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Ottawa River Action Plan
Plan d'action de la rivière
des Outaouais

Ottawa River Action Plan Survey

1. Ottawa River Action Plan Consultation

Thank you for your interest in the Ottawa River Action Plan. Your opinion is important to us and your input will inform the recommendations to be presented to City Council early in 2010. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey/questionnaire and return it by clicking the submit button at the end.

If you have any other questions or concerns please contact the City at RiverPlan@Ottawa.ca.

1. In order of priority, with 1 being the top priority, please rank the reasons why you think the Ottawa River is important.

	1	2	3	4	5
a. It is a valuable natural resource	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. It provides opportunity for outdoor water activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. It is a historical feature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. It's an important aspect of the City's tourism industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Other (please specify in comment box below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comments:

This question is difficult to answer - the River is important for all of these reasons. It's also the primary source of drinking water for more than one million people in the region (no mention of drinking water or public health/safety). This question understates the rivers important ecological, social and economical value.

2. In order of priority, with 1 being the top priority, please rank how you think ORAP funds should be allocated from 1 to 12.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Protecting beach quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Protecting fish habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Protecting urban and rural creeks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restoring urban and rural creeks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Reducing combined sewer overflow discharges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preventing pollutants from entering storm water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treating storm water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restoring shorelines	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Incentive programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating inter-jurisdictional co-operation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comments

Most of these are correlated (reducing CSOs and preventing pollutants will also impact beach quality, etc). There's nothing above about improving development practices, protecting wetlands and tributaries and improving effluent from wastewater treatment plants. Emphasis on protection

3. We are interested in what you think about the Ottawa River Action Plan and its 16 projects. For each statement please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with it ([click here to access the timeline](#)).

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. The list of projects is appropriate.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. The level of financial investment is appropriate.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. More should be done to protect the Ottawa River in the short-term (within 5 years).	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Too much is being invested in the Ottawa River.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
e. I did not review the Action Plan OR I have no opinion on the Action Plan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Comment:

We don't have enough information to determine if the level of financial investment is appropriate. More SHOULD be done to protect the Ottawa River in the short-term, including providing incentives for sustainable development and mandating/enforcing sustainable development on municipal projects. We could significantly reduce the amount of stormwater running into pipes if we practiced more sustainable development.

4. Which combined sewer overflow (CSO) option do you favour? Once you have selected please indicate why in Question 5.

Option A

Option B Option C**5. Why do you favour the option that you selected above?** It is the best use of taxpayer's dollars It provides good value for money It is a good environmental solution Other (please specify)

Option B significantly reduces the number of CSO incidents and the amount of untreated sewage entering the river on an annual basis. It's also achievable in a reasonable amount of time. See my review "ORAP - Part 2" for more information.

6. In your review of the Evaluation Results ([click here to access Environmental Criteria E1](#) and [click here to access Environmental Criteria E2 & E3](#)) for CSO options, please consider the Environmental Criteria. Do you: a. Generally agree with the results b. Have no opinion on the results c. Generally disagree with the results (please provide details in the Comments box below)

Comments:

I disagree with the results from criteria E2: "Does the option distribute environmental benefits equitably or address broader watershed issues" - CSO control does not address broader watershed issues. It's an isolated solution to one of many issues. E3: "Does the option impact the quantity and quality of green space?" - Why is this here? And how could the city rate these projects based on this criteria? It doesn't apply.

7. In your review of the Evaluation Results ([click here to access Social Criteria S1 & S2](#) and [click here to access Social Criteria S3 & S4](#)) for CSO options, please consider the Social Criteria. Do you: a. Generally agree with the results b. Have no opinion on the results c. Generally disagree with the results (please provide details in the Comments box below)

Comments:

S3: "Does the option reduce the average/frequency of beach closures". I disagree with this. Although it will highly reduce closures at one beach (Petrie Island Beach), Westboro beach has one of the highest rates of beach closures in the region and it's UPSTREAM from where CSOs are being discharged. How can we guarantee that CSO control will "highly" reduce closures when clearly there are other factors at play?

8. In your review of the Evaluation Results ([click here to access Financial Criteria F1 & F2](#) and [click here to access Financial Criteria F3](#)) for CSO options, please consider the

Financial/Economic Criteria. Do you:

- a. Generally agree with the results
- b. Have no opinion on the results
- c. Generally disagree with the results (please provide details in the Comments box below)

Comments:

The general public, myself included, doesn't have the information we need to conduct a proper assessment of the financial/economic considerations for this project, including longer-term gains from infrastructure improvements. The city has provided these details at a bare-minimum high-level - certainly not enough to make a decision based on this criteria.

9. Do you have any other comments?

The public consultation period is too short. November 23 to December 15 is not enough time to gather meaningful input from stakeholders, most of whom want time to thoroughly review each of the options and make an educated decision on the best way to move forward. There was little communication with the general public, informing everyone about the sessions (when and where) and how to participate / what was expected of us. There is also a shortfall in the amount of clear and easily understood information provided to the public. The city could have done a much better job engaging and informing stakeholders, and giving them an appropriate amount of time to submit feedback on this important project. Ottawa Riverkeeper is interested in working with the city to increase public participation for the long-term action plan.