

THE TAYLOR MASSEY PROJECT

Celebrating and Protecting Taylor Massey Creek

June 18, 2010

Don and Waterfront Trunk Sewers and CSO Control Strategy
55 John Street, Metro Hall, 18th Floor
Toronto, ON M5V 3C6

RE: Cleaning up Our Waterways: The Don River and Central Waterfront Project

We write to express both our support for and our dismay over several aspects of this project.

Fundamentally, we support the imperative of repairing the Coxwell Sewer, eliminating Combined Sewer Overflows, and meeting the sanitary sewage needs of the City to 2031.

The current project, however, has abandoned several core commitments in the original Wet Weather Flow Master Plan (WWFMP), including:

- The City's commitment to a watershed management framework;
- The naturalization features in the original plan;
- Enforcement and outreach regarding property standards and pollution prevention; &
- Meaningful public engagement, supported by an annual budget of \$6 Million.

On this last point, we note:

- The short-term existence of a rarely-convened "Implementation Advisory Committee" instead of an on-going public liaison committee;
- The lack of provision of information before the Public Information Centres (PICs), as well as an unreasonable expectation for informed comment based on meeting handouts and the short time with people with technical information at the PICs;
- Holding a meeting on technical issues after the deadline for comments for Round Three of the PICs; and,
- The apparent lack of any scoring matrix for the sequence of the preferred solutions, which was promised to us by the City on three occasions but which we doubt exists.

In conclusion, we think that this project needs:

- Further discussion on technical matters; and,
- To be complemented with a plan to not just "clean up" our waterways but to regenerate them, as promised in the original WWFMP.

On the last point, we will forward a stand-alone document -*Three Strategic Priorities for Taylor Massey Creek* – during the week of June 21- 25.

Sincerely,

Nancy Penny

Chair

cc Mayor David Miller, Mayor, City of Toronto, and all City Councillors
Selected City staff; Task Force to Bring Back the Don; TRCA and Don Council