



Council Statement regarding Public Boat Launch

We have received a number of comments, both in support and objection to the Boat Launch upgrade planned at 40 Angus Point Rd. The property is known as Eagle Lake Estates Park and is owned by the Township. The Plan of Subdivision provided Block A to the Township as Access to Eagle Lake. The property is zoned Open Space. Permitted uses in the Open Space zone are a non-commercial marine facility. Marine Facility is defined as an accessory structure which is used to take a boat into or out of a navigable waterway, or to moor a boat. This definition includes a launching ramp, boat lift, or dock but does not include any building or any boat servicing, repair, or sales facility.

The property is designated as Shoreline on Schedule A to the Official Plan and is not located within the Natural Heritage Protection designation. Section B4.14 of the Official Plan states that an Environmental Impact Study shall be required for all development requiring Planning Act approval within the Shoreline designation. Section B4.14 of the Official Plan applies to development in the same context as the PPS (Provincial Policy Statement). The PPS document defines development as: "The creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures requiring approval under the Planning Act." As noted, a boat launch is considered a permitted use within the Open Space Zone; therefore a Zoning By-Law Amendment application under the Planning Act is not required.

As an application under the Planning Act is not required, individual notice to property owners within a certain distance was not required. The Eagle Lake Estates improvement has been planned in the same manner as improvements at the Eagle Lake Narrows which have included a Dock and renewed Playground. Council members are representatives that are elected to make decisions during their term of appointment. These decisions are wide encompassing and include services and improvements to parks, roads, landfill, fire, etc. This upgrade has been in discussion since Fall 2015 and clearly shown on Council agendas and minutes from that date forward. The upgrade was budgeted for in 2016 and the Boat Launch for Eagle Lake included in our subsequent Budget Information release.

The ramp is not poured in place concrete. The ramp sections are pre-fabricated and delivered to the site for installation. This type of Boat Launch ramp is used throughout Ontario. The project proposed is a pre-cast concrete ramp 3.7 m (12') wide x 12.8 m (42') long with an additional 7 m (23') river run stone, as well as an adjacent floating dock walkway to the end of the ramp. The depth at the end of the ramp and dock walkway is 1.2 m (4') and 7 m (23') beyond the end of the ramp, the depth is 1.2 m (4'). 3 m (10') beyond that point, the ground slopes up to the original lake bottom elevation where the depth is 600 mm (2'). The existing area is shallow. Dredging is proposed. To mitigate the dredged area from silting back in again, the relatively flat 5 horizontal to 1 vertical slopes are proposed, covered with river run stone to stabilize the lake bottom in the area and provide for new fish habitat.

All comments are currently under review. It is anticipated construction will not take place this fall as we will likely be past the date permitted for in water construction work. The Township has applied for 50% funding of the project originally estimated at a total cost of \$50,000. The funding application is currently under review. The project tender came in at \$55,000 and is plus the project consultant fees required. We hope this statement will serve to clarify the information and address the concerns expressed. Council will provide an updated statement on this matter as soon as we're able to do so. We thank you for your comments received and for your understanding during this process.