

## Resolution

**Agenda Number:** 22.1  
**Date:** February 25, 2021

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**Moved by** Councillor Innis  
**Seconded by** Councillor

Whereas the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board of Directors' (Board) Resolution A137/20, together with TRCA staff comments of August 21, 2020, comments on the proposed regulation for a streamlined environmental assessment process for the Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) Greater Toronto Area West Transportation Corridor project (ERO #019-1882) and requested that the MTO commit to receiving TRCA Voluntary Project Review (VPR) sign-off, as well as enter into a service level agreement with TRCA for the provision of such services;

And whereas, the TRCA VPR is a mechanism provided to federal and provincial Crown agencies that are exempt from TRCA's Ontario Regulation 166/06 of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses, and allows the agencies to voluntarily engage with TRCA through a formal process at the detailed design stage whereby TRCA staff complete a comprehensive review based on its expertise as a watershed management agency, and its interests related to natural hazards, natural heritage, including aquatic and terrestrial species and habitats, and water management and provide an opinion as to whether the interests, objectives and tests of the Regulation have been satisfied;

And whereas, if TRCA staff can confirm that there will be no impacts to flooding, erosion, pollution, conservation of land or dynamic beaches, a VPR letter will be issued to the Crown agency or their agents confirming that TRCA regulatory interests have been met;

And whereas, municipal governments and other senior levels of government and their agencies, including but not limited to Metrolinx, 407ETR, and projects on Parks Canada- Rouge National Urban Park lands, have received VPR sign-off in accordance with the review process, and further that a multi-year service level agreement is in place with Metrolinx for the provision of these services;

And whereas, TRCA's Board of Directors has endorsed the TRCA Guideline for Determining Ecosystem Compensation for approved infrastructure projects when impacts are unavoidable and as a last resort to ensure impacts are mitigated and/or compensated through an agreement between the proponent and the TRCA;

And whereas, the Regional Municipality of Peel, Town of Caledon and City of Vaughan will be considering endorsing the TRCA Board request for the MTO to commit to receiving TRCA VPR signoff at the detailed design stage, to enter into a service level agreement with TRCA for the provision VPR review services, and use the TRCA Guideline for Determining Ecosystem Compensation where avoidance and mitigation is not possible, at future meetings of their respective Councils;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Regional Municipality of Peel endorses the TRCA Board request for the MTO to commit to receiving TRCA VPR signoff at the detailed design stage, to enter into a service level agreement with TRCA for the provision the VPR review services, and use the TRCA Guideline for Determining Ecosystem Compensation where avoidance and mitigation is not possible;

And further, that the Minister of Transportation, Minister Environment, Conservation and Parks, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Region of York, Town of Caledon and City of Vaughan, be so advised.

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Regional Chair