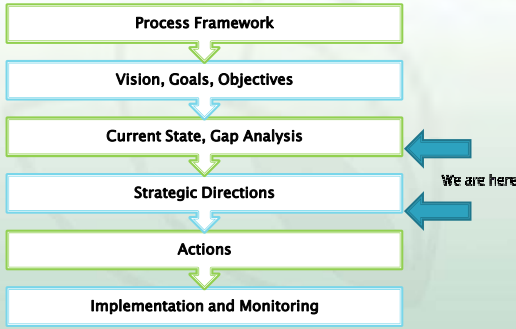

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Progress Update

- ▶ Study Framework and Process
- ▶ Vision and Goals – consultations
- ▶ Summer Community Outreach
- ▶ Communications Tools
- ▶ Current State Report – 80% complete


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Process Framework



```

    graph TD
      A[Process Framework] --> B[Vision, Goals, Objectives]
      B --> C[Current State, Gap Analysis]
      C --> D[Strategic Directions]
      D --> E[Actions]
      E --> F[Implementation and Monitoring]
      G[We are here] --> D
      G --> E
    
```


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Community Outreach Update


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Outreach Event Update

Date	Event	Approx. Attendees	Surveys Collected
June 7 th	Christie Lake Splash Day	500+	18
June 8	Buskerfest	500+	6
June 28 & 30	It's Your Festival	500+	4
July 1 st	Picnic in the Park	400+	15
July 12	Christie Lake Beach Party	100+	5
July 9	Marker's Market	300	9
July 28	Community Harvest	20+	3
August 3 & 4	Ice Cream Festival	1500	13


Upcoming Outreach Events

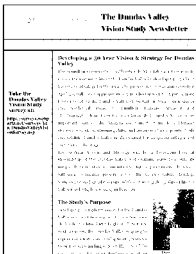



Date		Event
Month	Day	
September	22-Oct	MAC Peace week
	27	The Ottawa Street- Street Sale
	27	50th Anniversary Celebration Gala
October	27	Fix Your World Festival
	4	Gandhi Peace Week
	4	Makers Market
	5	Rail Trail talk
	10-13	Rockton's World's Fair
	11	St. Mary's Church Parade
November	13	Griffin House Open to the Public
	25	Scarecrow Saturday
	7-8	Holiday Village and Craft Show
	11	Hamilton Veterans Events
	22	Artisan's Marketplace

- ### Outreach Initiatives
- 
- ▶ **Surveys – 81 completed**
 - Online
 - Fax/Phone
 - Paper format
 - ▶ **Facebook Group**
 - Currently 48 members

Communication Tools








I Love Dundas Valley

<http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/dvstrategy>



DUNDAS VALLEY:
If You Can Read This You Can Support the 50-Year Strategy

- ### Results
- 
- VALUES:**


 - Quality/quantity of green spaces
 - Unspoiled nature
 - Biodiversity and wildlife
 - Waterfalls
 - Escarpment
 - Living museum
 - Conservation areas/parks
 - Recreational opportunities
 - Family-friendly trails
 - Town festivities
 - Kind people
 - Cultural preservation and heritage
 - Small community atmosphere

FUTURE:


 - Remain unchanged
 - Preserved/conserved
 - Healthy, clean environment
 - Expanded natural areas
 - More trails
 - More/improved washroom/trail stations
 - Smart growth to retain small community feel
 - Increased business development
 - Improved access and accessibility
 - More sports, community facilities and attractions

Vision and Goals




- ### Vision Elements
- 
- Be a long-term legacy
 - Be a comprehensive strategy
 - Be a model for others
 - Raise profile of the valley
 - Recognize and protect the inherent value
 - Consider the Dundas Valley as an ecosystem
 - Protect biodiversity
 - Confront threats
 - Acknowledge the system's carrying capacity
 - Recognize residents and landowners needs
 - Provide a balance between science-based and community-based goals and directions.
 - Be a HCA-led and community-owned

Vision Statement



In the next 50 years, the Dundas Valley will have preserved its character – both as a thriving community and as a part of the rich diverse sustainable ecological system of the Niagara Escarpment. The communities in and around the Dundas Valley will have a clear sense of the connectivity between the Valley's history, a sustainable economy, a healthy active community, and an appreciation of their role as environmental stewards and cooperative managers of the Valley. The Valley's urban wilderness will be a model and prototype for other communities seeking to strike a balance between recreation and conservation and between development and preservation.

Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

1. To protect the Valley's beauty, biodiversity, and natural resources
 - 1.1 Maintain and improving the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats
 - 1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley
 - 1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including vistas from the urbanized areas
 - 1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk
 - 1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley
 - 1.6 Preserve and protection the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls
 - 1.7 Create a strategy to confront climate change


Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources
 - 2.1 Recognize the rich history of First Nations people within the Valley
 - 2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites
 - 2.3 Promote local history among adults and youth
 - 2.4 Preserve small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces


Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

3. Promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces
 - 3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise
 4. Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all but managed
 - 4.1 Preserve integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages
5. To establish a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent residents
 - 5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members

Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community


Business

6. To promote small, community-based businesses
 - 6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas

Agriculture

7. To encourage agriculture and local food production
 - 7.1 Restore appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle
 - 7.2 Make locally grown and processed crops accessible to residents

Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Development

8. To investigate and promote development that is compatible with the natural environment
 - 8.1 Focus intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development
 - 8.2 Create mechanisms to limit development within the Valley
 - 8.3 Keep development within current boundaries

Transportation

9. To ensure towns are more pedestrian and bicycle friendly
 10. To promote preservation of special character of rural roads through Valley
 - 10.1 Address use and impacts of roads




Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

11. To provide or promote community transportation linkages

Tourism

12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley



Goals & Strategic Directions

Education and Stewardship

13. To ensure the Valley's ecological features are valued by the community

13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them

13.2 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough

13.3 Provide outdoor education opportunities

13.4 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents



Goals & Strategic Directions

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley

14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)

14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands

14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and implement

14.4 To bring additional land into protection




Working Session

Confirmation of Vision, goals, strategic directions



Current State



Current State Highlights

Dundas Valley Study Area Characteristics

The Dundas Valley study area includes:

- 2,584 acres
- The Town of Dundas (24K+), parts of the Town of Ancaster (27K+), Flamborough (22K+) and Greensville
- 10+ HCA owned properties – ANSIs and ESAs (Spencer Gorge, Spencer Creek Bedrock Gorge, Webster's Falls, Dundas Valley, Dundas Valley Forest and Sulphur Creek Valley)
- Portions of the lands protected by the NEC
- Comprehensive trails system
- Culturally and heritage significant features
- Rural land activities focus primarily on agriculture
- Urban land use activities focus on small business and tourism

Current State Highlights

Jurisdictional Context

Federal/Provincial regulations/standards and policies

- Places to Grow Act
- Greenbelt Plan
- Provincial Policy Statement
- Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Endangered Species Act
- Ontario Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Biodiversity Strategy
- Niagara Escarpment Plan
- Ontario Water Resources Act
- Permit to Take Water
- Clean Water Act
- Provincial Water Quality Objectives
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Fisheries Act
- Go Green: Ontario's Action Plan on Climate Change
- EPA: Local Air Quality regulations
- Ontario Heritage by-laws
- Ontario Trails Strategy

Current State Highlights

Methodology

- Reviewed all previous work, studies and master planning documents (complete);
- Identified Provincial and municipal planning designations and restrictions (complete);
- Reviewed notes and comment forms from previous community and stakeholder consultations; (complete)
- Examined current and planned future land uses and land ownership in Dundas Valley (partially complete);
- Review existing environmental, cultural and heritage data and other relevant data (quantifiable data not yet received);
- Map current and potential future land uses and human activities (TBD based on priorities);
- Identify stressors based on current state analysis (in progress);
- Provide analysis of current conditions, stressors, potential opportunities and threats (in progress).

Current State

Limitations to Data

- Represents some data at the Spencer Creek or its sub-watershed levels which do not align with the Dundas Valley study area;
- Presents much municipal data at the Greater Hamilton area level which does not align with the Dundas Valley study area;
- Is based on the existing plans and policies provided by the HCA for review; and
- Does not yet reflect the data available at HCA that will quantify how plans, programs and policies are proceeding.

Current State

Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
1. To protect the Valley's beauty, biodiversity and natural resources	1.1 Maintain and improve the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats	Addressed	Partially addressed at Borer's Falls, DVCA, Spencer watershed wide, but not DV specific	Partially addressed
	1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley	Addressed	Absent	Unknown
	1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including vistas from the urbanized areas	Addressed	Absent	Unknown
	1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk	Addressed	Partially addressed	Ongoing
	1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley	Partially addressed (in aquatic systems) Absent in terrestrial	Absent	Unknown
	1.6 Preserve and protection the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls	Addressed	Addressed	Addressed
	1.7 Create a strategy to confront climate change	Addressed by province /municipality, not by HCA	None but NECC might have	Absent

Current State

Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources	2.1 Recognize the rich history of First Nations people within the Valley	Absent	Absent	Unknown
	2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites	Addressed	Partially addressed	Unknown
	2.3 Promote local history among adults and youth	Partially addressed by DVCA Heritage report	Absent	Unknown
	2.4 Preserve small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces	Partially addressed by province	Absent	Unknown

Current State

Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
3. Promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces	3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise	Partially addressed through trails	Assumed available	Assumed but unknown
		Partially addressed (no comprehensive trails plan)	Addressed	Assumed but unknown
4. Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all but managed	4.1 Preserve integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages	Partially addressed (no comprehensive facility plan, or plan for landowner interaction)	Assumed available (landownership)	Unknown
		Partially addressed (no comprehensive facility plan, or plan for landowner interaction)	Assumed available (landownership)	Unknown

Current State

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
<i>Business</i> 6. To promote small, community-based businesses	6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas	By municipality	Absent but assumed available through BIA/Chamber	Absent but assumed
<i>Agriculture</i> 7. To encourage agriculture and local food production	7.1 Restore appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle	Partially by municipality	Absent	Unknown
	7.2 Make locally grown and processed crops accessible to residents	Partially by municipality/provincial protection	Absent but assumed available through BIA/Chamber	Unknown
<i>Development</i> 8. To investigate and promote development that is compatible with the natural environment	8.1 Focus intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development	Addressed	Absent but assumed available through City	Assumed available
	8.2 Create mechanisms to limit development within the Valley			
	8.3 Keep development within current boundaries			

Current State

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
<i>Transportation</i> 9. To ensure towns are more pedestrian and bicycle friendly		Addressed by City	Absent but assumed available	Unknown
10. To promote preservation of special character of rural roads through Valley	10.1 Address use and impacts of roads	Absent	Absent	Unknown
11. To provide or promote community transportation linkages		Absent	Absent	Unknown
<i>Tourism</i> 12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley		Partially by HCA, Tourism Hamilton	Partially (need HCA data)	Assumed available

Current State

Education and Stewardship

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
13. To ensure the Valley's ecological features are valued by the community	13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them	Partially addressed, not sure if a comprehensive plan in place for DV	Partially	Assumed occurring
	13.2 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough	Absent	Absent	Unknown
	13.3 Provide outdoor education opportunities	Addressed	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	13.4 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents	Absent	Absent	Absent

Current State


Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley	14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)	Partially addressed by strategic plan	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands	Absent but assumed addressed by Business plan	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and implement	Absent	Absent	Absent
	14.4 To bring additional land into protection	Partially by strategic plan	Absent	Unknown

- ### Current Pressures on the Study Area
-
- Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement**
- Littering, dumping
 - Encroachment on public lands
 - Over use
 - Habitat loss/degradation
 - Fragmentation
 - Loss of diversity
 - Invasive species
 - Lack of water quality monitoring
 - Erosion and run-off
 - Engineering of natural systems
 - Pollution
 - Global warming

- ### Current Pressures on the Study Area
-
- Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement**
- None identified to date
- Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use**
- Trail integrity sacrificed to user accessibility
 - Negligent trail use
 - Multi-use trails which can lead to conflict between trail users


Current Pressures on the Study Area



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

- "Places to Grow" intensification
- Sub / urban sprawl
- Urbanization
- Incompatible development of privately owned lands in the Valley
- Highways/Road networks through the Valley
- Traffic and safety concerns
- Not a lot of people know about the Valley
- Destructive tourism

Current Pressures on the Study Area



Education and Stewardship

- Lack of information/respect for the ecosystem's carrying capacity
- Lack of appreciation for the inherent value of the Valley
- Vandalism

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

- Challenge of who has responsibility and too much reliance on voluntary initiatives for stewardship
- Lack of funding
- Lack of faith municipal politicians are responsive to constituents



Working Session


» SWOT analysis



Next Steps

- Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group Meetings – confirmation of Vision, Goals, and Strategic Directions
- Communique on website re: DRAFT Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions
- Completion of Current State
- DRAFT Gaps analysis and action confirmation based on TT, SC, SG input
- Image Contest judging and results
- Implementation framework and draft strategy discussions with TT, SC, and SG
- Completion of draft strategy
- Community meeting to review and provide input to draft strategy
- Delivery of final strategy

Process Moving Forward



Meeting	Purpose	Timing
SC	▸ Confirm and refine Vision, goals, strategic directions and actions	
SG	Confirm and refine Vision, goals, strategic directions and actions	
TT	▸ Confirm and refine gap analysis ▸ Identification of indicators and implementation strategy	

Process Moving Forward



Meeting	Purpose	Timing
SC	▸ Confirm and refine gap analysis ▸ Identification of indicators and implementation strategy	
SG	▸ Confirm and refine gap analysis ▸ Identification of indicators and implementation strategy	
TT, SC, SG (online)	▸ Review of draft strategy	
Community	▸ Review of draft strategy	



6 Appendix G: Steering Committee Meeting Minutes and Corresponding Presentations

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee was a lead committee that guided the project team throughout the process. The Committee was comprised of Hamilton Conservation Authority staff members as well as members of other organizations and agencies. All meeting minutes follow.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Steering Committee Meeting #1

DATE: April 30, 2008, 2:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell, Manager, HCA

Heather Donison, Senior Project Manager, Sustainability City of Hamilton

Susan Hall, Lura Consulting

Philip Krakar, HCA representative, member of Watershed Management Advisory Board

Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting

Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton representing environmental groups

Anne Redish, HCA representative, member of Conservation Areas Advisory Board

Regrets:

Chris Firth-Eagland, Chair HCA

Christine Lee-Morrison, Acting Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Hamilton

Russ Powers, Councilor Ward 13, City of Hamilton

1. Summary of Key Actions

- A member suggested that the boundaries of the study site be open for discussion at the Stakeholder Group meeting.
- Steering Committee members to provide feedback on the Community engagement and consultation (CEC) plan within 1 week
- Lura to revise and update the CEC plan based on feedback received at and following the meeting
- HCA and Lura to identify and contact an education representative, an Ancaster Community Council representative, a Flamborough Community Council representative, and the Dundas BIA to be invited to participate on the SC.
- SC members to identify any other stakeholders to be added to the stakeholder list
- Lura to issue list of potential dates for the July/August SC meeting
- Lura to distribute draft Vision and goals report to SC for comment and review

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Susan Hall of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Context of Sustainability Plan

Sandy Bell of the Hamilton Conservation Authority provided an overview of the proposed study area, and provided background on the development of the Vision Study and Strategy process including the decision to focus on a 50-year timeframe as the HCA is celebrating its 50th anniversary, an overview of the consultations that occurred in 2007 that contributed to the development of the Terms of Reference for the consulting team.

A member suggested that the boundaries of the study site be open for discussion at the Stakeholder Group meeting.

4. Overview of the Approach to Developing the 50-year Strategy and Study Organization

Sally Leppard of Lura Consulting gave a presentation on the:

- Benefits to the 50-year strategy,
- Strategic planning framework that will be used to complete the Study that includes a vision, goals and objectives, current conditions, gaps, strategic directions, actions and an implementation framework;
- Collaborative model for the Study that includes a HCA team, a Steering Committee, a Stakeholder Group and the general public; and
- Consultation schedule with each of these key audiences.

The Study will be completed by the end of the 2008 calendar year.

5. Overview of the Community Engagement and Consultation Plan

Susan Hall of Lura Consulting provided an overview of the draft Community Engagement and Consultation (CEC). Susan reviewed the:

- Purpose of the CEC
- Guiding Principles & Objectives
- Key Audiences, Messages & Messengers
- Communication & Community Awareness
- Community Engagement & Consultation
- Documenting Consultation
- Monitoring, Tracking & Evaluating Effectiveness of Engagement Process

Steering Committee members were asked to identify any additional items or additional stakeholders who should be engaged in the process.

Members offered the following consultation and communication suggestions:

- Engage youth through schools – develop a package for teachers that can be used for Language Arts classes, as students to design posters to help advertise the project within the community
- Use the Catholic School Board Social, Environmental Committee to get the message out about community events
- Use survey questions to reach the general public through website and postcard distribution
- Ensure participating at community events with postcards for feedback
- Distribute batches of postcards and brochures to churches, service clubs and encourage them to get their members to fill them out
- Explore using Tim Horton's, and possibly grocery stores, LCBO to have a drop-box for postcards, use a promotional item to encourage participation (win an iPod)
- Ensure that both users of the Valley as well as residents are engaged – provide booth when visiting the site, or other form of information
- Stay within the study area catchment and add a buffer of 10km to ensure capturing those who live and play in the area
- Ensure there is a balanced presentation in the CEC plan that includes Ancaster equally with Dundas
- Ensure that this Study aligns with the Cootes to Escarpment Study that is also currently underway – connect with their Steering Committee at the action phase of this Strategy
- (Sandy Bell and Kathy M are on both teams and can provide updates)

Members identified the following additional stakeholders:

- Mohawk College
- Dundas Community Services

6. Overview of the SC Mandate

Members reviewed the SC mandate, as well as roles and responsibilities.

Members were asked if there were any others who should be added to the SC. Their suggestions included an education representative, an Ancaster Community Council representative, a Flamborough Community Council representative, and the Dundas BIA.

Susan Hall asked everyone to take what we discuss at these meetings and bring the information back to their own organizations.

7. Discussion

The discussion focused on: (1) Vision; (2) pressing issues that the Strategy should/could address; (3) and effective stakeholder engagement mechanisms as identified below.

Vision

Q1. Please think about the Dundas Valley study area as a whole and identify 2-3 things that you most value about it today. From an environmental perspective, an economic perspective, and a community perspective

7.1 *Environmental Perspective*

Members indicated that the environmental perspective was the strongest value of the three categories and described it with the following key words:

- Green countryside
- Large expanse of green space (% of community in green space)*
- Escarpment
- Ecosystem that is relatively intact even though close to urban areas
- Opt for experiencing nature close to the city, accessible
- Natural area, nice features
- Spectacular countryside/scenery with the escarpment

7.2 *Economic Perspective*

Members indicated that from an economic perspective, they valued:

- Tourism attraction
- Falls in the area
- Small community-based businesses – economic driver of the Valley

7.3 *Community/Social Perspective*

Members indicated that from a community or social perspective, they value:

- Healthy, desirable place to live (could be economic advantage)
- Strong sense of “Dundas” as a good place to live, friendly – one of the things that brings people here b/c they want to live in Dundas

Q2. Please visualize how you would like the study area to be 50 years from now. What 2-3 words would you use to describe your vision? From an environmental perspective, an economic perspective, and a community perspective

7.4 *General*

Members indicated they would like the study are to have the following general characteristics in 50-years:

- Has to consider urban areas as well, be integrated plan, strong connection
- Networked through rail trail, Bruce trail so not isolated
- Valued for ecological features
- Aware of historical context - Dundas was industrial area for mills along Spencer Creek, before Hamilton, different perspective now

7.5 Environmental Perspective

Members indicated they would like the study are to have the following environmental characteristics in 50-years:

- Limit development to protect natural features
- Further protection and enhancement of what we already have
- Address use and impacts (e.g. no car zones, keep transportation out of the Valley that its not a thru fare)
- Passive uses should be encouraged
- Trails in certain locations, activities in certain ways to make sure the system as a whole works

7.6 Economic

Members indicated they would like the study are to have more economic vibrancy in 50-years:

7.7 Community perspective

Members indicated they would like the study are to have the following community/social characteristics in 50-years:

- Development that is compatible with the natural environment (not as many cars, road are more friendly, structures are more friendly, not as much stress between the uses)
- Mix of private and public ownership
- Need mechanisms/policies to protect, even with the private (e.g. Greenbelt, OP concepts)
- Accessible to all but managed

Members also noted that the Hamilton OP will be reviewed by June 2009, and that a good touch point with the Dundas Valley Strategy would be in September.

Q3. As you think about the Dundas Valley 50-year Vision Strategy, what pressing issues or concerns will the project need to address?

Members identified the following key issues and concerns:

- Development pressures
- Climate change
- Invasive or nuisance species (gypsy moth, deer)
- Ancaster Transportation plan underway, mid peninsula corridor study (manage transportation question so aligns with this study)
- OP, Places to Grow, Greenbelt have the most impact
- HCA can't continue to purchase lands b/c of development and other plans, but there are others ways that could be considered

Q4. Looking at the list of Stakeholders to be invited to the Stakeholder Group, are there others that should be included?

Members covered this question earlier in the discussion. Please see section 5.

7.8 Additional Comments

Members suggested that the team consider Iroquoia Heights within the study boundary.

8. Next Steps

Sandy, Sally and Susan thanked Steering Committee members for attending and stated that minutes would be prepared summarizing key themes and feedback. Lura will begin developing the Vision statement and start developing goal statements based on the feedback received at the Steering Committee, upcoming Stakeholder Group meeting and Community meeting.

Steering Committee members will be asked to provide feedback on the Vision and goals prior to the second in-person meeting.

9. Next Meeting Date

July/August – date to be determined. This meeting will focus on receipt of any additional comments on the Vision and goals, Review the current conditions report, and preliminary identification of gaps and strategic directions, as well as provide advice on the second Stakeholder Group Meeting.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Steering Committee Meeting #2

DATE: September 30th, 2008, 2:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Heather Donison, Senior Project Manager, Sustainability City of Hamilton

Christina Lee-Morrison, Acting Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Hamilton

Anne Redish, HCA representative, member of Conservation Areas Advisory Board

Sandy Bell, Manager, HCA

Steve Miazga, Chief Administrative Officer, HCA

Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting

Susan Hall, Lura Consulting

Michelle Hrabí, Lura Consulting

Regrets

Philip Krakar, HCA representative, member of Watershed Management Advisory Board

Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton representing environmental groups

Chris Firth-England, Chair HCA

Russ Powers, Councilor Water 13, City of Hamilton

1. Summary of Key Actions

- Lura to send SC members revised Community engagement plan
- Lura to review and make changes to the Vision Statement based on SC feedback
- Lura to review and make changes to the Goals and Strategic Directions based on SC feedback
- Lura to incorporate reports recommended for inclusion in Current state research
- SC members to provide any additional recommendations on the Vision, goals and strategic directions by the end of October
- Lura to review and incorporate the feedback from SC members in the SWOT analysis

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Susan Hall of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Overview of Key Action Items from Meeting #1

Susan Hall went over the Key Action Items from Meeting #1 and gave everyone an update.

- *Study area boundaries* - Susan indicated that this was discussed at the stakeholder group and community meetings, but there wasn't a lot of issue with the current study area boundary so it has remained the same.
- *Feedback on community engagement and consultation plan.* - Susan indicated there were not very many suggestions but that the feedback has been incorporated into the plan. The revised plan will be e-mailed to SC members.
- *Representatives from education, Ancaster and Flamborough Community Councils, and Dundas BIA to be invited to participate on the SC* - Susan indicated the Beth Stormont of HCA is coordinating with schools. Sandy Bell said he explored the Community Councils' participation but there wasn't anyone who could participate.

4. Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

4.1 Review of Process Framework

Susan provided a review of the process framework and indicated that vision, goals and strategic directions are in draft form; current state and gap analysis are 80% complete; and preliminary ideas on actions have already been received from the community.

4.2 Community Outreach Update

Susan provided a summary of the Community outreach update and indicated that:

- Sasha Benevides (Lura intern) reached over 2000+ people and over 80 people filled out surveys.
- There is also a Facebook page that the intern created.
- Lura has co-coordinated with Beth Stormont and did an activity about the protection of water and engaged students that are in the HCA programs.
- A summer newsletter, a t-shirt, stickers, and survey forms were used at events.

4.4 Upcoming Outreach Events

Steering Committee members discussed upcoming outreach events and emphasized Rockton's World's Fair is a good event to attend. Susan indicated that Michelle and Diana will be attending outreach events during the months of October and November.

Susan also discussed the image contest for youth taking place and explained that this will be integrated into the plan.

4.5 Community Dialogue Sessions

Sally Leppard from Lura Consulting took a moment to discuss the concept of community dialogue sessions and their benefits for the process. She noted that:

- The purpose is to get feedback from particular neighborhoods, to get people interested in the neighborhood and the project.
- Because there are difficulties getting people such as stakeholders to come out, this is a way to try and reach them.
- It's important to have these conversations before the line is drawn on the Vision strategy
- Lura would like to have it set up by the end to move forward with a partner-based strategy once Lura Consulting is finished with their portion of the project.
- All different types of groups; stakeholders, specific user groups, actual neighbors to conservation authority lands, etc could be engaged

Comments and recommendations from SC members:

- A SC member said they can offer to host community dialogue session and suggested that during the weekends someone could be by the conservation authority trail in order to solicit people about the Dundas Valley project and also leave flyers and information at the pay stations.
- Another SC member suggested they could hold these discussions at the RBG, get invited to someone's house, and so forth.
- SC members thought this process would lend itself more to some organizations than others and cautioned that we would not want to favor some groups over others.
- SC members wanted to know how much staff time or Lura time would be required
- S.C. member wonders if there are other members of the conversation areas board who could hold small meetings about the Dundas Valley as a way to produce these sitting talks.

5. Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Susan discussed the Vision elements and aspirations for the Strategy as identified by community members. Steering Committee members provided feedback about the Dundas Valley Vision Statement and recommended that:

- The statement should be more succinct
- the term "sustainability economy" should be reconsidered and consider using 'strong communities'
- Phrasing should focus on the natural environment
- Should recognize that the Conservation areas expand beyond just Dundas and that there's more than just the natural area
- The focus should be the natural area but you can't ignore the rest, which is why the geography/study area includes urban and rural areas of Dundas and Ancaster

Sally gave the following feedback to the Steering Committee members:

- She thought that the key message was amazing natural attributes in the Dundas Valley; vibrant villages with vibrant economies
- Economies in the Dundas Valleys that understand that the vibrancy of the Dundas Valley can add to the economic prosperity of the Dundas Valley
- We brought in the elements of sustainable community, means you have funding at the different levels but we must be careful with the language we use and someone may use it out of context
- We do have to make it shorter and characterize the Valley like a gem and keep it the way it is or improve it

6. Goals and Strategic Directions

Steering Committee members had the following comments:

6.1 Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

SC member asked if we had First Nations people invited with the Stakeholder group. Sally said they were invited to participate but suggested we need to make contact with Six Nations. Steve Miazga indicated that HCA will contact Six Nations and see what else happens and who else they're able to get involved

6.2 Public Access and Passive Use

- SC member suggested that the term “passive recreation” has been clearly defined.
- Steve Miazga indicated it included non-organized sports that does not involve a lot of facilities

6.3 Economic Stability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

- **Business** - Steve indicated he felt that “small, community-based businesses that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas” was self-limiting
- Other SC members asked how do we decide where it should be small-based because that's what's already there
- **Transportation**- SC member said instead of “towns” use the term “communities”
- **Transportation (#10)** - SC member said they could foresee other people saying we need more rural roads. Another SC member said preservation or rural roads may be more appropriate

6.4 Education and Stewardship

A new strategic direction was put forward to incorporate education about the value of the Valley's features in school curriculum

Susan indicated that mid - end of October will be the deadline for the feedback.

7. Current State

Susan provided highlights of the current state research. Susan explained that Lura has gone through the Federal/Provincial/municipal regulations and standards and policies and also went through the HCA programs, plans, policies and previous consultations. She is working with the Task team to fill in additional policy and data gaps.

The following studies were offered by Christina Lee-Morrison:

- Open space dev. group: trails master plan
- City wide storm water master plan,
- City wide transportation plan:
- Dundas and Ancaster TMPs
- Greensville Subwatershed Study

8. Working Session: SWOT analysis exercise

Sally led the SWOT analysis exercise. She said there's a great policy context for the Vision strategy now and we need to identify the gaps. She explained that the exercise is a brainstorming exercise about the knowledge and experience of the Steering Committee.

SWOT analysis data can be found in Appendix A.

9. Next Steps and Meeting Date

Sandy, Sally and Susan thanked the Steering Committee members for attending. Susan indicated the Stakeholder group meeting will be held on October 8th, 2008, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at HCA.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on October 30th 2:00-4:00 p.m. and will address implementation and the implementation of the framework.

APPENDIX A: SWOT Analysis Feedback

Internal Strengths

- Knowledge and dedication of staff throughout institutions and environmental agencies
- History of environmental preservation
- Good working relationships between the CA, the city and other agencies
- Strength in the fact that the community highly values the Dundas Valley
- They value not only the Valley but the HCA that has the strength to carry this out
- The HCA being an innovative body towards the natural heritage preservation

Sally asked if there's anything poised ready to achieve the goals of the Vision strategy. The Steering committee responded by saying the legislative framework and the provincial involvement in terms of Greenbelt strategy.

Internal Weaknesses

- Fiscal constraints
- Conflicting mandates:
 - Political agendas
 - Agriculture vs. natural environmental preservation
 - Water quality vs. agricultural practices
 - The policy is in place but not all the practices are in place

External Opportunities:

The opportunities outside that could go towards the achievement of this vision:

- Increasing public interest in heritage protection
- Greater support from the municipalities, even from the province (e.g.: Greenbelt)
- Another opportunity is pro-active health programs related to the environment
- Transportation is an element: new transportation systems will cause reduction of carbon footprint and increased access to the Dundas Valley via transportation

External Weaknesses

- Climate change
- Potential for public interest to turn against environmental matters as the population increases
- Problem species
- The land vs. recreational use (land use)
- There's attractiveness to the valley, which attracts developers

-
- There's a bit of this small town protectionism, which can limit opportunities and may cause backlash in terms of elitists

Implications

Sally asked the SC to consider how to use the strengths to maximize opportunities:

- The ability to use this area for healthy communities, make it more accessible
- Being more aware of the value of nature
- With the physical end of things is setting priorities, what is it that you feel is most important and then try and direct the resources there
- We want to build on the credibility of the conservation authority, the vision, the opportunities and to support the planning, which is coming into it's own, on the provincial levels at least to support that

Sally asked the SC do we need to talk about the promising opportunities that we need to build into the action planning part?

- Health
- As the community grows we need to have increased protection for the environmental areas and encouraging alternatives to the recreational use in the Valley (in other ways, other areas, etc.)

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Steering Committee Meeting #3

DATE: November 5th, 2008, 2:00-4:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs
Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Heather Donison, Senior Project Manager, Sustainability City of Hamilton
Christina Lee-Morrison, Acting Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Hamilton
Anne Redish, HCA representative member of Conservation Areas Advisory Board
Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton representing environmental groups
Sandy Bell, Manager, HCA
Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting
Natalia Hahn, Lura Consulting
Michelle Hrabí, Lura Consulting

Regrets:

Steve Miazga, Chief Administrative Officer, HCA
Philip Krakar, HCA representative, member of Watershed Management Advisory Board
Chris Firth-England, Chair HCA

1. Purpose(s)

- To report on progress to date
- To confirm revised draft Vision, Goals and Strategic Direction statements
- To identify actions and priorities
- To discuss implementation framework

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Sally Leppard of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Overview of the Key Actions Items from Meeting #2

Sally Leppard went over key action items from Meeting #2 and gave everyone an update.

- *Targeted organizations* – Sally indicated that Joan Bell from the HCA was able to identify some contacts for community dialogue sessions. Sally explained that targeted groups would be involved in this, which is needed to support the project.

- *Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions* – Sally indicated that the Vision Statement, the Goals and Strategic Directions were updated according to suggestions made by both the Stakeholder Group and the Task Team.
- *SWOT analysis* – Sally indicated that both the Stakeholder Group and Task Team participated in a SWOT analysis and that the Steering Committee would be presented with the results.

4. Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

4.1 Review of Vision Statement

Sally reviewed the new Vision Statement. She explained that there has been a suggestion about creating a Vision statement and a mission statement. She felt that this was unnecessary but perhaps when the partners pick up the project may want to implement this idea. Sandy also presented the new Vision statement that had been established by some HCA members.

The Steering Committee had the following feedback:

- Some SC members felt that a mission statement was unnecessary; that difficulties may arise from trying to fit the Vision, Goals and Strategies into the existing mandates of the project agencies; some did not want to use the terms “towns” or “villages” but instead use “vibrant rural and urban community being together and working together.”
- Some members thought to replace stewardship with “protect and embrace” in the Vision Statement.

Sally gave the following feedback:

- Sally recommended that by November 15th the final statement would need to be decided on, and if certain details cannot be in the Vision statement, they will go into the Strategic Directions and Goals

4.2 Goals and Strategic Directions

Sally went over the changes that had been made by the Stakeholder Group and the Task Team to the Goals and Strategic Directions.

Goals and Strategic Direction changes can be found in Appendix A.

5. Implementation

Sally went over the implementation for the plan. She indicated that some of the plans would relate to HCA and others outside the HCA.

Steering Committee members gave the following feedback:

-
- The HCA would be advocates for HCA land but they're not directly responsible for or stewards of the lands outside HCA property.
 - The coordination of the plan depends on the monitoring strategy.
 - There needs to be something on a smaller scale that monitors the implementation and progress of the Strategy.
 - It would be a lot to ask the HCA to be the steward of the Strategy.
 - TT felt that ways to capitalize on volunteer use should be looked into.
 - There needs to be more understanding as to how to maintain the Strategy, review the goals and so forth.

Sally gave the following feedback:

- Sally shared that there has been over 50 stakeholders to come out to the public meetings and asked how we could make the stakeholder process more functional so that people are really involved, and we need to have an idea of what short-term priorities exist and where the funding comes from.

6. Next Steps and Next Meeting Date

Sally and Sandy thanked the Steering Committee for attending. Sally indicated the joint Task Team and Steering Committee meeting will be held on December 9th, 2008 at 1:00-4:00 p.m. at HCA.

APPENDIX A: Goals and Strategic Direction Feedback

The Steering Committee had the following feedback:

Goal 1:

- SC members agreed that engaging partners and volunteers in project plans would be a good idea.
- Some recommendations include adding separators between actions within the Goal/Strategic Direction/Action matrix; and to move the action ‘expanding bird areas’ to a recreation minded section
- SC members agreed that existing by-laws and existing development policies should be looked into in regards to building height and vistas
- In regards to protecting and enhancing the health of streams, watercourses and waterfalls, the SC agreed that monitoring is not necessary before doing a management plan. In addition, the group agreed that there needs to be explicit details about emissions added into the study to mitigate greenhouse gases. They also agreed that there is a need to adapt to climate changes, which is different than mitigation strategies. The group agreed that a greenhouse inventory of the Valley or the HCA lands would be a good idea.

Goal 2:

- In regards to the SD about recognizing the rich history of Aboriginal people and early settlers – the SC believed that the City of Hamilton had recent by-law changes to cultural heritage that likely outlines some actions associated with this SD.
- The SC agreed that forming the ‘identity’ of the Dundas Valley would be a good idea.

Goal 3:

- There was discussion on the definition of ‘passive’ activities. They agreed that hiking and biking would be fine to be included. The SC agreed that ‘passive’ means ‘non-intrusive’ activities. The group also agreed that intrusive recreational activities should be designated away from ecologically sensitive areas.

Goal 4:

- There was discussion about the ‘safety’ of the HCA lands – the SC agreed that safety is important, but unnecessary fencing and such should not be included in the Strategy.

Goal 8:

- The SC agreed that points referring to the NEC should be more clearly defined as well as add references to policies such as the Green Belt.

Goal 11:

- The SC agreed that there was confusion between having safe special character roads and protecting the natural landscape – this goal’s wording will have to be changed
- The words ‘special character roads’ need more defining.

Goal 12:

- In regards to the outdoor education facility, the SC agreed that the HCA staff would need to be consulted further about perhaps expanding where it is. The SC also wanted to ensure that the Strategy is careful not to repeat what the RBG has already accomplished for outdoor education – SC also agreed that the outdoor education facility will still come down to finances and the location of the facility.

Goal 13:

- In regards to ‘cooperative marketing’ some are not sure what that means in regards to marketing the Valley (perhaps the significant features of the area and conservation) – SC agreed that the BIAs could help with this.

Dundas Valley Vision

Steering Committee Meeting #1
April 30th, 2008

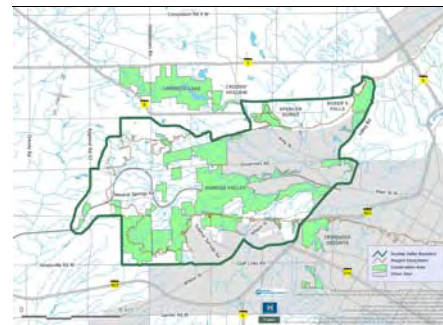
Purpose of the Meeting

- To introduce the Lura Consulting team and Steering Committee (SC);
- To introduce and discuss the approach to the 50-year Strategy development process;
- To review the role of the SC;
- To review and discuss the approach to engaging stakeholders and the public; and
- To seek input from the SC on:
 - Vision and goals
 - Key Issues
 - Key message and effective means to engage the community

Meeting Agenda

- 2:00 Welcome and Agenda Review –Lura Consulting
Round of Introductions
- 2:10 Context of the 50-year Strategy - HCA
- 2:15 Overview of the approach to developing the 50-year Strategy and Study organization – Lura
- 2:30 Communications and Engagement Plan - Lura
- 2:45 Mandate & Role of the Steering Committee – Lura/All
- 3:00 Discussion – All
 - Vision and goals
 - Key Issues
 - Key Messages
- 3:55 Next Steps and Meeting Date
- 4:00 Adjourn

The Study Area

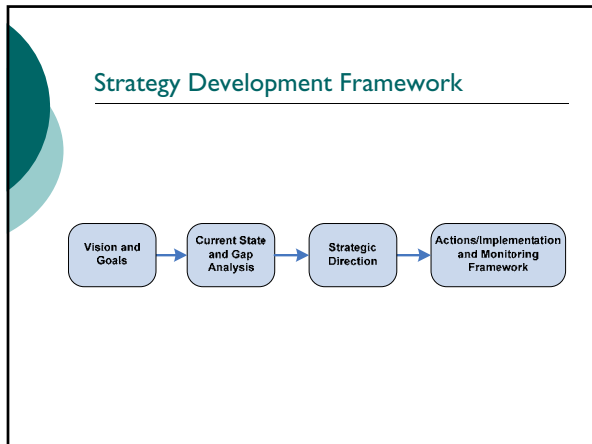


Strategy Development Context

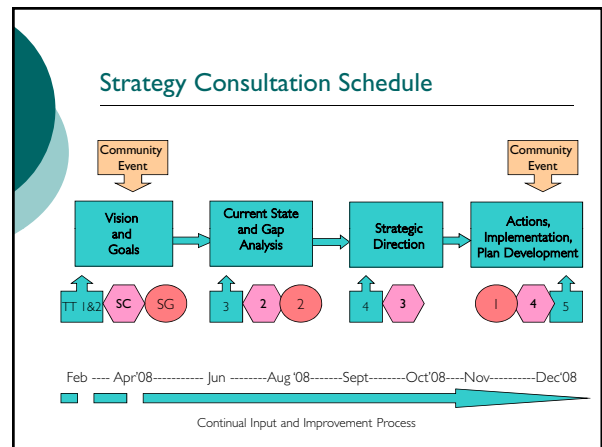
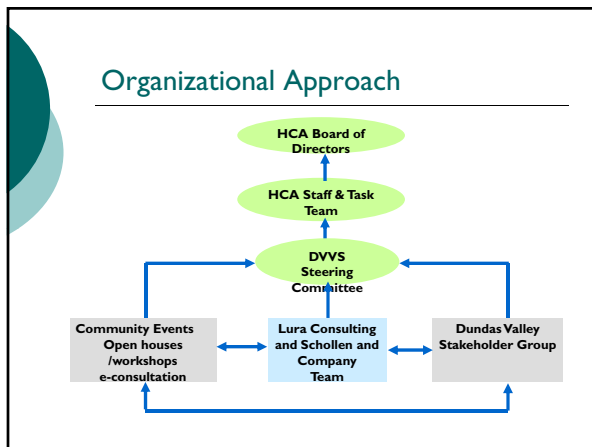
- Initial Open House took place June 28th 2007, before the Terms of Reference had been established
- Issues identified by the public included:
 - aquifer protection
 - infrastructure development
 - preservation of the Valley as a natural resources
 - Funding for the Study from the province

Benefits of a 50-Year Vision Strategy

- Ensures good stewardship of natural and cultural heritage
- Allows for public participation in community planning process
- Helps determine community priorities
- Identifies potential opportunities as well as present and future challenges within the study area
- Preserves opportunities for recreation, enjoyment of nature and environmental education



- ### Our Approach
- A collaborative, multi-disciplinary process that includes municipal councils, HCA staff, community groups, stakeholders and residents
 - Key Organizational Elements:
 - Task Team (TT)
 - Steering Committee (SC)
 - Stakeholder (SG)
 - Community Consultation



Dundas Valley Vision

Community Engagement & Communications (CEC) Plan:
A Summary

- ### Community Engagement & Communications Plan
- Purpose:
 - outlines various engagement and communications approaches and techniques to be used in the development of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Strategy
 - will ensure that the development of the Strategy is consistent with those who either have responsibility to implement the plan or will be affected by it.

Community Engagement & Outreach Plan

Plan Components:

- Guiding Principles & Objectives
- Key Audiences, Messages & Messengers
- Communication & Community Awareness
- Community Engagement & Consultation
- Documenting Consultation
- Monitoring, Tracking & Evaluating Effectiveness of Engagement Process

Community Engagement & Outreach Plan

Communications Activities:

- Newsletter articles
- Stakeholder list distributions
- Radio ads and Newspaper Editorials
- Linkages to HCA and Community Events
- HCA and City of Hamilton website
- Communication through e-consultation through HCA
- Newspaper advertisements
- Community networks (event listings)
- Site Users and Volunteers Survey
- Children and Youth Activities

Community Engagement & Outreach Plan

Community Engagement & Consultation Activities:

- Task Team (TT)
- Steering Committee (SC)
- Stakeholder (SG)
- Community Consultation

Steering Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Steering Committee (SC) is to direct and provide guidance to the development, execution and implementation of the Dundas Valley Vision Study and Strategy. The SC will work closely with the consulting team to assure that they Study adequately incorporates the ideas and input from the Stakeholders Group and the community events.

Steering Committee Mandate

- Attend and participate in meetings of the SC meetings;
- Share experiences and ideas;
- Provide input, advice and guidance to the Strategy;
- Ensure the Strategy aligns with agency mandates, future plans and proposals as appropriate;
- Recommend additional data sources and other information required;
- Review each of the Strategy Chapter reports to ensure they reflect input received;

Steering Committee Mandate

- Act as liaison between the SC and your agencies/organizations;
- Act as ambassadors and leaders for the Strategy;
- Identify and promote opportunities for partnerships and commitments;
- Put forward recommendations to HCA Board of Directors through HCA staff; and
- Integrate the 50-year strategy for the Valley within future planning initiatives at agencies/organizations.

Steering Committee Membership

Membership includes:

- Chris Firth-Eagland, Chair HCA
- Anne Redish, HCA representative, member of Conservation Areas Advisory Board
- Philip Krakar, HCA representative, member of Watershed Management Advisory Board
- Christine Lee-Morrison, Acting Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Hamilton
- Heather Donison, Senior Project Manager, Sustainability City of Hamilton
- Russ Powers, Councilor Ward 13, City of Hamilton
- Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton representing environmental groups

What other sectors or individuals should be included on the Steering Committee?

Steering Committee Meetings

Meeting 2 – July/August

- review of current conditions report, identification of gaps and strategic directions, prep for stakeholder group meeting #2

Meeting 3 – Week of October 27th

- review of gaps report, input to strategic directions, implementation input, prep for stakeholder group meeting #3, open house #2

Meeting 4 – Week of December 1st

- Review 50-year Vision and Strategy

Propose Wednesday Afternoon 2:00-4:00 p.m. Feedback?

Dundas Valley Vision

Vision, goals, key issues, and key messages

Focus Questions

Vision

Q1: Please think about the Dundas Valley study area as a whole and identify 2-3 things that you most value about it today. From an environmental perspective, an economic perspective, and a community perspective

Q2: Please visualize how you would like the study area to be 50 years from now. What 2-3 words would you use to describe your vision? From an environmental perspective, an economic perspective, and a community perspective.

Focus Questions

Issues

Q3: As you think about the Dundas Valley 50-year Vision Strategy, what pressing issues or concerns will the project need to address?

Focus Questions

Key Messages

Q4: What do you want the Strategy development process to be known for?


Q5: What do you want the Strategy itself to be known for?



Focus Questions


Stakeholder Engagement

Q6: Looking at the list of Stakeholders to be invited to the Stakeholder Group, are there others that should be included?


LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

September 30th, 2008, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
Hamilton Conservation Authority




Hamilton Conservation Authority
1958 • Celebrating 50 Years of Conservation • 2008



LURA
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Meeting Agenda


- 1. Welcome, Agenda, and Review of Meeting Minutes – Lura Consulting**
- 2. Review of Outreach Activities – Lura Consulting**
 - Community events
 - Outreach kits and image contest
- 3. Presentation of Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions – Lura Consulting**
 - Discussion: Confirmation of Vision, goals, strategic directions
- 4. Presentation of Current State Highlights – Lura Consulting**
- 5. Working Session – All**
 - SWOT Analysis exercise
- 6. Process Moving Forward**
- 7. Adjourn**


LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Review of Meeting #1 Minutes – Action Items


LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Process Framework



```

    graph TD
      A[Process Framework] --> B[Vision, Goals, Objectives]
      B --> C[Current State, Gap Analysis]
      C --> D[Strategic Directions]
      D --> E[Actions]
      E --> F[Implementation and Monitoring]
      G[We are here] --> D
      H[We are here] --> E
    
```


LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Community Outreach Update


LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Outreach Event Update

Date	Event	Approx. Attendees	Surveys Collected
June 7 th	Christie Lake Splash Day	500+	18
June 8	Buskerfest	500+	6
June 28 & 30	It's Your Festival	500+	4
July 1 st	Picnic in the Park	400+	15
July 12	Christie Lake Beach Party	100+	5
July 9	Marker's Market	300	9
July 28	Community Harvest	20+	3
August 3 & 4	Ice Cream Festival	1500	13

Communication Tools

The Dundas Valley
Vision Study Newsletter

I

Dundas Valley
<http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/dvstrategy.asp>

50 Year Strategy for the Dundas Valley

DUNDAS VALLEY:
If You Can Read This You Can Support the 50-Year Strategy

Key Messages from Outreach Activities

VALUES:

- Quality/quantity of green spaces
- Unspoiled nature
- Biodiversity and wildlife
- Waterfalls
- Escarpment
- Living museum
- Conservation areas/parks
- Recreational opportunities
- Family-friendly trails
- Town festivities
- Kind people
- Cultural preservation and heritage
- Small community atmosphere

FUTURE:

- Remain unchanged
- Preserved/conserved
- Healthy, clean environment
- Expanded natural areas
- More trails
- More/improved washroom/trail stations
- Smart growth to retain small community feel
- Increased business development
- Improved access and accessibility
- More sports, community facilities and attractions

Upcoming Outreach Events

Date		Event
Month	Day	
October	4	Gandhi Peace Week
	4	Makers Market
	5	Rail Trail talk
	TBD	Giant's Rib lecture series
	10-13	Rockton's World's Fair
	11	St. Mary's Church Parade
November	13	Griffin House Open to the Public
	25	Scarecrow Saturday
	7-8	Holiday Village and Craft Show
	11	Hamilton Veterans Events
	TBD	Giant's Rib lecture series
	22	Artisan's Marketplace

Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Vision Elements

- Be a long-term legacy
- Be a comprehensive strategy
- Be a model for others
- Raise profile of the valley
- Recognize and protect the inherent value
- Consider the Dundas Valley as an ecosystem
- Protect biodiversity
- Confront threats
- Acknowledge the system's carrying capacity
- Recognize residents and landowners needs
- Provide a balance between science-based and community-based goals and directions.
- Be a HCA-led and community-owned

Vision Statement

In the next 50 years, the Dundas Valley will have preserved its character - both as a thriving community and as a part of the rich diverse sustainable ecological system of the Niagara Escarpment. The communities in and around the Dundas Valley will have a clear sense of the connectivity between the Valley's history, a sustainable economy, a healthy active community, and an appreciation of their role as environmental stewards and cooperative managers of the Valley. The Valley's position as a meeting point between urban and wilderness areas will be a model for other communities seeking to strike a balance between recreation and conservation and between development and preservation.

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

1. To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources

- 1.1 Maintain and enhance the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats
- 1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley
- 1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including selected vistas
- 1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk
- 1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley
- 1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls
- 1.7 Monitor climate change to create an adaptive management strategy

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources

- 2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley
- 2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites
- 2.3 Promote local history
- 2.4 Contribute to the preservation of the small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

3. To promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces

- 3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise
- 3.2 Preserve the integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages

4. To ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all ages where feasible based on landscape

5. To establish a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent residents

- 5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members
- 5.2 Establish a harmonious relationship between visitors and natural areas

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Business

6. To promote small, community-based businesses that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas

- 6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas

Agriculture

7. To use stewardship best practices to encourage agriculture and local food production that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas

- 7.1 Support an appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle
- 7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops accessibility to residents

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Development

8. To encourage development best practices that is compatible with the natural environment

- 8.1 Support intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development
- 8.2 Support mechanisms to limit development within the Valley
- 8.3 Support keeping development within current boundaries

Transportation

9. To encourage towns to be more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly

10. To promote preservation of rural roads through Valley

- 10.1 Address use and impacts of roads

Goals & Strategic Directions

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

11. To promote community transportation linkages

Tourism

12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley



Goals & Strategic Directions

Education and Stewardship

13. To encourage the community to value the Valley's ecological features

- 13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them
- 13.2 Promote trail etiquette
- 13.3 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough and Hamilton
- 13.4 Provide outdoor education opportunities
- 13.5 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites
- 13.6 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents



Goals & Strategic Directions

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley

- 14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)
- 14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands
- 14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and science, and implement
- 14.4 To bring additional land into protection




Working Session

Confirmation of Vision, goals, strategic directions



Current State



Current State Highlights

Dundas Valley Study Area Characteristics

The Dundas Valley study area includes:

- 5,400 hectares of which 1,464 hectares is owned by HCA
- The Town of Dundas (24K+), parts of the Town of Ancaster (27K+), Flamborough (22K+) and Greensville – all of which are part of the City of Hamilton
- 5 HCA owned properties (Dundas Valley, Tiffany Falls, Lower Spencer Creek, Spencer Gorge, Borer's Falls), including 10 ESAs and 4 ANSIs as well as protected waterfalls
- Portions of the lands protected by the NEC
- Extensive trails system
- Culturally and heritage significant features
- Rural land activities focus primarily on agriculture
- Urban land use activities focus on small business and tourism



Current State Highlights

Jurisdictional Context

Federal/Provincial/municipal regulations/standards and policies

- Places to Grow Act
- Greenbelt Plan
- Provincial Policy Statement
- Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Endangered Species Act
- Ontario Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Biodiversity Strategy
- Niagara Escarpment Plan
- Ontario Water Resources Act
- Permit to Take Water
- Clean Water Act
- Provincial Water Quality Objectives
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Fisheries Act
- Go Green: Ontario's Action Plan on Climate Change
- EPA: Local Air Quality regulations
- Ontario Heritage by-laws
- Ontario Trails Strategy
- City of Hamilton Official Plan
- Planning Act
- Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management Plan
- Dundas/Ancaster Transportation MPs

Current State Highlights

Methodology

- Reviewed all previous work, studies and master planning documents (complete);
- Identified Federal, provincial and municipal planning designations and restrictions (complete);
- Reviewed notes and comment forms from previous community and stakeholder consultations; (complete)
- Examined current and planned future land uses and land ownership in Dundas Valley (partially complete);
- Review existing environmental, cultural and heritage data and other relevant data (quantifiable data not yet received);
- Map current and potential future land uses and human activities (TBD based on priorities);
- Identify stressors based on current state analysis (in progress);
- Provide analysis of current conditions, stressors, potential opportunities and threats (in progress).

Current State

Limitations to Data

- Represents some data at the Spencer Creek or its sub-watershed levels which do not align with the Dundas Valley study area;
- Presents much municipal data at the Greater Hamilton area level which does not align with the Dundas Valley study area;
- Is based on the existing plans and policies provided by the HCA for review; and
- Does not yet reflect the data available at HCA that will quantify how plans, programs and policies are proceeding.

Current State

Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
1. To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources	1.1 Maintain and enhance the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats	Addressed	Partially addressed at Bore's Falls, DVCA, Spencer watershed wide, but not DV specific	Partially addressed
	1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley	Addressed	Absent	Unknown
	1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including selected vistas	Addressed	Absent	Unknown
	1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk	Addressed	Partially addressed	Ongoing
	1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley	Partially addressed (in aquatic systems) Absent in terrestrial	Absent	Unknown
	1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls	Addressed	Addressed	Addressed
	1.7 Monitor climate change to create an adaptation strategy	Addressed by province/municipality, not by HCA	None but NECC might have	Absent

Current State

Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources	2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley	Absent	Absent	Unknown
	2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites	Addressed	Partially addressed	Unknown
	2.3 Promote local history	Partially addressed by DVCA Heritage report	Absent	Unknown
	2.4 Contribute to the preservation of the small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces	Partially addressed by province	Absent	Unknown

Current State

Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
3. To promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces	3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise	Partially addressed through trails	Assumed available	Assumed but unknown
	3.2 Preserve integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages	Partially addressed (no comprehensive trails plan)	Addressed	Assumed but unknown
4. To ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all ages where feasible based on landscape				

Current State

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
5. To establish a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent residents	5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members	Partially addressed (no comprehensive facility plan, or plan for landowner interaction)	Assumed available (landownership)	Unknown
	5.2 Establish a harmonious relationship between visitors and natural areas			
6. To promote small, community-based businesses that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas	6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas	By municipality	Absent but assumed available through BIA/Chamber	Absent but assumed

Current State

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
Agriculture 7. To use stewardship best practices to encourage agriculture and local food production recognizing environmentally sensitive areas	7.1 Support the appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle	Partially by municipality	Absent	Unknown
	7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops accessibility to residents	Partially by municipality/provincial protection	Absent but assumed available through BIA/Chamber	Unknown
Development 8. To encourage development best practices that are compatible with the natural environment	8.1 Support intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development	Addressed	Absent but assumed available through City	Assumed available
	8.2 Support mechanisms to limit development within the Valley			
	8.3 Support keeping development within current boundaries			

Current State

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
Transportation 9. To encourage towns to be more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly		Addressed by City	Absent but assumed available	Unknown
	10. To promote preservation of rural roads through the Valley	10.1 Address use and impacts of roads	Absent	Absent
11. To promote community transportation linkages		Absent	Absent	Unknown
Tourism 12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley		Partially by HCA, Tourism Hamilton	Partially (need HCA data)	Assumed available

Current State

Education and Stewardship

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
13. To encourage the community to value the Valley's ecological features	13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them	Partially addressed, not sure if a comprehensive plan in place for DV	Partially	Assumed occurring
	13.2 Promote trail etiquette	Addressed	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	13.3 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough, Hamilton	Absent	Absent	Unknown
	13.4 Provide outdoor education opportunities	Addressed	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	13.5 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites	Assumed available	Assumed available	
	13.5 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents	Absent	Absent	Absent

Current State


Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley	14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)	Partially addressed by strategic plan	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands	Absent but assumed addressed by Business plan	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship and science, and implement	Assumed available	Absent	Absent
	14.4 To bring additional land into protection	Partially by strategic plan	Absent	Unknown

- ### Current Pressures on the Study Area
-
- Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement**
- Littering, dumping
 - Encroachment on public lands
 - Over use
 - Habitat loss/degradation
 - Fragmentation
 - Loss of diversity
 - Invasive species
 - Lack of water quality monitoring
 - Erosion and run-off
 - Engineering of natural systems
 - Pollution
 - Global warming

- ### Current Pressures on the Study Area
-
- Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement**
- None identified to date
- Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use**
- Trail integrity sacrificed to user accessibility
 - Negligent trail use
 - Multi-use trails which can lead to conflict between trail users


Current Pressures on the Study Area



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

- "Places to Grow" intensification
- Sub / urban sprawl
- Urbanization
- Incompatible development of privately owned lands in the Valley
- Highways/Road networks through the Valley
- Traffic and safety concerns
- Not a lot of people know about the Valley
- Destructive tourism

Current Pressures on the Study Area



Education and Stewardship

- Lack of information/respect for the ecosystem's carrying capacity
- Lack of appreciation for the inherent value of the Valley
- Vandalism

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

- Challenge of who has responsibility and too much reliance on voluntary initiatives for stewardship
- Lack of funding
- Lack of faith municipal politicians are responsive to constituents

Working Session




» SWOT analysis

Next Steps



- ▶ Stakeholder Group Meeting – confirmation of Vision, Goals, and Strategic Directions
- ▶ Communique on website re: DRAFT Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions
- ▶ Completion of Current State
- ▶ DRAFT Gaps analysis and action confirmation based on TT, SC, SG input
- ▶ Image Contest judging and results
- ▶ Implementation framework and draft strategy discussions with TT, SC, and SG
- ▶ Completion of draft strategy
- ▶ Community meeting to review and provide input to draft strategy
- ▶ Delivery of final strategy

Process Moving Forward



Meeting	Purpose	Timing
SG #2	Confirm and refine Vision, goals, strategic directions and current state	October 8 th 7:00–9:00 pm
TT #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and prioritization of actions • Identification of implementation strategy considerations 	October 23 rd 1:00–4:00 pm (TBC)
SC #3		October 30 th 2:00–4:00 pm (TBC)
SG #3		November 12 th 7:00–9:00 pm (TBC)
Community meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and discussion on draft plan 	November 26 th 6:30–9:00 pm (TBC)
TT/SC #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of draft final plan and supporting documents 	December 9 th 1–4 pm (TBC)

Meeting Adjourned



7 Appendix H: Stakeholder Group Meeting Minutes and Corresponding Presentations

Stakeholder Group

This group was comprised of stakeholders that reflected the broad community, user and landowner interests from the Dundas Valley area. The group provided hands-on knowledge to the project team and worked collaboratively to develop the Strategy.

All meeting minutes follow.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Stakeholder Group Meeting #1

DATE: May 15, 2008, 6:30-9:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Kalan Comba – Partner Solution Group
Chris Firth-Eagland – Dundas Valley Vision Steering Committee
Arthur Greenblatt – Dundas Valley School of Art
Kathryn Gold – Green Venture
John Hall - Remedial Action Plan for Hamilton Harbour
Vince Hoffman – Freewheel Cycle
Art Johnston - Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club
Randy Kay – Dundas Walks
Bill Kennedy - Dundas Valley Treekeepers
Gord McNulty - Hamilton Naturalists Club
Lorraine Norminton – The Ministry of Natural Resources
Michael Radigan - Public Works - Operations and Maintenance
Anne Redish - Dundas Valley Vision Steering Committee
Alexander Bell – Hamilton Conservation Authority
Susan Hall – Lura Consulting
Steve Miazga – Hamilton Conservation Authority
Kim Peters – Lura Consulting

1. Summary of Key Actions

- Presentation of the Strategic Planning Framework
- Answered focus questions about the opportunities and challenges of the Dundas Valley Study Area
- Stakeholders committed to disseminating information about the Study

2. Welcome

Sandy welcomed participants to the first Stakeholder Group (SG) meeting of the Dundas Valley Vision Study on behalf of the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Susan Hall presented SG members with Dundas Valley Vision Study packages, which included the SG mandate, invitations to community meetings, maps of the study area, and focus questions for the meeting.

3. Background on the Dundas Valley Visioning Study

The 10-year Dundas Valley Conservation Area Master Plan initiated in 1998 is concluding this year, and the Hamilton Conservation Authority is looking to replace this plan with a long-term strategy for how the Dundas Valley as a whole should be managed.

The long-term future of the Dundas Valley will also depend on how current resources are managed. At present, the HCA owns approximately 1 200 hectares, most of which is greenspace. In an effort to gauge the level of interest within the community for developing a long-term strategy, the HCA held an open house to discuss the possibilities. The response was very positive, in particular because people appreciated being consulted at the preliminary stages of the strategy development. (In fact, consultations began before the Terms of Reference had been established). Following this community meeting, HCA developed a detailed Terms of Reference for the study, and Lura Consulting was engaged to assist with strategy development.

4. The Definition of the Study Area

Susan Hall reviewed the study area maps which were provided to each participant. The boundary was set to include the escarpment and watersheds within the Dundas Valley. The only overlap with the Cootes-to-Escarpment study area is Borer's Falls.

5. Potentially Beneficial Outcomes of the Study

The possible benefits associated with the Study included were then outlined, and included the following:

- The opportunity for good stewardship of the Valley's natural and cultural heritage.
- The identification of challenges and opportunities within the Valley.
- The opportunity to determine community priorities for the Valley.
- The development and preservation of recreational activities and environmental education opportunities.

6. The Dundas Valley Vision Study Strategic Planning Framework

Susan Hall presented strategic planning framework to the Stakeholder Committee. It was noted that there are four phases in the planning process, including:

- Defining a vision and goals for the Dundas Valley
- Identifying the current state of the Dundas Valley and identifying gaps (i.e., weaknesses or threats to the integrity of the Valley's ecological, economic, or social sustainability)
- Determining strategic directions that address the vision and goals
- Developing actions and an implementation and monitoring framework to support achievement of the goals. Representatives from Schollen and Company are scheduled to attend the second and third SG meetings, and will assist during those phases.

Susan also reminded SG members that regular updates on the progress of the Study will be provided to the HCA board.

The Dundas Valley Vision Study is scheduled to conclude by the end of the year.

7. Communication Activities

An important step in the current phase is planning for events which will raise the public profile of the Dundas Valley Vision Study. SG members discussed different possibilities, including:

- Handing out flyers during the Victoria Day fireworks display.
- Having a presence at Christie Lake Splash Day.
- A booth at Buskerfest; Vince Hoffman of Freewheel Cycle offered his storefront during this event, and suggested Adventure Attic as another possible location.
- Utilizing the HCA website.
- Outdoor education coordination for children and youth.

8. Stakeholder Mandate

SG members discussed the stakeholder mandate, and stakeholders agreed to take information from the meeting to disseminate to their respective networks.

It was agreed that future SG meetings will take place on Wednesday nights at the HCA headquarters, and that care will be taken to avoid conflicts with other major community events.

9. Focus Questions

Q1: Please think about the Dundas Valley study area as a whole and identify 2-3 things that you most value about it today?

Economic Value:

- It was noted that the Dundas Valley needs to be better promoted as a tourism destination, both locally (i.e., residents of Hamilton) and further afield. The Dundas Valley was presented as an alternative to Hamilton's negative image (e.g., the view of Hamilton from the Burlington Skyway) that needs to be promoted. The Dundas Valley and Hamilton would be more attractive and sustainable for business if the rate of taxation were addressed; it is highly unfavourable when compared to setting up a business in Burlington.
- The image of the Hamilton Harbour will have to be improved; it is hard to recruit the "best and brightest" when Hamilton has such a negative image. A similar scenario exists in Sudbury where a negative image, associated with its resource extraction industries, stands in contrast to great natural beauty: One stakeholder noted the importance of engaging youth and the impact that the Dundas Valley had on provincial Envirothon participants: most perceived Hamilton negatively, but experienced a change in perspective when visiting Dundas Valley.
- The issue of revenue generation is important with respect to the HCA. The HCA must generate revenue, but it has limited means to accomplish this. The Dundas Valley cannot be gated and admission charged. Yet economic health is central to the overall health of the community.
- Tourism Hamilton should be promoting Dundas Valley.

Environmental Value:

- Several components of the Dundas Valley ecosystem are extremely valuable: the Valley contains a remnant of Southern Ontario's Carolinian forest. The Valley and its protected areas also provide connectivity between several different ecosystems and should remain intact to protect this connectivity.
- It was noted that there is already a high degree of protection in the Valley as provided by the Greenbelt and Niagara Escarpment plans, as well as through the HCA's jurisdiction, but it was noted that the HCA wants the community to help set priorities and determine appropriate uses to enhance the protection offered by these plans.

Community Value:

- Concern was expressed regarding urban growth in the Valley, including residential and industrial growth. One stakeholder values the current state of quaint villages and greenspaces, and doesn't want this to change.
- It was suggested that greater attempts be made to educate trail users about trail etiquette and the importance of respecting it.

-
- One stakeholder contemplated that the concept of “multi-use” trails is contentious and not practical in reality. It will always create conflict.

Q2: Please visualize how you would like the study area to be 50 years from now. What 2-3 words would you use to describe your vision?

- One stakeholder recalled how the community rallied around stopping the construction of Highway 403 through the middle of the Valley.
- It was noted that exotic species are also threatening the ecological integrity of the Valley. Garlic mustard and gypsy moths were offered as an example. Exotic species concerns should be part of planning for the future
- The role of the Dundas Valley Vision and Strategy was mentioned here as a way to help the conservation authority set guidelines to land use and conservation which do not currently exist.
- One stakeholder emphasized that preservation and conservation are not the same thing, and that recreational use is not always compatible with preservation. The ecological integrity of the site should not be compromised in an attempt to make it a public attraction.
- The inherent value of the Valley must be recognized, not just its economic value.

Q3: What do you think are the biggest threats to the unique features of the Dundas Valley that you value most?

- The Valley’s natural areas must be expanded, protected and sheltered from too much traffic. The example of Cootes Drive and the resulting loss in marshlands was provided.
- It was noted that Ancaster should be made more walkable. One stakeholder envisioned a “gentler place where people can walk and shop.” It should also be made more bike friendly.
- Conflicts in recreational uses were noted, especially between trail users, including mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrian riders. Hikers feel that bikers are ruining the trails, and that trails need to be built differently if they are to be used by cyclists. Cyclists noted that their needs were not being addressed by HCA, in contrast to other conservation authorities that are more welcoming.
- Concern was expressed about the health of streams and waterways in the Valley. It was noted that monitoring does not appear to be done on a regular basis. Areas like Spencer Creek are in great need of restoration and naturalization. Erosion and run-off seem to be

compromising water quality. It is also a challenge to determine who has responsibility with all of the agencies involved, and that there is too much reliance on voluntary initiatives for stream stewardship. It was suggested that a long-term erosion prevention plan might be a valuable tool for the HCA.

- The growth of the deer population is also a concern.

Q4: What enhancements would you suggest be made to the proposed study area (if any)?

- People in Ancaster don't feel very involved right now; we need to try to change this and ensure they are included as stakeholders.
- There was a question as to whether McMaster University lands are included in the study area since there is concern about run-off from a parking lot into Ancaster Creek.

10. Next Steps

Kim Peters presented a number of options that HCA and Lura Consulting are considering to encourage broader engagement of the public. These include an “imagery contest” to engage youth in producing artwork that is representative of what they value about the Dundas Valley. A comment postcard delivered through a mail drop is also being considered. Kim asked for feedback on these ideas and requested stakeholders to commit to disseminating information about the project through their own networks.

- Randy Kay volunteered to take and distribute materials related to the Valley Study, and suggested that project information and events be posted on the “Act Locally” website
- Arthur Greenblatt suggested that HCA work with the local school boards to integrate the Dundas Valley Visioning Study into the fall curriculum.
- It was suggested that all entries in an imagery contest be put on display and celebrated equally. The example of the 4x8 panels along the Waterfront Trail was offered.
- Lorraine Norminton suggested that the Ontario Stewardship Rangers be drawn upon to support the study. She also suggested sending out project information to the students that participated in the Envirothon.
- It was suggested that Eric McGuiness from the Hamilton Spectator be engaged and kept informed for publicity.
- It was suggested that other conservation authorities be looked at for best practices.

-
- It was suggested that a mail drop or flyer be used to engage a broad spectrum of people inside and immediately adjacent to the study area. It was noted that a flyer insert in the Dundas Star and Ancaster community newspapers costs about \$40 per 1000 copies.

11. Next Meeting Date

The date of the next SG meeting is to be determined, but will take place early August. This meeting will focus on reviewing the proposed vision and goals for the Dundas Valley Strategy, and will solicit comments on the Current Conditions report that Lura will be completing. Sandy and Susan thanked Stakeholder Group members for attending and stated that minutes would be prepared summarizing key themes and feedback. Lura will begin developing the Vision and Goal statements based on the feedback received at the Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group meetings, as well as at the upcoming Community meeting.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Stakeholder Group Meeting #2

DATE: October 8, 2008, 6:30-9:00 pm

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Jacklyn Watkins, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce

Michael Radigan, City of Hamilton

Bill Kennedy, Dundas Community Council

Art Johnston, Bruce Trail

Kathryn Gold, Green Venture

Christine Newbold, WM Osler Elementary

Warren Oda, Recreation, City of Hamilton

John Hall, HHRAP

Ken Hall, Giant's Rib

Susan Hall, Lura Consulting

Natalia Hahn, Lura Consulting

Michelle Hrabí, Lura Consulting

1. Summary of Key Actions

- Update community events list to include suggestions from Stakeholder group (including contacting re school garage sale and Ken Hall re children's art display at Giant's Rib)
- Provide stakeholder group members with new outreach materials
- Revise Vision Statement based on feedback received
- Revise Goals and Strategic Directions based on feedback received

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Susan Hall of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Overview of Key Action Items from Meeting #1

Susan went over the key actions items from Meeting #1 and gave an update:

Study area boundaries - Susan indicated that this was discussed with the stakeholder group at the last session and at the community meeting, but there wasn't a large issue with the current study area boundary, therefore, it has remained the same.

4. Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

4.1 Review of Study Area, Organizational Approach and Process Framework

Susan reviewed the study area and organizational approach for the study. She indicated that we are at the “current state” and “strategic directions” phases of the work, and that when discussing the Vision and goals with stakeholders and community members, they often provided input to the strategic directions and actions as well. Susan also mentioned that may be things missing in the current state and gap analysis but that they’ll be updated going forward as the Lura team acquires more information from HCA.

4.2 Community Outreach Update and Upcoming Events

Susan indicated that a Lura summer student attended 8 community events during the summer, reached over 4,000 individuals and collected 80 surveys that have contributed to the development of the goals and strategic directions; and

Susan indicated that Michelle Hrabí and Diana Murchie will be attending outreach events during the fall.

Stakeholder members indicated the following events should be added to the list:

- Emphasized the Giant Ribs lecture series (Oct. 19th), November and December dates;
- Mentioned a community event through schools as a fundraiser garage sale in November;
- Suggested setting up a stand in the hockey arena.

5. Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Susan reviewed the key elements that were identified by stakeholders to help form the proposed vision statements. Stakeholders reviewed the 3 vision statement options and provided the following recommendation:

- A combination of Statement 1 and 2 would be ideal;
- Should be shorter
- Consider dividing into a vision statement and a mission statement
- Several members preferred vision statement #2
- Several members liked the terms preserved, environmental stewards and ecological preservation components

Before discussing the specific goals and strategic directions, stakeholders discussed the rationale for including economic and social/community goals in addition to the natural heritage/ environmental protection aspects as part of the 50-year Vision Strategy and whether the Strategy should encompass areas outside of HCA existing properties.

Steve Miagza and Sandy Bell of HCA explained that the initiative to develop the 50-year Vision study came from HCA through the Board of Directors. The initiative started by recognition that things were happening on HCA lands that should be addressed, and that there was a proposal for the Dundas Valley Trail Centre to be expanded when the site is located in the midst of an environmental protection zone. HCA response was to look at a Vision for 50 years in the future that would help provide direction to HCA staff on these types of issues.

Susan also indicated that the wording of some of the strategic directions were positioned as ‘support’ or ‘encourage’ as these are strategic directions that may be led by others such as the City of Hamilton, but ones where HCA plays a role in their implementation. Stakeholders asked if the strategic directions identified were supported by the City of Hamilton. Steve explained that there are City of Hamilton representatives on the Steering Committee and they felt the strategies were aligned with the City’s directions. Steve also indicated that he had committed to the City that the Vision strategy would not be a land use plan.

6. Goals and Strategic Directions

Susan asked stakeholders to provide feedback on the goals and strategic directions presented. She indicated that not a lot of word-smithing had occurred but will as the 50-year Vision Strategy refinements move forward. Susan asked participants to identify if there was anything missing or misrepresented. Stakeholder members gave the following comments:

6.1 Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

1.2	Incorporating the term ‘corridor’ language.
1.3	Be more specific in terms of “country side”.
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because it’s a 50 Year Strategy, not only do you want to look after what is here now but what is in Dundas 50 years from now. • Liked the word <i>combat</i> because there are a lot of nuisance species. • Nuisance of invasive species should be more specific.
1.6	Members liked this because the waterfalls in particular are becoming a highlight for the City of Hamilton, which helps change the image of the City.
1.7	Needs to be more specific in terms of who’s going to monitor climate change.

6.2 Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

Steve Miagza asked the group if they thought this should be included in the strategy as a mandate for HCA. He indicated that all conservation authorities handle it differently, some

include cultural heritage protection and others don't. The Stakeholder group indicated that because HCA has properties with culturally significant features it must be included. They also cautioned that the wording ensure that it is clear it is applicable to HCA properties not a global responsibility for cultural heritage protection in the study area.

2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group has been working on the portage trails that went through the Valley, there should be some effort to preserve these as well as other archeological sites Contact the Archeological department of Hamilton
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whose responsibility will it be? Steve said it's aligned were nicely with the City of Hamilton's policies. A member said as you protect more of the natural lands, the more it becomes the HCA's responsibility to protect the culture as well. Susan said once the implementation framework is complete it will be more clear as to who will take a leadership role for implementation (maintaining and protecting).

6.3 Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

3.1	<p>Word passive may need to have a context associated with it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does passive recreation include cyclists? Susan mentioned that non-motorized vehicles included cyclists. Member said we have to work on linkages by working on getting a common ground where certain uses can be universal.
5.2	<p>Steve asked if we should add residents/landowners. SG members said the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes because the interaction is not just with visitors. Anybody can build anything on their property and it affects the environment. We don't have the manpower to police these types of things, which is why we need a very strong educational component to the 50-year Vision Strategy.

6.4 Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Community

6	<p>Stakeholders felt this was more of a land use planning goal that should be removed</p>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace "environmentally sensitive areas" with "particularly sensitive areas". Need to add water courses or streams because one of the main impacts is on your stream systems Needs stronger language to strengthen of your action.
8.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensification doesn't just happened on brownfields.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure development that's compatible with the natural environment.
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be careful about "to promote community transportation linkages" but perhaps use the term <i>access</i>. • There should be a common vision for public transit that reaches the natural areas. • #11 could go into more detail as it relates to access to the resources.

6.5 Education and Stewardship

13.2	Trail etiquette could be described in the goals and strategic direction section.
13.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New curriculum has a lot more of an environmental conscious focus • Look for partnerships with local school boards to promote curriculum based learning strategies. SG member said they could provide further documentation on opportunities that focus on local ecology. • Bruce Trail allows for this through the plans they've implemented.

6.6 Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

SG member mentioned that agriculture, business, etc., is included but the general residential urban lands and some kind of stewardship program is not included.

7. Current State

Susan provided highlights of the current state research. She reviewed the Study area characteristics, jurisdictional context, methodology, and limitations to data. She indicated that the current state presented was based on the current information from HCA and that it will be updated as further information is provided. Susan also suggested members identify any other studies required to fill the gaps.

8. Working Session: SWOT analysis exercise

Susan led the SWOT analysis exercise and explained that the feedback will be integrated into the 50-Year Strategy. SWOT analysis data can be found in Appendix A.

9. Next Steps and Meeting Date

Sandy and Susan thanked the Stakeholder group members for attending and indicated the next meeting will be held on November 12th, from 6:30-9:00 pm at HCA office.

Meeting Adjourned

APPENDIX A: SWOT Analysis Feedback

Internal Strengths

- Recognition as the Dundas as a significant geographical asset;
- Several levels of input; Stewardship, Education, Ecology, Engineering, Planning;
- HCA and all it does at the present time;
- NEC, pick out significant things here and standards they have for what parks should be;
- Our past history of land acquisitions.

Internal Weaknesses

- Need for stronger connection between urban life and the natural environment;
- Not clear how HCA will provide ecologically friendly solutions to people enjoying the environment while still maintaining it;
- It's unclear how organizations such as the City of Hamilton will be involved;
- The HCA has limited ability on what they can implement and what they can control;
- Financial resources;
- Lack of control over activities outside HCA properties;
- People getting to the sites is difficult; and
- Recognition of the need, not just the funding, to have an empowered HCA.

External Strengths

- People pay less money to be fit because we have access to trails and other outdoor facilities, which means they have increasing interest in these types of facilities;
- Demographic changes is an opportunity, which encourages the use of outdoor facilities;
- A really well developed existing network of environmental groups and outdoor groups; and
- A lot of significant recognition on an international scale about the importance of the land

External Weaknesses

- Financing;
- Research component to what we have to do for the project but it's very expensive
- Pressure from the urban areas on the natural areas;
- Problems in natural areas that are used by certain groups;
- Population growth;
- Potential for the organization of HCA to limit the progress of the 50-year Vision Strategy;
- Global warming; and
- NGTA Peninsula highway.

MINUTES

RE: Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Stakeholder Group Meeting #3

DATE: November 12, 2008, 6:30-9:00

Hamilton Conservation Authority Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

Attendance:

Sandy Bell, Manager, HCA

Chris Krucker, Manorun Farm

Art Johnston, Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club

Kathryn Gold, Green Venture

Gord McNulty Hamilton Naturalists Club

Ken Hall, The Giant's Rib

Randy Kay, Dundas Walks

Sally Leppard, Lura Consulting

Natalia Hahn, Lura Consulting

Michelle Hrabí, Lura Consulting

1. Purpose(s)

- To report on progress to date
- To confirm revised draft Vision, Goals and Strategic Direction statements
- To prioritize actions
- To identify potential lead agencies
- To discuss implementation framework

2. Welcome and Agenda Review

Sally Leppard of Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

3. Overview of Key Action Items from Meeting #2

Sally Leppard went over Key Action Items from Meeting #2 and gave everyone an update.

- *Current State* – Sally indicated that the Task Team and the Steering Committee have revised the Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions. She also indicated that current state is mostly finished.
- *Actions* – Sally indicated that there have been actions formed based on the current state data.

- *Implementation* – Sally indicated that as other organizations implement actions they would be identified.

4. Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

4.1 Community Dialogue Sessions

Sally discussed the concept of community dialogue sessions and their benefits for the process. She noted that:

- There was a lot of difficulty attending community events
- Community dialogue sessions are a strong alternative
- Identified the 8 organizations that will potentially host the dialogue sessions
- Will allow for discussion of the goals and strategic directions
- Would assist in terms of broader citizens' engagement

Comments and recommendations from SG members:

- It's good to create an environment where a group of people have discussion, which is better than going to Town Hall
- One member said he hadn't heard of this before but it sounds very interesting

5. Revised Vision Statement

Sally discussed the adjustments that were made to the Vision Statement by the Steering Committee and Task Team. She indicated that there was a new Vision Statement formulated by Garnet and the HCA.

Comments and recommendations from SG members:

- Change layout
- More talk about the people and how they're involved in the process
- The new statement is a good amalgamation
- The global comment is cliché
- Take out the forests, streams and so forth
- Enjoy the mention of community and the Niagara Escarpment in the Dundas Valley
- Shorten the first and second sentences
- Put in "essential to the residents"
- Put in "recognized biosphere" instead of "global showcase"

Sally indicated that the revised Vision statement will be sent the Stakeholder so that they can give feedback.

6. Revised Goals and Strategic Directions

Sally went on to discuss the revised Goals and Strategic Directions. She requested that the SG members review the actions and prioritize them. She explained that both the HCA and other organizations would be involved in the process. Also, the document will be published under HCA mandate and in this document agencies will be identified for the actions.

Revised Goals and Strategic Directions can be found in Appendix A.

7. Implementation

Sally went on to discuss the implementation of the plan with SG members. She asked the SG members what kind of organizational framework they had in mind.

Comments and recommendations from SC members:

- Perhaps reorganize the HCA directors to include the organizations
- Sandy said to have a balance of individuals involved: different areas, different groups, different ages, male and female and so forth
- Maybe the board of directors may be too high of a level
- A group that's accountable for the board of directors would work

Sally gave the following feedback to the Stakeholder Group members:

- Reorganizing the HCA directors might be too complicated
- Suggested the creation of the Dundas Valley Advisory Board
- The SC thought of a group that's multi-sectoral who are responsible to this project and who will check in every year to make sure they're fulfilling their responsibilities
- The group would consist of all the people that have been identified as potential participating agencies

8. Next Steps and Meeting Dates

Sally Leppard and Natalia Hahn thanked the Stakeholder Group members for attending. Sally indicated that all changes and revisions would go to the final document. She also indicated that she's hopeful for a strong draft for mid December.

APPENDIX A: Revised Goals and Strategic Directions

The following are comments and considerations put forth by the Stakeholder Group members per Strategic Direction.

1.1

- Sandy indicated that there are 18 sub-watershed plans provided by the municipality, which the HCA will be looking at for implementation. Sandy indicated that there are certainly sub-watershed plans and partners in place right now for accomplishing 1.1
- These plans are looking at issues such as integrity, diversity, flooding issues, erosions on creeks and so forth
- The term “watershed” needs more explanation
- Partners: NEC and the City of Hamilton
- Priority: Ongoing/High

1.2

- Explain “green corridors”
- Sandy said this is preferred but if it’s through the municipality we’ll take this as well as connecting green space
- Perhaps put naturalized and or green if you really want to show the priorities
- Partners: add RBG, stewardship organizations, McMaster
- Priority: High

1.3

- Remove identifying funding because every step will require funding
- Actions are fine
- Like the term “viewshed”
- Good to starting proposals here so in the next study area you have a time to review it
- Document ecological integrity
- Add in waterfall initiative
- Sandy said it’s going to be the vistas, which are a priority, rather than the view to something specific to something like a waterfall
- Priority: High

1.4

- Sandy said in reference to “ensure NEC motorized vehicle...” that some of these places might be privately owned that fall along the Escarpment and therefore we can’t fall on the NEC policies”

-
- Member said that it is about targeting any activity that would have a detrimental effect on any of these types of species
 - Priority: Ongoing

1.5

- Sandy said nuisance species will always need to be considered, even into the future
- These issues have to be dealt with within the Dundas Valley
- Sandy indicated that for most of these items there's already someone out there looking at these issues
- Priority: Ongoing

1.6

- Perhaps "implement sub watershed plan" does not need to be mentioned more than once
- Priority: Ongoing/High

1.7

- Is this beyond the scope of what this group can do?
- Unsure how effective a climate change mitigation and adaptation strategy will function
- Replace the word "conduct"
- Sandy indicated that monitoring climate change is preferred so we change how we react to things caused by climate change
- Put the watersheds and so forth ahead of climate change
- If we prioritize everything as high, we're not really prioritizing
- For quick start actions, they should carry priority otherwise it wouldn't be a quick start
- Partners: Conservation Ontario and HCA involvement
- Priority: Ongoing

1.8

- Everyone seemed comfortable with this
- Agencies: HCA
- Priority: High/Ongoing

2.1

- Sandy said there are different opinions on where the trail came from but everyone agrees that there's Aboriginal trails that came through the Valley
- Priority: Medium

2.2.

- Sandy said he's unsure in reference to "utilize the areas heritage designation" if there's an area that needs to be designated more than the one that already exists
- Perhaps "utilize" is presumptuous
- Priority: Mid-term

2.3

- Priority: Ongoing

3.1

- These activities could be welcomed outside the conservation area
- They need to be low-impact but structured
- The SG members agreed that within the natural areas you're looking at activities that are low-impact
- In terms of the outside the conservation areas, Sandy said he would be hard-pressed as to what would be appropriate for some activities within the whole study area
- Put in soccer, baseball since they have a larger wider impact that would fall in structured uses
- One member asked about the term "avoid conflict between trail users with residents"
- It's not a huge issue but Sandy said someone felt it was an issue and it was put in
- Take "make the access Webster's Falls" out
- Take parking fees out
- Partner: HCA
- Priority: Ongoing

5.1

- Sandy said he doesn't know if we want new facilities
- Wondered about encouraging landowners to allow walking trails through properties
- Another member said maybe free community facilities should be built outside
- Encouraging landowners to allow walking trails through properties is too specific
- Trail etiquette is important but this is a use of the facility and doesn't have much to do with the visitors and landowners
- Perhaps it belongs in 3.1
- One member said put in "maintain a good neighbor policy" if we're going to keep #5
- Priority: Ongoing

6

- To market Dundas Valley might be a stimulation when more people come

- There will be a need for different marketing angles because there's people who enjoy the Valley in different ways
- One member said the first point could be interpreted to exploit the natural capital of the Valley
- Change the word "capital"
- One member said the involvement of the Chamber of Commerce that could exploit the Valley
- Sally suggested Medium/On-going

7

- 7.1 and 7.2 are great
- Sandy indicated that there were a lot of people from the first meeting that promoted this
- Agencies: Instead of the Agriculture federation will be interesting try National Farmers Union, the EFAO, and organic farms in the area
- Priority: High

8

- 8.1 & 8.2
- LEED is excellent to promote

9

9.1 & 9.2

- The City of Hamilton is working on/implementing a lot of transportation activities
- Priority: Ongoing

10

- There's a lot of people at HCA working towards the maintenance of these roads
- Priority: Ongoing

12.1

- Sandy said the HCA is pretty active as far as an agency for doing environmental education
- Sandy said the real thing we're trying to get through is the ecology and the significance of the areas we're in

12.2

- Felt this was a great idea
- There's a huge demand for this

-
- In terms of what remains it would be where it would go and where the money would come from
 - Suggested to create some sort of enlargement without affecting the appearance of the existing building

Dundas Valley Vision

Stakeholder Group Meeting #1
May 15th, 2008

Meeting Agenda

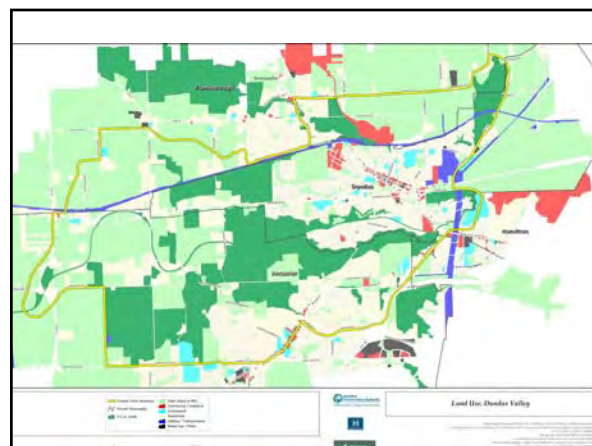
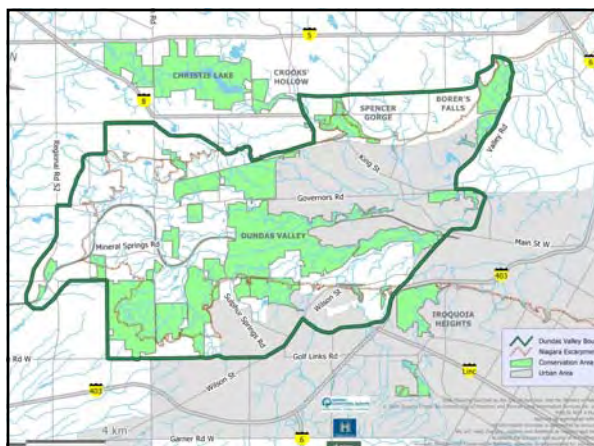
- 6:45 Welcome
- 6:50 Agenda Review
- 7:00 Context of the 50-Year Strategy
- 7:10 Developing the Dundas Valley 50-year Strategy
- 7:30 Overview of the Stakeholder Group Mandate
- 7:50 Discussion Session
- 8:30 Highlights of small group discussions
- 8:45 Stakeholder Engagement
- 8:55 Closing Remarks and Next Steps
- 9:00 Adjourn

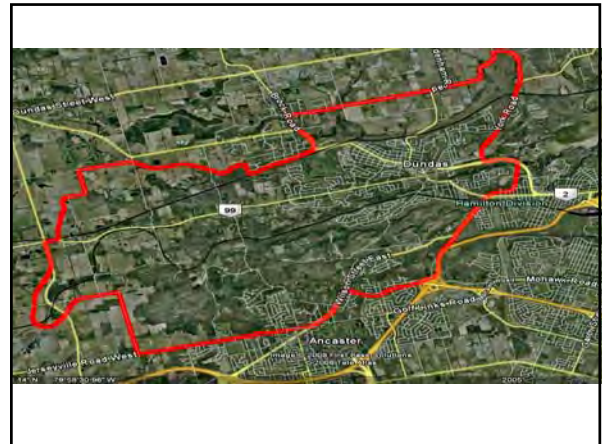
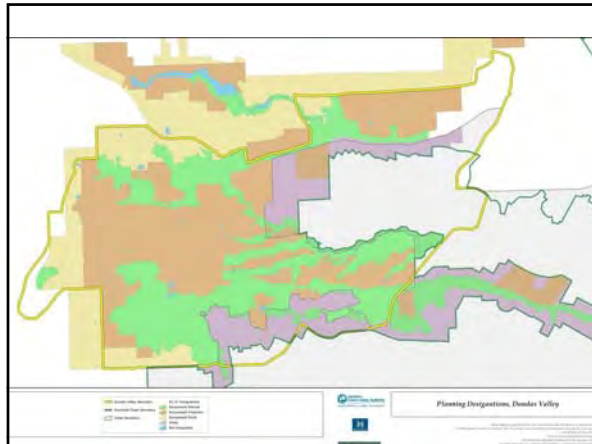
Purpose of the Meeting

- To introduce the Dundas Valley Vision Study and Strategy project and process to Stakeholder Group (SG) members.
- To orient the SG on their mandate and role in the development of the 50-year Dundas Valley Vision and Strategy.
- To seek input from the SG at this early stage in the process on:
 - Vision and goals
 - Opportunities
 - Issues and Threats
 - Stakeholder and community engagement

Strategy Development Context

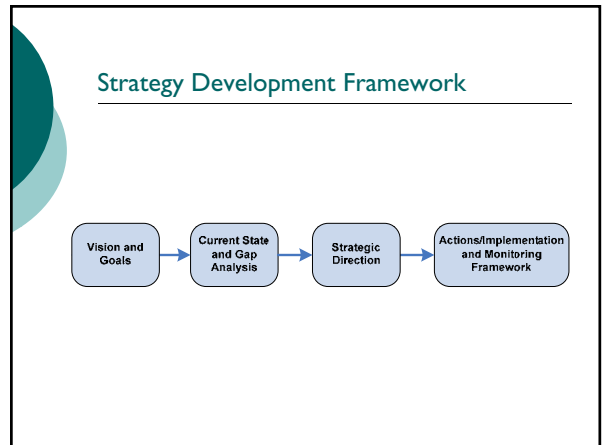
- Initial Open House took place June 28th 2007 to help determine the Terms of Reference for the study
- Issues identified by the public included:
 - aquifer protection
 - infrastructure development
 - preservation of the Valley as a natural resources
 - funding for the study from the province





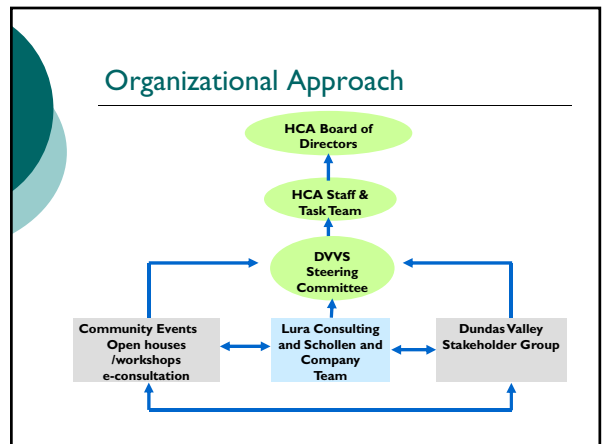
Benefits of a 50-Year Vision Strategy

- Ensures good stewardship of natural and cultural heritage
- Allows for public participation in community planning process
- Helps determine community priorities
- Identifies potential opportunities as well as present and future challenges within the study area
- Preserves opportunities for recreation, enjoyment of nature and environmental education



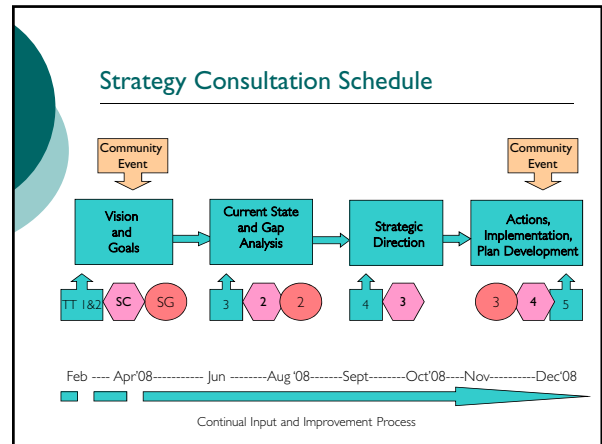
Our Approach

- A collaborative, multi-disciplinary process that includes municipal councils, HCA staff, community groups, stakeholders and residents
- Key Organizational Elements:
 - Task Team (TT)
 - Steering Committee (SC)
 - Stakeholder (SG)
 - Community Consultation



Communications Activities

- Newsletter articles
- Stakeholder list distributions
- Radio ads and Newspaper Editorials
- Linkages to HCA and Community Events
- HCA and City of Hamilton website
- Communication through e-consultation through HCA
- Newspaper advertisements
- Community networks (event listings)
- Site Users and Volunteers Survey
- Children and Youth Activities



Stakeholder Group Mandate

Stakeholder Group Purpose

The purpose of the Stakeholder Group (SG) is to provide insight, knowledge and support for the completion and approval of the 50-year Dundas Valley Strategy. The SG will provide advice during the planning phase of the Study, and will work with the Steering Committee (SC) to develop the Study. The SG will report to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority through the SC and the Task Team.

Stakeholder Group Mandate

- Provide input and review a Work Plan and monitor achievements;
- Act as a working group where the SC can test ideas and findings about the strategy development;
- Provide advice, critiques and suggestions on Strategy ideas including the Study's vision and goals, current state, gaps, and actions;

Stakeholder Group Mandate (...continued...)

- Provide a sense of the broader community reactions and concerns and how these might be addressed;
- Share and facilitate the collection of data from their sectors to inform the Study as needed;
- Provide a face-to-face channel of communication between community members, the SC and the Task Team;

Stakeholder Group Mandate (...continued.)

- Identify and discuss potential issues, challenges and opportunities in a timely fashion, and help to resolve them in order to move the development of the Strategy forward; and
- Promote commitment from their sectors/organizations for actions identified.

Stakeholder Group Meetings

Meeting 1 – May 15th

- Vision and Goals; Key Issues; Engagement Mechanisms

Meeting 2 – Early August

- Current State and Gap Analysis
- Discuss and enhance Current Conditions Report, and identify gaps and strategic directions

Meeting 3 – Week of November 10th

- 50-Year Strategy and Implementation Framework
- Refine strategic directions and develop implementation strategies, performance measures and monitoring approaches

Propose day 6:30pm to 9:00pm. Thursdays?

Dundas Valley Vision

Discussion Session Focus Questions

Community Engagement Plan

Surveys

Collecting statements on the vision, challenges and solutions for Dundas Valley in 50 years, via postcards and an online survey.

Image Contest

Collecting imagery of Dundas Valley in 50 years via an image contest targeted primarily at youth.

Community Engagement Kits

- Press Release(s)
- Backgrounder Brochure
- Newsletters
- Survey Postcards
- Survey Poster
- Image Contest Poster
- Image Contest Rules and Guidelines
- Image Contest Instructions for School Teachers
- Addressed Return Envelope

Distributed to schools, summer camps and through project partners and community organizations.

Next Steps


Upcoming events:

- Community meeting – May 24th
- Minutes from today's meeting – May 22nd
- Next meeting – Early August
 - Current State and Gap Analysis
 - Discuss and enhance Current Conditions Report, and identify gaps and strategic directions

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Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy

October 8th, 2008, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Hamilton Conservation Authority



1958 • Celebrating 50 Years of Conservation • 2008

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Meeting Agenda

PURPOSE(s):

- To report on community outreach activities to date and future events
- To review and discuss the draft Vision and goal statements
- To review and discuss the Current state highlights
- To conduct a SWOT analysis of the current state

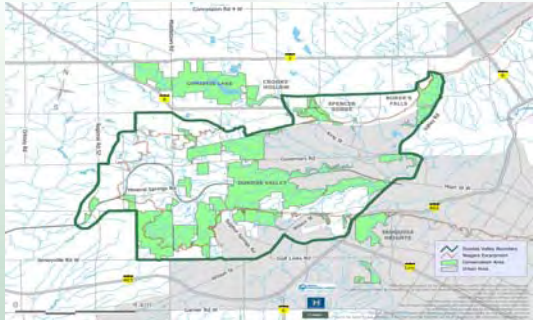
6:30 p.m.	Sign-in and Informal Meet and Greet
6:45 p.m.	Welcome, Agenda, and Review of Meeting Minutes Lura Consulting and HCA
7:00 p.m.	Review of Outreach Activities to date - Lura
7:20 p.m.	Presentation and Discussion of Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions - Lura
8:00 p.m.	Presentation of Current State Highlights
8:15 p.m.	Working Session - All SWOT Analysis exercise
8:55 p.m.	Process Moving Forward
9:00 p.m.	Adjourn

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Review of Meeting #1 Minutes - Action Items

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Study Area



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Organizational Approach

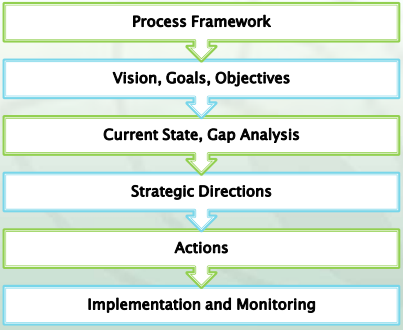


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    graph TD
      HCA[HCA Board of Directors] --> HCA_TT[HCA Staff & Task Team]
      HCA_TT --> DVVS[DVVS Steering Committee]
      DVVS --> CE[Community Events /workshops e-consultation]
      DVVS --> LSC[Lura Consulting and Schollen and Company Team]
      DVVS --> DVG[Dundas Valley Stakeholder Group]
      CE <--> LSC
      LSC <--> DVG
      CE <--> DVG
  
```

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Process Framework



```

    graph TD
      PF[Process Framework] --> VGO[Vision, Goals, Objectives]
      VGO --> CSA[Current State, Gap Analysis]
      CSA --> SD[Strategic Directions]
      SD --> A[Actions]
      A --> IM[Implementation and Monitoring]
  
```

← **We are here**




Community Outreach Update



Outreach Event Update

Date	Event	Approx. Attendees	Surveys Collected
June 7 th	Christie Lake Splash Day	500+	18
June 8	Buskerfest	500+	6
June 28 & 30	It's Your Festival	500+	4
July 1 st	Picnic in the Park	400+	15
July 12	Christie Lake Beach Party	100+	5
July 9	Marker's Market	300	9
July 28	Community Harvest	20+	3
August 3 & 4	Ice Cream Festival	1500	13




Communication Tools

The Dundas Valley Union Ninth Newsletter

10th Anniversary of the 50-Year Strategy for Dundas Valley


Labels for Dundas Valley: Conservation

The Dundas Valley: A Community Profile

I

Dundas Valley

<http://www.conservationhamilton.ca/dvstrategy>

50 Year Strategy for the Dundas Valley



www.conservationhamilton.ca

Conservation Authority

DUNDAS VALLEY:
If You Can Read This You Can Support the 50-Year Strategy



Key Messages from Outreach Activities

VALUES:

- Quality/quantity of green spaces
- Unspoiled nature
- Biodiversity and wildlife
- Waterfalls
- Escarpment
- Living museum
- Conservation areas/parks
- Recreational opportunities
- Family-friendly trails
- Town festivities
- Kind people
- Cultural preservation and heritage
- Small community atmosphere

FUTURE:

- Remain unchanged
- Preserved/conserved
- Healthy, clean environment
- Expanded natural areas
- More trails
- More/improved washroom/trail stations
- Smart growth to retain small community feel
- Increased business development
- Improved access and accessibility
- More sports, community facilities and attractions




Upcoming Outreach Events

Date	Event	
Month	Day	
October	TBD	Giant's Rib lecture series
	10-13	Rockton's World's Fair
	11	St. Mary's Church Parade
	13	Griffin House Open to the Public
November	25	Scarecrow Saturday
	7-8	Holiday Village and Craft Show
	11	Hamilton Veterans Events
	TBD	Giant's Rib lecture series
	22	Artisan's Marketplace




Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions

Vision Elements




- Be a long-term legacy
- Be a comprehensive strategy
- Be a model for others
- Raise profile of the valley
- Recognize and protect the inherent value
- Consider the Dundas Valley as an ecosystem
- Protect biodiversity
- Confront threats
- Acknowledge the system's carrying capacity
- Recognize residents and landowners needs
- Provide a balance between science-based and community-based goals and directions.
- Be a HCA-led and community-owned

Vision Statements



Vision 1: In the next 50 years, the Dundas Valley will have preserved its character – both as a thriving community and as a part of the rich diverse sustainable ecological system of the Niagara Escarpment. The communities in and around the Dundas Valley will have a clear sense of the connectivity between the Valley's history, sustainable community, and an appreciation of their role as environmental stewards and cooperative managers of the Valley.

Vision Statements




Vision 2: In 2060, the Dundas Valley Area will continue to exist as a rich and diverse Escarpment ecosystem, connected to strong and vibrant communities within the City of Hamilton. The area showcases the meeting point between urban and rural life.

OR

Vision 3: The communities in and adjacent to the Dundas Valley are intricately connected to the Valley's cultural and ecological resources. People celebrate and appreciate nature in their neighbourhoods. The Valley's position as a meeting point between urban and rural land uses showcases how people can balance recreation with conservation and urban lifestyles with preservation.

Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

1. To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources
 - 1.1 Maintain and enhance the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats
 - 1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley
 - 1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including selected vistas
 - 1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk
 - 1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley
 - 1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls
 - 1.7 Monitor climate change to create an adaptive management strategy

Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources
 - 2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley
 - 2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites
 - 2.3 Promote local history
 - 2.4 Contribute to the preservation of the small-town feel of quaint villages and green spaces

Goals & Strategic Directions



Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

3. To promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces
 - 3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise
 - 3.2 Preserve the integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages
4. To ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all ages where feasible based on landscape
5. To establish a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent residents
 - 5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members
 - 5.2 Establish a harmonious relationship between visitors and natural areas

Goals & Strategic Directions

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Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Business

6. To promote small, community-based businesses that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas 18

6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas

Agriculture

7. To use stewardship best practices to encourage agriculture and local food production that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas

7.1 Support an appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle

7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops accessibility to residents

Goals & Strategic Directions

LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Development

8. To encourage development best practices that is compatible with the natural environment

8.1 Support intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development

8.2 Support mechanisms to limit development within the Valley

8.3 Support keeping development within current boundaries

Transportation

9. To encourage communities to be more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly

10. To promote preservation of special character roads through the Valley

10.1 Address use and impacts of roads

Goals & Strategic Directions

LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

11. To promote community transportation linkages

Tourism

12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley

Goals & Strategic Directions

LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Education and Stewardship

13. To encourage the community to value the Valley's ecological features

13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them

13.2 Promote trail etiquette

13.3 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough and Hamilton

13.4 Provide outdoor education opportunities

13.5 Promote integration of the value of the Valley's ecological features into school curriculum

13.6 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites

13.7 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents

Goals & Strategic Directions

LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley

14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)

14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands

14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship, and science, and implement

14.4 To bring additional land into protection


LURA
LISTEN · UNDERSTAND · RELATE · ADVANCE

Working Session

Confirmation of Vision, goals, strategic directions



Current State




Current State Highlights

Dundas Valley Study Area Characteristics

The Dundas Valley study area includes:

- 5,400 hectares of which 1,464 hectares is owned by HCA
- The Town of Dundas (24K+), parts of the Town of Ancaster (27K+), Flamborough (22K+) and Greensville – all of which are part of the City of Hamilton
- 5 HCA owned properties (Dundas Valley, Tiffany Falls, Lower Spencer Creek, Spencer Gorge, Borer's Falls), including 10 ESAs and 4 ANSIs as well as protected waterfalls
- Portions of the lands protected by the NEC
- Extensive trails system
- Culturally and heritage significant features
- Rural land activities focus primarily on agriculture
- Urban land use activities focus on small business and tourism




Current State Highlights

Jurisdictional Context

Federal/Provincial/municipal regulations/standards and policies


- Places to Grow Act
- Greenbelt Plan
- Provincial Policy Statement
- Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Endangered Species Act
- Ontario Species at Risk Act
- Ontario Biodiversity Strategy
- Niagara Escarpment Plan
- Ontario Water Resources Act
- Permit to Take Water
- Clean Water Act
- Provincial Water Quality Objectives
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Fisheries Act
- Go Green: Ontario's Action Plan on Climate Change
- EPA: Local Air Quality regulations
- Ontario Heritage by-laws
- Ontario Trails Strategy
- City of Hamilton Official Plan
- Planning Act
- Hamilton Harbour and Watershed Fisheries Management Plan
- Dundas/Ancaster Transportation MPs



Current State Highlights

Methodology


- Reviewed all previous work, studies and master planning documents (complete);
- Identified Federal, provincial and municipal planning designations and restrictions (complete);
- Reviewed notes and comment forms from previous community and stakeholder consultations; (complete)
- Examined current and planned future land uses and land ownership in Dundas Valley (partially complete);
- Review existing environmental, cultural and heritage data and other relevant data (quantifiable data not yet received);
- Map current and potential future land uses and human activities (TBD based on priorities);
- Identify stressors based on current state analysis (in progress);
- Provide analysis of current conditions, stressors, potential opportunities and threats (in progress).



Current State

Limitations to Data

- Represents some data at the Spencer Creek or its sub-watershed levels which do not align with the Dundas Valley study area;
- Presents much municipal data at the Greater Hamilton area level which does not align with the Dundas Valley study area;
- Is based on the existing plans and policies provided by the HCA for review; and
- Does not yet reflect the data available at HCA that will quantify how plans, programs and policies are proceeding.




Current State

Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
1. To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources	1.1 Maintain and enhance the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats	Addressed	Partially addressed at Borer's Falls, DVCA, Spencer watershed wide, but not DV specific	Partially addressed
	1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley	Addressed	Absent	Unknown
	1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and countryside, including selected vistas	Addressed	Absent	Unknown
	1.4 Protect rare, endangered or species at risk	Addressed	Partially addressed	Ongoing
	1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley	Partially addressed (in aquatic systems) Absent in terrestrial	Absent	Unknown
	1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, waterways and waterfalls	Addressed	Addressed	Addressed
	1.7 Monitor climate change to create an adaptation strategy	Addressed by province/municipality, not by HCA	None but NECC might have	Absent


Current State



Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
2. To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources	2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley	Absent	Absent	Unknown
	2.2 Recognize and conserve heritage sites	Addressed	Partially addressed	Unknown
	2.3 Promote local history	Partially addressed by DVCA Heritage report	Absent	Unknown
	2.4 Contribute to the preservation of the small-community feel of quaint villages and green spaces	Partially addressed by province	Absent	Unknown


Current State



Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
3. To promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces	3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise	Partially addressed through trails	Assumed available	Assumed but unknown
	3.2 Preserve integrity of trails, ensure access and improve linkages	Partially addressed (no comprehensive trails plan)	Addressed	Assumed but unknown
4. To ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and safe for all ages where feasible based on landscape				


Current State



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
5. To establish a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent residents	5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors which do not cause inconvenience to community members	Partially addressed (no comprehensive facility plan, or plan for landowner interaction)	Assumed available (landownership)	Unknown
	5.2 Establish a harmonious relationship between visitors and natural areas			
6. To promote small, community-based businesses that do not negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas	6.1 Careful increase of business development in commercial/industrial areas	By municipality	Absent but assumed available through BIA/Chamber	Absent but assumed


Current State



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
7. To use stewardship best practices to encourage agriculture and local food production recognizing environmentally sensitive areas	7.1 Support the appreciation for agricultural as both an activity and a lifestyle	Partially by municipality	Absent	Unknown
	7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops, accessibility to residents	Partially by municipality/provincial protection	Absent but assumed available through BIA/Chamber	Unknown
8. To encourage development best practices that are compatible with the natural environment	8.1 Support intensification on brownfields as an alternative to new development	Addressed	Absent but assumed available through City	Assumed available
	8.2 Support mechanisms to limit development within the Valley			
	8.3 Support keeping development within current boundaries			


Current State



Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
9. To encourage communities to be more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly		Addressed by City	Absent but assumed available	Unknown
10. To promote preservation of special character roads through the Valley	10.1 Address use and impacts of roads	Absent	Absent	Unknown
11. To promote community transportation linkages		Absent	Absent	Unknown
12. To promote sustainable tourism in the valley		Partially by HCA, Tourism Hamilton	Partially (need HCA data)	Assumed available

Current State



Education and Stewardship

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
13. To encourage the community to value the Valley's ecological features	13.1 Promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them	Partially addressed, not sure if a comprehensive plan in place for DV	Partially	Assumed occurring
	13.2 Promote trail etiquette	Addressed	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	13.3 Promote a positive image of the Valley including the communities of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough, Hamilton	Absent	Absent	Unknown
	13.4 Provide outdoor education ops	Addressed	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	13.5 Promote integration of the value of the Valley's ecological features into school curriculum			
	13.6 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites	Assumed available	Assumed available	
	13.7 Promote the idea of urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents	Absent	Absent	Absent

Current State

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

Goal	Strategic Directions	Current Conditions		
		Program/Policy	Data	Monitoring
14. To secure the resources HCA needs to appropriately manage the Dundas Valley	14.1 To explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)	Partially addressed by strategic plan	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	14.2 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands	Absent but assumed addressed by Business plan	Assumed available	Assumed occurring
	14.3 Keep abreast of advances in good environmental stewardship and science, and implement	Assumed available	Absent	Absent
	14.4 To bring additional land into protection	Partially by strategic plan	Absent	Unknown

Working Session

» SWOT analysis

- ## Next Steps
- ▶ Communicate on website re: DRAFT Vision, Goals and Strategic Directions
 - ▶ Completion of Current State
 - ▶ DRAFT Gaps analysis and action confirmation based on TT, SC, SG input
 - ▶ Image Contest judging and results
 - ▶ Implementation framework and draft strategy discussions with TT, SC, and SG
 - ▶ Completion of draft strategy
 - ▶ Community meeting to review and provide input to draft strategy
 - ▶ Delivery of final strategy

Process Moving Forward

Meeting	Purpose	Timing
TT #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Identification and prioritization of actions ▶ Identification of implementation strategy considerations 	October 23 rd 1:00-4:00 pm (TBC)
SC #3		October 30 th 2:00-4:00 pm (TBC)
SG #3		November 12 th 7:00-9:00 pm (TBC)
Community meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Presentation and discussion on draft plan 	November 26 th 6:30-9:00 pm (TBC)
TT/SC #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Review of draft final plan and supporting documents 	December 9 th 1-4 pm (TBC)

Meeting Adjourned

- ## Current Pressures on the Study Area
- Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement**
- Littering, dumping
 - Encroachment on public lands
 - Over use
 - Habitat loss/degradation
 - Fragmentation
 - Loss of diversity
 - Invasive species
 - Lack of water quality monitoring
 - Erosion and run-off
 - Engineering of natural systems
 - Pollution
 - Global warming

Current Pressures on the Study Area 

Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement

- None identified to date

Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use

- Trail integrity sacrificed to user accessibility
- Negligent trail use
- Multi-use trails which can lead to conflict between trail users

Current Pressures on the Study Area 

Land Use: Economic Sustainability and vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

- "Places to Grow" intensification
- Sub / urban sprawl
- Urbanization
- Incompatible development of privately owned lands in the Valley
- Highways/Road networks through the Valley
- Traffic and safety concerns
- Not a lot of people know about the Valley
- Destructive tourism

Current Pressures on the Study Area 

Education and Stewardship

- Lack of information/respect for the ecosystem's carrying capacity
- Lack of appreciation for the inherent value of the Valley
- Vandalism

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

- Challenge of who has responsibility and too much reliance on voluntary initiatives for stewardship
- Lack of funding
- Lack of faith municipal politicians are responsive to constituents

8 Appendix I: Community Meeting Reports

As part of the community consultation strategy, 2 community meetings were held to enable the project team to update the public about the status of the Strategy and to obtain community opinion and feedback. Community meetings were advertised through the HCA website, newspaper ads, public service announcements, public events, email, mail, and through the gracious support of various organizations' word of mouth and posting of the meeting poster on their premises and websites.

Community Meeting #1 was held on Saturday, May 24th at the Dundas Town Hall and 8 community members were in attendance. The key actions at that meeting were to introduce the Dundas Valley 50-Year Strategy, aims and methodologies; answer focus questions about the opportunities and challenges faced within the study area; and ask participants to provide input on how to more effectively reach community members. The participants were presented the background, definition and rationale for the Study. The participants were asked the following questions in a discussion format:

Q1: What do you value most about the Dundas Valley?

Q2: What do you think are the biggest threats to the features of the Dundas Valley that you value most?

Q3: Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now? What steps do you think are needed to get there?

Q4. How can we engage as many people as possible in the Dundas Valley Strategy? What suggestions do you have to increase community participation?

Community Meeting #2 was held on Tuesday, November 25th at the Dundas Town Hall and over 50 participants attended. The key actions at that meeting were to provide a brief overview of the Dundas Valley Vision Strategy, Study and process; present the vision, goals and strategies; and gather feedback on strategy priorities and actions that community members can take to achieve the goals and vision. The participants were given a brief presentation of the status of the strategy, vision, goals and strategic directions. Community members were then asked to provide their thoughts on the priorities of the strategic directions and comment on the content. The participants were then asked to discuss possible actions that the community take part in.

Community Meeting #1 and #2 Reports follow.

Community Meeting #1

Attendance:

Ron Bunston
Micheline Landis
Ken MacDonald
Frank Morley
Sean Morley
Julie Murphy
Stan Nowak
Anne Redish
Sandy Bell, HCA
Kim Peters, Lura Consulting
Susan Hall, Lura Consulting
Jen Garro, Lura Consulting

1. Summary of Key Actions

- Introduction to the Dundas Valley Vision Study, its aims and methodology
- Answered focus questions about the opportunities and challenges faced within the Dundas Valley Vision Study Area
- Participants provided input on how to reach community members more effectively

2. Attendance

There were eight community members in attendance, in addition to representatives from both the Hamilton Conservation Authority and Lura Consulting.

3. Welcome

Sandy Bell welcomed participants to the first Community Meeting of the Dundas Valley Vision Study on behalf of the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Susan Hall gave a brief outline of the Study, its purpose and history, and explained the informal discussion format of the meeting.

4. Background on the Dundas Valley Visioning Study

The 10-year Dundas Valley Conservation Area Master Plan initiated in 1998 is concluding this year, and the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is looking to replace this plan with a long-term strategy for how the Dundas Valley as a whole should be managed.

The long-term future of the Dundas Valley will depend on how current resources are managed. At present, the HCA owns approximately 1 200 hectares, most of which is green space. In an effort to gauge the level of interest within the community for developing a long-term strategy, the HCA held a preliminary open house to discuss the possibilities approximately one year ago. The response was very positive, in particular because people appreciated being consulted at the preliminary stages of the strategy development. Following this Community Meeting, the HCA developed a detailed Terms of Reference for the study, and Lura Consulting was engaged to assist with strategy development.

Lura Consulting in turn organized a Steering Committee to direct the study, and a Stakeholders Group to represent diverse political, business and community organizations from the community. The Community Meeting is the final step of the first round of consultations focused on developing the Study's Vision and Goals.

5. The Definition of the Study Area

Susan Hall reviewed the Study area map with participants, and gave a brief description of the current land use. The boundary was set to include the escarpment and watersheds within the Dundas Valley. The only overlap with the Cootes-to-Escarpment study area is Borer's Falls.

6. Rationale for the Study

Sandy Bell explained that the HCA's 50th anniversary coincided with the conclusion of the 10 year Valley plan which came into effect in 1998. He noted that the property owned by the HCA included not only green space, but also historic buildings and extensive trail systems, and explained that the new vision for the Valley should be in tune with how the community wanted these resources to be managed.

Mr. Bell explained that while the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Greenbelt Protection Act and municipal legislation all provide some level of protection for the area, it is neither complete nor directly responsive to the desires of the community. In order to address this, the HCA wants to engage the community and learn about their priorities (recreation, development, conservation, etc.).

7. Discussion Questions

Q1: What do you value most about the Dundas Valley?

- A sense of being close to nature is apparent in Dundas, and community members appreciate the wildlife that they encounter in their daily lives.
- Dundas is a very beautiful town. Its view of the Niagara Escarpment, many green areas and architecture all lend to its unique charm.
- There is a strong sense of community within Dundas, and members noted that this was something they strongly wished to preserve. In particular, one community member mentioned that the Dundas community had an easy-going character, in contrast to other towns of comparable size.
- Community members especially appreciate that Dundas is a very walkable town as a result of its geographical boundaries. It was noted that the downtown core and secluded green spaces are both easily within reach of each other on foot.
- There is an appreciation among community members of the rich cultural history of the Dundas Valley.

Q2: What do you think are the biggest threats to the features of the Dundas Valley that you value most?

- The threat of invasive species within the Valley, such as Gypsy moth, garlic mustard, and purple loosestrife was mentioned. However it was also noted that methods of eradication for certain species can present their own problems and should be used with care. The example discussed was the spray used to kill Gypsy moth larvae.
- Habitat loss within the Valley was noted as an area of concern.
- Activities like biking and walking aren't considered safe in many parts of the town, which makes it difficult to promote these forms of exercise and transportation.
- Intensification as prescribed by the "Places to Grow Act" was identified as a threat to both the natural and cultural character of Dundas. While it was noted that some protection was provided by provincial legislation, community members are wary of the will of developers in light of the potential for profits.
- It was pointed out that there is a lack of knowledge and respect for the profession and lifestyle of farming. As a result, many farms in the Dundas Valley are being abandoned or sold off because farming is becoming less viable.

- Community members reported seeing a great deal of garbage being dumped in the Valley, ranging from small litter to batteries and computers. It was noted that much of what is deposited as waste has the potential to be reused or recycled.
- Green spaces and trails are often not respected by users. As a result, some areas are negatively affected by recreational activities (motor bikes, walking off trails, etc.)

Q3: Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now? What steps do you think are needed to get there?

The varied answers to this question can be group into three main categories: education and public outreach, concrete actions and recommended approaches.

Education and Public Outreach

- Education will have to be the starting point for all improvement. A major paradigm shift is needed, though it will have to start with baby steps. Issues such as excessive consumerism, unsustainable transportation and fossil fuel-reliant agriculture must all be tackled with youth and public education as a starting point. Ideally the community should become knowledgeable and conscientious watershed residents.
- One community member noted that, in the past, community youth and elders would farm together. It seems that now children aren't being taught about agriculture, and seniors are very isolated. Children should have "hands-on" farming experiences as part of their education. In this way Dundas could cultivate an appreciation of the community's role as environmental stewards.
- People need to be informed about the benefits of planting local species instead of foreign ones. Mr. Bell pointed out that the HCA is already a part of this through its environmental education. Similarly, people should be taught that what are labelled as "weeds" often have beneficial uses and medicinal properties.
- A community member mentioned that the Mohawk trail goes through the Dundas Valley, and has a great historical significance to First Nations people. This aspect of the Valley's history should be better communicated. Tourism Hamilton should promote local tourism in Dundas by educating people about the rich natural and cultural heritage that the area has to offer.

Concrete Actions

- In order to promote walking and biking, paths should be put into place not just throughout green spaces, but also in the downtown core. Biking should become part of Dundas' culture.

- Community members articulated the need to preserve scenic vistas in the Valley, which are becoming obstructed by tall buildings. Some suggested enacting a by-law which would restrict building heights.
- A farmer's market should be reintroduced in Dundas as a way of promoting local agriculture. This should be viewed as an important part of the shift towards environmental sustainability.
- As an extension of the previous point, some discussion followed about how to facilitate the exchange of items from people who no longer need them to those who do. The "Moms-to-Moms" program was cited as a model example.
- Parking should be provided near the Trail Centre to minimize conflict between trail users and residents.
- One community member said that Spencer Creek should be acknowledged as having played an integral role in the community's history, and suggested that the site be the focus of cultural, recreational and natural heritage activities (without compromising the ecological integrity of the area). It was suggested that a better connection be made with Webster Falls.
- Intensification should focus on "brownfields," and not green spaces. There are lots of abandoned buildings in town, and these should be targets for intensification, not natural spaces.
- Water channels should not be so highly engineered, and naturalization efforts should be made to remove the concrete channels and restore a more natural system.
- Other infrastructure like additional highways and the proposed airport should be carefully scrutinized for potential negative environmental impacts.

Recommended Approaches

- One community member reminded participants that "farming is as much a part of the Greenbelt as wilderness." Agriculture should therefore be better promoted in the Valley, especially low-impact farming like organic, permaculture, and "SPIN" (small plot intensive) farming. A strategy must be put into place to keep farms operational, perhaps utilizing tools like land trusts and other kinds of farm stewardship to protect farming.
- The HCA should look to the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Ontario Land Trust Association and other organizations for assistance with establishing land trusts, and to study best practices in other jurisdictions.
- Recycling in Dundas has to be improved, as there is a great deal of recyclable material going into the garbage. One community member suggested that Dundas should receive big bins

similar to those just distributed in Toronto, but noted that the rules for recycling will have to be clear and user-friendly. Another participant pointed out that people should start to view garbage as an asset rather than a liability.

- Mechanisms should be put into place through which residents can play a greater role in the development of their communities. There is little faith that municipal politicians are responsive to their constituents.

**Q4. How can we engage as many people as possible in the Dundas Valley Strategy?
What suggestions do you have to increase community participation?**

- Several community members felt that the meeting had not been well advertised; one suggested adding a link to upcoming events on the HCA Dundas Valley web page.
- Community members suggested that further promotional activities should be delayed until after Buskerfest.
- A link to the list of events should be added to the HCA website page regarding the Dundas Valley Vision Study.

8. Next Steps

Input from the community will be sought through the distribution of postcards and the addition of an online survey to the HCA website. In addition, an imagery contest will challenge young artists to create a visual depiction of how they would like the Valley to be in 50 years.

9. Next Meeting

The date of the next formal Community Meeting is to be determined, but will take place towards the conclusion of the Study in early December. This meeting will focus on reviewing the draft version of the Dundas Valley Vision Study.

Sandy and Susan thanked community members for attending and stated that minutes would be prepared summarizing key themes and feedback. Lura will continue developing the Vision and Goal statements based on the feedback received from this event, as well as from the previous Steering Committee and Stakeholder Group meetings.

Dundas Valley Vision

Community Meeting #1
May 24th, 2008

Meeting Agenda

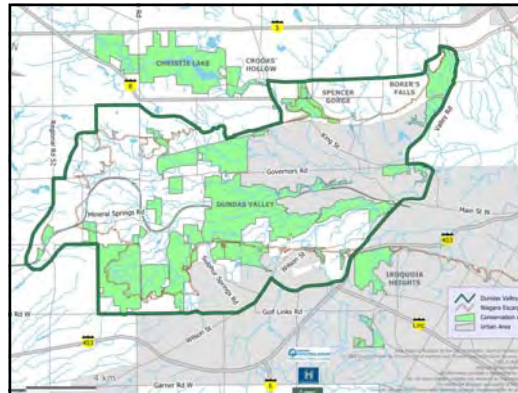
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Agenda Review – Susan Hall, Lura Consulting
9:10 a.m.	Context and Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-year Strategy – Sandy Bell, HCA, and Susan Hall, Lura Consulting
9:45 a.m.	Break & Snacks
10:00 a.m.	We Need your Ideas! Visioning Session Q1. What do you value most about the Dundas Valley? Q2. Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now? Q3. What do you think are the biggest threats to the features of the Dundas Valley that you value most? Q4. How can we engage as many people as possible in the Dundas Valley Strategy? What suggestions do you have to increase community participation?
11:15 a.m.	Share your Ideas – led by Lura Consulting Each table will be asked to report back to the larger group on the three focus questions provided
11:45 a.m.	Update from the Children's Session
11:55 a.m.	Closing Remarks and Next Steps – Susan Hall and Sandy Bell
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Purpose of the Meeting

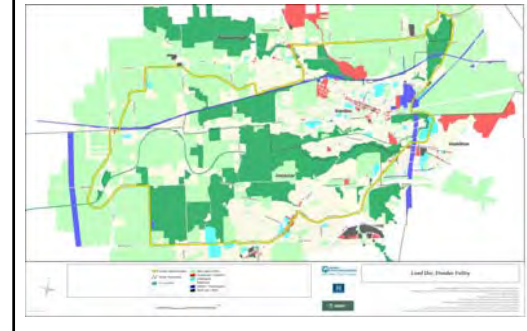
- To introduce the Dundas Valley Vision Study and process to community members.
- To provide community members with an opportunity to create a 'vision' for the Dundas Valley through a creative workshop process
- To gather input from the community at this early stage in the process on:
 - Vision and goals
 - Threats, issues or concerns
 - Stakeholder and community engagement

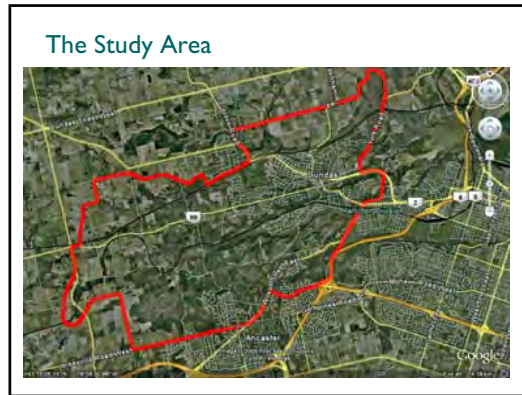
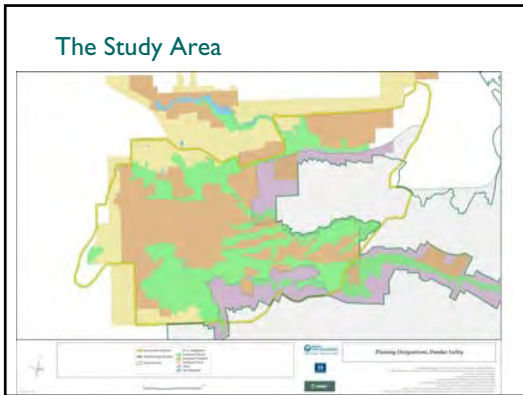
Strategy Development Context

- Initial Open House took place June 28th 2007 to help determine the Terms of Reference for the study
- Issues identified by the public included:
 - aquifer protection
 - infrastructure development
 - preservation of the Valley as a natural resources
 - funding for the study from the province

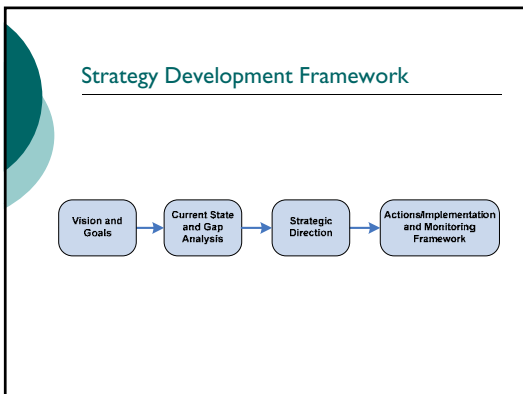


The Study Area

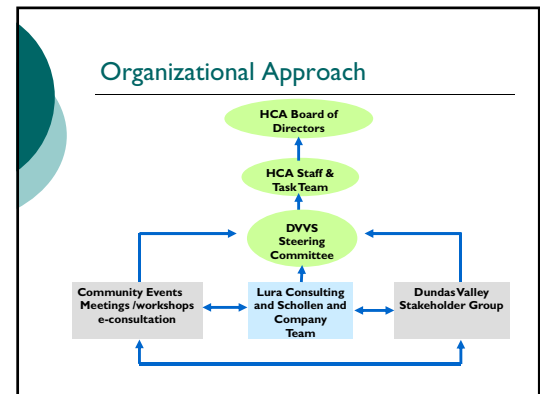




- ### Benefits of a 50-Year Vision Strategy
- Ensures good stewardship of natural and cultural heritage
 - Allows for public participation in community planning process
 - Helps determine community priorities
 - Identifies potential opportunities as well as present and future challenges within the study area
 - Preserves opportunities for recreation, enjoyment of nature and environmental education



- ### Our Approach
- A collaborative, multi-disciplinary process that includes municipal councils, HCA staff, community groups, stakeholders and residents
 - Key Organizational Elements:
 - Task Team (TT)
 - Steering Committee (SC)
 - Stakeholder (SG)
 - Community Consultation



Communications Activities

- Newsletter articles
- Stakeholder list distributions
- Radio ads and Newspaper Editorials
- Linkages to HCA and Community Events
- HCA and City of Hamilton website
- Communication through e-consultation through HCA
- Newspaper advertisements
- Community networks (event listings)
- Site Users and Volunteers Survey
- Children and Youth Activities

Community Engagement Activities

HCA Task Team meetings

Steering Committee meetings

Stakeholder Group meetings

Surveys - Collecting statements on the vision, challenges and solutions for Dundas Valley in 50 years, via postcards and an online survey.

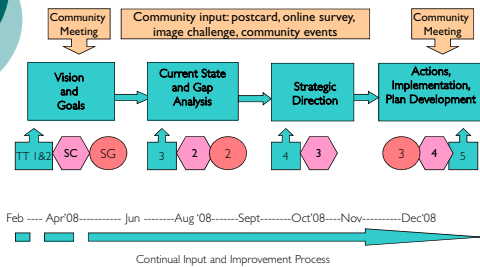
Image Contest - Collecting imagery of Dundas Valley in 50 years via an image contest targeted primarily at youth.

Community Engagement Kits

- Press Release(s)
- Backgrounder Brochure
- Newsletters
- Survey Postcards
- Survey Poster
- Image Contest Poster
- Image Contest Rules and Guidelines
- Image Contest Instructions for School Teachers
- Addressed Return Envelope

Distributed to schools, summer camps and through project partners and community organizations.

Strategy Consultation Schedule



Dundas Valley Vision

Discussion Session

Focus Questions

Vision and Goals

- Q1. What do you value most about the Dundas Valley?
- Q2. Describe your ideal vision for the Dundas Valley 50 years from now?

Issues and Threats

- Q3. What do you think are the biggest threats to the unique features of the Dundas Valley that you value most?

Community Engagement

- Q4. How can we engage as many people as possible in the Dundas Valley Strategy? What suggestions do you have to increase community participation?



Next Steps

Upcoming events:

- Additional ideas, thoughts, input – May 31st
- Meeting Summary Report – June 7th
- Technical Work
 - Vision and Goals
 - Current Conditions and Gap Analysis
 - Strategic Directions

Visit the HCA website to get regular updates on the 50-Year Vision Strategy progress

Community Meeting #2

**Tuesday, Nov. 25th, 2008
Dundas Town Hall and Auditorium
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

1. Purpose(s)

- To provide a brief overview of the Dundas Valley Vision Study and Process
- To present the Vision, Goals and Strategies
- To gather feedback on Strategies, Priorities and Community Actions

2. Attendance

There were over 50 members of the public and representatives of organizations in attendance, in addition to representatives from both the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) and Lura Consulting. A representative from Dundas Transition Town had a display at the meeting.

See Appendix A for list of participants.

3. Welcome

General Manager, Steve Miazga from HCA and Sally Leppard from Lura Consulting welcomed participants to the meeting and Sally reviewed the proposed agenda and purpose of the meeting.

4. Rationale for the Study

Mr. Miazga explained that 2008 is the 50th Anniversary of the HCA. As part of HCA's 50th anniversary work, the Board is undertaking a Dundas Valley Visioning Study and wishes to obtain direction from the community for the next 50-years. Steve also explained that a 50-Year plan is relatively unique in this field and that it can be incredibly rewarding to use our imagination but difficult at the same time because it can be hard to think 50 years into the future.

5. Values of the Dundas Valley

Sally asked all of the community members to introduce themselves and say one thing they value about the Dundas Valley.

Participants highlighted the following values: Beautiful escarpment views, extensive forest, trails, waterfalls, main streets without any big box stores, remarkable history, overall diversity of the different aspects of the Valley, cultural and historical heritage, natural beauty, small-town atmosphere and friendliness.

6. Art Contest

Diana Murchie described the Dundas Valley Visioning Art Contest and encouraged the community members to take a look at the artwork that was displayed at the meeting.

7. Background on the Dundas Valley Visioning Study

Sally Leppard, Lura, presented the Study Area, the process that was being undertaken, key features of the Dundas Valley, Pressures and Threats on the area, Community Activities, Community Engagement Activities, Strategy Consultation Schedule, and Vision.

8. Vision Statement

Sally reviewed the Vision and asked the community members for feedback. Most participants felt the statement was too long and needed to be more concise. Sally indicated that Lura would try to adjust the statement.

9. Goals and Strategic Directions

The community members discussed the Goals and Strategic Directions and shared many comments and recommendations. Detailed comments, organized according to Goal and Strategic Direction, can be found in Appendix B.

8. Action Planning Workshop

Participants engaged in an Action Planning Workshop. Participants focused on actions that the community could take to achieve the Vision and the Goals.

Appendix C contains actions from the discussion as well as from worksheets.

Conclusion

Mr. Miazga thanked participants for attending and noted that the results would be prepared in a report, and that all comments would be incorporated into the plan.

Appendix A: Attendees

The following is a list of attendees who were able to sign in. It should be noted that there were more attendees than listed here and we would like to thank all who attended the Community Action Planning Meeting for their presence and participation.

Dan Abbey, Laurel Baatman, Joan Bell, Jennifer Bowman, Lindsay Burtenshaw, Deb Carson, Joanna Chapman, Louise Chambers, Terry Carleton, Stan Chamber, George Coker, M.G. Field, Chris Firth-Eagland, Catherine Gibbon, Ann Gillespie, Ian Graham, Joan Hall, Ken Hall, June Jenkins, Art Johnson, Bill Kennedy, Juila Kollek, Lorraine Normington, Julia Marko Dunn, Gord McNulty, Steve Moir, Stan Nowak, Ann Parker, Angelo Presta, Michael Radigan, Anne Redish, Ken Redish, Jim Rockwood, Louise Rogers, Tami Sadonoja, Allan Sharp Jim Stollard, Mark Tammingo, Tys Theysmeyer, Mike Valvasori, Dave Valvasori, Joany Verschuuren, Katie West, Jean Westwey

Appendix B: Table of Goals and Strategic Directions

Land Use: Ecological and natural areas protection and enhancement

Goal 1: To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources

- 1.1 Maintain and improve the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats
- 1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley
- 1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and rural countryside* including selected vistas (*as defined by the Greenbelt Plan)
- 1.4 Protect rare, endangered and species at risk within the Valley area
- 1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley
- 1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, watercourses and waterfalls
- 1.7 Develop a Climate Change mitigation and adaptation strategy
- 1.8 Reduce the impact of increasing numbers of visitors to the natural areas over time

Community Meeting Comments:

- Community members expressed the importance of climate change, as well as the importance of maintaining and improving the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats.
- Participants thought that the disappearance of forests and forest connectivity is important if the area is to thrive in 50 years from now.

Land Use: Cultural heritage protection and enhancement

Goal 2: To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources

- 2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley
- 2.2 Maintain and protect local heritage
- 2.3 Preserve the small-town atmosphere of Dundas Valley Communities

Community Meeting Comments:

- Participants agreed that Strategic Directions 2.2 and 2.3 could be combined.
- In addition, artistic, natural and architectural heritage should be considered.

Land Use: Public and passive use

Goal 3: Promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces

3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise

Goal 4: Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and convenient where feasible

4.1 Develop Accessibility Policy and Plan

4.2 Continually improve Visitor Facilities and Services Plan

Goal 5: To maintain a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent landowners

5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors that minimize disruption to HCA facilities and neighbours

Community Meeting Comments:

- Members agreed that the term 'non-motorized' would need to be defined.
- Participants agreed that preservation and conservation are completely different ideas and wanted to ensure that the words being used are capturing the proper intent.

Land Use: Economic sustainability and vibrancy of the Dundas Valley community

Business: Goal 6: Promote the Valley as an economic asset to the neighbouring business communities

6.1 Enhance the economic viability of local business through 'natural areas' marketing

6.2 Promote green business practices within the valley business community

Agriculture: Goal 7: To instill agricultural stewardship and protect the viability of agriculture and local food production

7.1 Support appreciation for agriculture as both an activity and a lifestyle

7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops in close proximity to residents

Development: Goal 8: To ensure development best practices that are compatible with the natural environment

8.1 Minimize growth impacts on the ecological integrity of the Valley within privately held lands

8.2 Develop a 'Best Practices' Management Plan for development in HCA owned Lands

Transportation: Goal 9: Ensure pedestrian, bicycle and transit friendly Valley communities

9.1 Create transit, pedestrian and bicycle linkages between the Valley and neighbouring communities

9.2 Achieve public awareness and increased use of active transportation and transit opportunities

Transportation: Goal 10: Preserve ‘special character’ roads through Valley

10.1 Develop policy for Dundas Valley ‘special character’ roads

Tourism: Goal 11: Promote sustainable tourism in the Valley

11.1 Develop Valley-wide marketing strategy to promote eco, cultural and recreational tourism

11.2 Management plan for increased number of visitors

Community Meeting Comments:

- Participants agreed that Strategic Direction 6.1 was of particular importance.
- Agricultural Strategic Direction should be split into two categories: the need to support agriculture from the farmers’ point of view; and the need to make the general public aware of the importance of agriculture and respect for agricultural lands.
- Participants wanted to see more Strategic Directions or Actions for farmers’ markets, promotion of green agricultural practices, and expanding of agriculture and encouragement of residents to grow their own food.
- Participants wanted to see the word ‘development’ changed to ‘enhancement’ in Goal 8 – as it sounds like development in the Valley is encouraged.
- Participants agreed that they didn’t want more development in the Dundas Valley but rather concentrated in built-up, urban areas.
- Participants wanted to see a statement in regards to infrastructure capacities.
- Participants also voiced the need to ensure that those who are physically unable to access transit into the Valley would be considered.

Education and Stewardship

Goal 12: To encourage the community to value the Valley’s ecological and cultural features

12.1 Continually promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them

12.2 Provide outdoor education opportunities

12.3 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites

12.4 Develop marketing and visitor attraction plan that focuses on the urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents

Community Meeting Comments:

- Participants agreed that Goal 12 would need to substitute the word 'ensure' for 'encourage'

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies

Goal 13: To secure sustainable financial resources

13.1 Explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)

13.2 Ensure affordable access to all residents

13.3 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands

13.4 Continue to bring additional land into protection

Community Meeting Comments:

- Community Members agreed that this Goal was a very high priority.
- In addition, the participants agreed that the focus should include an urban component.


Appendix C: Worksheets with Actions Recorded

Goals	Actions
<p>Land Use: Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement:</p> <p>1) To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship for urban green spaces and support with vision • Public awareness with rural component of the study • Expanding areas and increasing protection in green spaces/natural areas • Establish protected areas that are only for preservation • Community can volunteer to plant native plants and pull non-native plants in public use areas and green spaces in the community; plant only native plants in residents' yards; educate the community to do so ; protect native plants from invasives (i.e Deer, etc.); consider methods to control invasives and nuisance species • Develop community groups to support work to preserve natural areas. • Develop erosion prevention plan • Encourage tree planting and design/promote gardening plots • Acquire additional land to balance increasing population; encourage land donations • Remove barriers to site connectivity to major roads (Cootes Dr, Osler Rd, Hwy 8); preserve and enhance connectivity • Create preservation areas, within natural areas; preserve Escarpment and rural countryside • Drive public dialogue on the impact of climate change • Have an open house of properties that are examples of green management of their property • Minimize the use of cosmetic pesticides, road salts, etc. • Look into carrying capacity of the area
<p>Land Use: Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement</p> <p>2) To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster appreciation of heritage to all age groups through education programs, photo contests, etc. • Develop more guided tours and programs to generate and create awareness of culture and history • Affix plaques in prominent place where history has taken place (ie. Native history, Governor's Rd.) • Work with local galleries and Dundas Valley School of Art • Maintain and protect cultural heritage • Limit building heights • Provide financial incentive to property owners that wish to maintain their buildings in keeping with the heritage


Goals	Actions
<p>Land Use: Public Access and Passive Use</p> <p>3) Promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a trail system or bike system to get to the Dundas Valley; develop guided tours for those with special mobility needs • Limit access to trails in certain ecological areas, so that land can be preserved • Create features that draw people to specific locations • Encourage all users to stay on trails • Continually improve visitor facilities • Provide more accessibility for seniors • Ensure there is attention paid to look at damage created by bicycles on the trail hills
<p>4) Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and convenient where feasible</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review access from urban areas to conservation area properties • Develop a car pool group or shuttle bus service • Change access fee system from 'pay-as-you-go' to 'annual fee' (added to municipal taxes) for use of conservation land. (Few users actually pay on the 'honours' system currently in use. This revenue could be used to expand Conservation property) • Eliminate vehicles in the areas
<p>5) To maintain a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent landowners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure there are signs and garbage cans on paths to encourage essential mutual respect • Encourage adjacent landowners to avoid planting non-native plants • Maintain distance (100m) between the conservation area and adjacent landowners • Encourage trail users to refrain from parking on residential streets • Improve signage of designated private areas • Provide parking at Borer's falls
<p>Land Use: Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community BUSINESS</p> <p>6) Promote the Valley as an economic asset to the neighbouring business communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish good contact with Hamilton Conservation Authority and the business improvement areas (BIA) and link BIA with the 50 Year planning process • Advertise the Dundas Valley as a place to visit • Encourage donations from local businesses to keep the Dundas Valley thriving • Shop locally instead of from big box stores in the bigger city to support local businesses
<p>AGRICULTURE</p> <p>7) To instil agricultural stewardship and protect the viability of agriculture and local food production</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and promote farmer's market in Dundas; encourage more local food purchasing at local supermarkets • Educate the general public about the importance of agricultural land • Increase incentive for the community to purchase locally grown produce (ie. Food shares of local organic produce) • Provide incentives for farmers to use sustainable practices • Create buffer strips along ditches and trees to border, which will help reduce loss of soil erosion • Promote urban food production and hobby farms


Goals	Actions
<p>DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>8) To ensure development best practices that are compatible with the natural environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize development in Dundas, should focus development in downtown Hamilton, should include aesthetic and development best practices • Encourage green development • Ensure the HCA always considers the impact of development
<p>TRANSPORTATION</p> <p>9) Ensure pedestrian, bicycle and transit friendly Valley communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage people to public transit when possible or bike/walk • Enact bus access only into the conservation areas or entrance of the Dundas Valley Trail Centre- no cars • Incorporate bikes lanes as a requirement if a road is constructed or widened • Publish maps of various trails and how to access the area by transit; establish bus stops at multiple natural areas access points; enhance accessibility to the area; provide shuttles/carpools • Implementation of wheeled ‘trains’/ trolley on rail trail
<p>10) Preserve “special character roads” through Valley</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep unopened roads closed (close Martin’s road to vehicular traffic) • Address conflicts of interest re: Hamilton maintenance of roads with salting practice, and widening of roads • Obtain information from community on why they value these roads • Make ‘special character roads’ as toll roads • Reduce and restrict development on these roads • Affix plaques detailing the nature of the ‘special character’ to foster awareness
<p>TOURISM</p> <p>11) Promote sustainable tourism in the valley</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rethink tourism without the car, and the minimization of energy constraints associated with tourism • Circulate books and articles letting people know about the environment, culture, history and agriculture • Promoting eco-tourism without the impact on the natural ecosystem
<p>Education and Stewardship</p> <p>12) To encourage the community to value the Valley’s ecological and cultural features</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work together with school boards to enhance education; encourage regular lectures from professionals; offer guidance to teachers • Affix plaques at points of interest along the trail • Recruit volunteers to lead interpretive hikes; create a walking tour brochure • Demonstration sites – recruit landowners to volunteer their land as a demo site (ie. show your native garden) -this can be done through “Doors Open Hamilton” • Ensure that the Hamilton Conservation Authority is a model for the rest of the Dundas Valley

Goals	Actions
<p>Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies</p> <p>13) To secure sustainable financial resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run fundraisers - to bring businesses on board to assist and promote • Look into viability of turning some areas into planting nurseries – can sell trees for special occasions • Actively pursue more fund raising initiatives, have these initiatives be long- term • Encourage city councillors to make sure these strategy goals are being supported • Incorporate costs into the tax base


LURA
LISTEN • UNDERSTAND • RELATE • ADVANCE

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy Community Action Planning Workshop


Hamilton
Conservation Authority
1958 • Celebrating 50 Years of Conservation • 2008

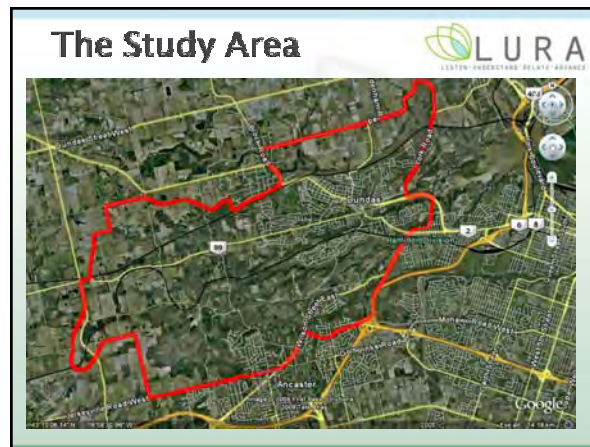
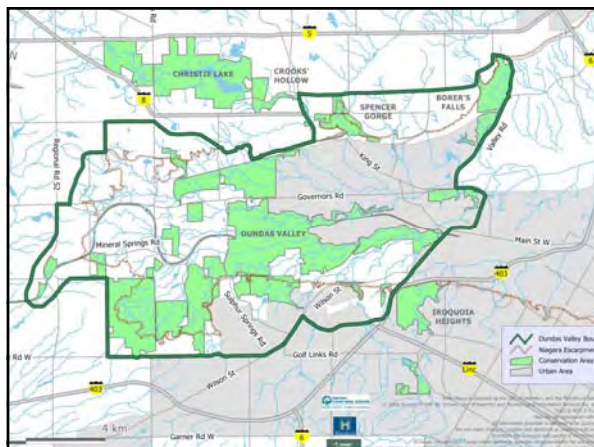

LURA
LISTEN • UNDERSTAND • RELATE • ADVANCE


Agenda

Purpose (s):

- To provide a brief overview of the Dundas Valley Vision Study and process
- To present the Vision, Goals and Strategies
- To gather feedback on priorities and community actions



6:30 p.m.	Registration
6:45 p.m.	Welcome and Agenda Review – Sandy Bell, HCA & Lura Consulting
7:05 p.m.	Overview of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision Study and Strategy -Lura Consulting
7:25 p.m.	Goals and Strategies – We Need Your Input! • Presentation of goals and strategies • Are there any we missed? • Which strategies are HIGH priorities (within 5 years)?
8:10 p.m.	Action Planning – We Need Your Input! • What actions can the community carry out to achieve the Vision and goals?
8:40 p.m.	Share Your Actions
8:55 p.m.	Closing Remarks – Lura Consulting and Sandy Bell, HCA
9:00 p.m.	Adjourn




LURA
LISTEN • UNDERSTAND • RELATE • ADVANCE

Features of the Dundas Valley

- 5,400 hectares of which 1,464 hectares is owned by HCA
- The Town of Dundas, as well as parts of the Town of Ancaster, Flamborough and Greensville, all of which are part of the City of Hamilton
- 2 small urban centres and rural character
- Populations of 24,394; 27,485; and 22,808 for Dundas, Ancaster and Flamborough respectively
- Portions of the lands protected by the Niagara Escarpment Commission


LURA
LISTEN • UNDERSTAND • RELATE • ADVANCE

Features of the Dundas Valley

- 5 HCA owned properties (Dundas Valley, Tiffany Falls, Lower Spencer Creek, Spencer Gorge, Borer's Falls), including 10 ESA's and 4 ANSI's as well as protected waterfalls
- Portions of the lands protected by the Niagara Escarpment Commission
- Trails system that provides linkages to the Bruce Trail, Rail Trail, and Hamilton trails network
- Significant features including the Hermitage Ruin and Gatehouse, Griffin House, Thomas A. Beckett Living Forest, Mineral Springs and Sulphur Springs Roads and historically significant waterfalls





Pressures and Threats



- ▶ Habitat loss, degradation, fragmentation, invasive species, deforestation
- ▶ Global warming, acid rain, air pollution, lack of water quality, pesticides, effects of drought
- ▶ Threatened trail integrity, disturbance of wildlife
- ▶ Over population, sub/urban sprawl, traffic issues
- ▶ Lack of funding, lack of clear responsibility for agencies/organizations/community
- ▶ Aggregate companies, chain and big box stores


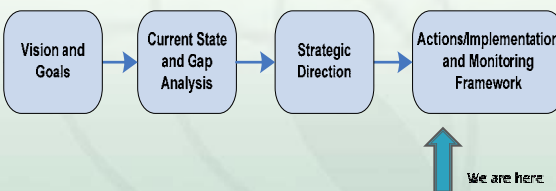


The Strategy



- ▶ The Strategy will:
 - Be a long-term legacy and strategy, and model, looking 50 years into the future
 - Bring a higher profile of the Valley within the Dundas Valley
 - Recognize and protect the inherent value of the Valley
 - Consider and protect Dundas Valley's ecosystem, flora and fauna, biodiversity – acknowledge the system's carrying capacity and confront threats to the Valley
 - Recognize user needs and aspirations equally between residents and landowners
 - Provide a balance between science-based and community based goals
 - Be an HCA-led, but community-owned strategy
 - Identify other projects or enrichments to existing projects and programs

Process Framework

Our Approach




Organizational Approach




Communications Activities



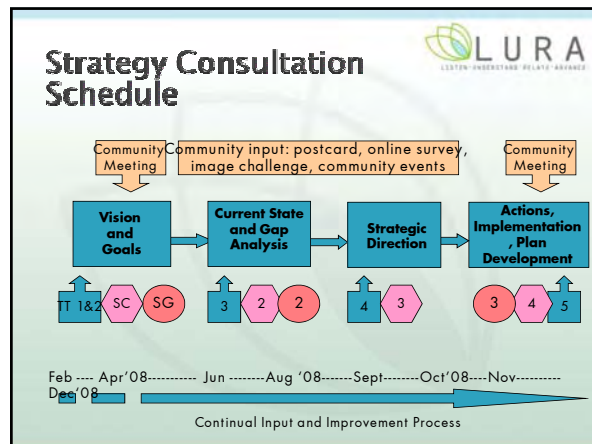
- ▶ Stakeholder list distributions
- ▶ Radio ads and newspaper editorials
- ▶ Linkages to HCA and community events
- ▶ HCA and City of Hamilton website
- ▶ Communication through e-consultation through HCA
- ▶ Newspaper advertisements
- ▶ Community networks (event listings)
- ▶ Children and Youth Activities




Community Engagement Activities



- ▶ HCA Task Team meetings
- ▶ Steering Committee meetings
- ▶ Stakeholder Group meetings
- ▶ Community meeting in May
- ▶ Surveys – Collected 80+ statements on the vision, challenges and solutions for Dundas Valley in 50 years via postcards and an online survey
- ▶ Art Contest – Collected 35 images of Dundas Valley in 50 years via an image contest targeted primarily at youth
- ▶ Community Events – Attended 15 community events



Vision




During the next 50 years, the people will protect and embrace the Dundas Valley Area as a diverse, sustainable and essential Niagara Escarpment ecosystem. Its forests, streams, meadows, farmlands and neighbourhoods will endure as a global showcase, connecting vibrant urban and rural Hamilton communities and their heritage


Goals and Strategies



Please consider the following:

- Is anything missing?
- What strategies are a high priority (within 5 years)?

- ## Land Use
- 
- ### Ecological and Natural Areas Protection and Enhancement
- Goal 1: To protect the Valley's biodiversity and natural resources**
- 1.1 Maintain and improve the ecological integrity and diversity of the Valley habitats
 - 1.2 Preserve and enhance connectivity of ecosystems in the Valley
 - 1.3 Preserve the Escarpment and rural countryside* including selected vistas (*as defined by the Greenbelt Plan)
 - 1.4 Protect rare, endangered and species at risk within the Valley area
 - 1.5 Combat the impact of invasive and nuisance species within the Valley
 - 1.6 Protect and enhance the health of streams, watercourses and waterfalls
 - 1.7 Develop a Climate Change mitigation and adaptation strategy
 - 1.8 Reduce the impact of increasing numbers of visitors to the natural areas over time

- ## Land Use
- 
- ### Cultural Heritage Protection and Enhancement
- Goal 2: To maintain and protect the Valley's cultural heritage and historical resources**
- 2.1 Recognize the rich history of aboriginal people within the Valley
 - 2.2 Maintain and protect local heritage
 - 2.3 Preserve the small-town atmosphere of Dundas Valley Communities

Land Use 

Public Access and Passive Use

Goal 3: Promote sustainable passive recreational opportunities within the Valley's green spaces


- 3.1 Encourage passive recreation within the Valley and provide opportunities for exercise

Goal 4: Ensure conservation area facilities are accessible and convenient where feasible

- 4.1 Develop Accessibility Policy and Plan
- 4.2 Continually improve Visitor Facilities and Services Plan

Goal 5: To maintain a harmonious relationship between conservation area visitors and adjacent landowners

- 5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure for visitors that minimize disruption to HCA facilities and neighbours

Land Use 


Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Business: Goal 6: Promote the Valley as an economic asset to the neighbouring business communities

- 6.1 Enhance the economic viability of local business through 'natural areas' marketing
- 6.2 Promote green business practices within the valley business community

Agriculture: Goal 7: To instill agricultural stewardship and protect the viability of agriculture and local food production


- 7.1 Support appreciation for agriculture as both an activity and a lifestyle
- 7.2 Support the promotion of locally grown and processed crops in close proximity to residents

Land Use 

Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Development: Goal 8: To ensure development best practices that are compatible with the natural environment

- 8.1 Minimize growth impacts on the ecological integrity of the Valley within privately held lands
- 8.2 Develop a 'Best Practices' Management Plan for development in HCA owned Lands

Land Use 

Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of the Dundas Valley Community

Transportation: Goal 9: Ensure pedestrian, bicycle and transit friendly Valley communities


- 9.1 Create transit, pedestrian and bicycle linkages between the Valley and neighbouring communities
- 9.2 Achieve public awareness and increased use of active transportation and transit opportunities

Transportation: Goal 10: Preserve 'special character' roads through Valley

- 10.1 Develop policy for Dundas Valley 'special character' roads

Tourism: Goal 11: Promote sustainable tourism in the Valley

- 11.1 Develop Valley-wide marketing strategy to promote eco, cultural and recreational tourism
- 11.2 Management plan for increased number of visitors

Education and Stewardship 

Goal 12: To encourage the community to value the Valley's ecological and cultural features

- 12.1 Continually promote good environmental stewardship practices to the local community, and work in partnership to implement them
- 12.2 Provide outdoor education opportunities
- 12.3 Promote opportunities for demonstration sites
- 12.4 Develop marketing and visitor attraction plan that focuses on the urban wilderness and the proximity of the Valley's beauty to residents

Financial Sustainability and Partnership Strategies 

Goal 13: To secure sustainable financial resources

- 13.1 Explore additional opportunities for revenue generation that do not limit access to conservation areas (e.g. user fees or admission)
- 13.2 Ensure affordable access to all residents
- 13.3 Ensure financial sustainability to maintain HCA lands
- 13.4 Continue to bring additional land into protection

Workshop



- ▶ Join a table!
- ▶ Discuss the following question using the worksheets provided:
 - What actions can the community carry out to achieve the vision and goals?



Thank You!