

For Immediate Release

Friday, June 21, 2019



WELLAND LAUNCHES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY FOLLOWING NIAGARA ADAPTS PARTNERSHIP

Welland, ON - The City of Welland is embarking on a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study to update its current Pollution Prevention Control Plan and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan. The study and public engagement campaign follow a partnership announcement from Niagara Adapts on Monday, June 17, 2019.

The Niagara Adapts team is comprised of key staff from Brock University, City of Welland, City of St. Catharines, City of Niagara Falls, Town of Pelham, Town of Grimsby, Town of Lincoln, and Niagara-on-the-Lake. Niagara Adapts plans to bring action and ideas together to establish climate change adaptation strategies and plans, which will mitigate adverse climate impacts to Niagara’s residents and infrastructure.

The City of Welland’s 2001 Pollution Control Plan and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan included several recommendations aimed at separating combined sewers, reducing extraneous flows, managing growth, and addressing capital requirements and remediation measures. The city now wants to update the pollution control plan and wastewater plan to identify the impacts of growth and improvements to the sewer system from the 2001 plans, and to evaluate alternatives proposed to reduce overflow for the long-term management of the wastewater system.

Taking advantage of the infrastructure vulnerability to climate change efforts completed by the City of Welland to date—along with the Niagara Adapts partnership—the City will be able to incorporate climate change adaptation into the pollution control and wastewater master plan. City staff are preparing for a public open house and public engagement session for the pollution control and wastewater master plan project on July 11, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Welland Civic Square.

“Working on a vulnerability to climate change assessment of all of the city’s storm-water management ponds and facilities will help us prepare a more resilient storm-water system,” said Marvin Ingebrigtsen, Infrastructure Planning & Development Supervisor. “We’re able to conduct this necessary assessment due to a successful application to the National Disaster Mitigation Program, through Public Safety Canada, and look forward to working with the Niagara Adapts team with our approach to these projects.”

Niagara Adapts is a partnership designed to build innovative climate adaptation solutions throughout Niagara. Leveraging resources and expertise from seven municipalities in Niagara Region and Brock University’s Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, the partnership will foster a collaborative climate change adaptation assessment with planning and implementation. Niagara Adapts will play a critical role in Niagara’s climate change through the contribution of scientific expertise, research, and innovation. For more information on Niagara Adapts, visit brocku.ca/esrc/niagara-adapts. For more information on the City of Welland’s environmental initiatives, visit welland.ca.

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