



Class Environmental Assessment and  
Conceptual Design of the Heidelberg Water Supply System  
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

**Public Consultation Centre #1 Presentation Transcript**

**Slide 1 – Title Slide**

Hello and thank you for joining us for the Heidelberg Water Supply System Public Consultation Centre (or PCC).

**Slide 2 - Welcome**

The purpose of this PCC is to provide an overview of the project and why it's important. It will also describe the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process and provide a description of the existing conditions for the project, including the Water Supply System in Heidelberg and the nearby system in St. Clements.

A PDF of this presentation including a transcript and additional information on the project is available on the Region of Waterloo's website if you'd like to review it in more detail. A link to the website is provided in the video description below.

<https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/CurrentWaterProjects/>

We encourage you to review the information and contact a member of the project team by phone or email if you have any questions or comments. Contact information is provided at the end of this presentation and on the Region of Waterloo's website.

**Slide 3 – Project Overview**

To better understand the project, we are answering the following three questions.

1. what are we doing,
2. why are we doing it, and
3. what does it mean to you?

To answer the first, the Region is planning a long-term water servicing solution for the community of Heidelberg. Some components in the existing drinking water system are approaching the end of their service life. This study will look at the best way to address this issue.

Why are we doing it?

The current water supply system serves Heidelberg. A recent condition assessment identified that significant water treatment system components will reach the end of their service life within the next five years. We are taking steps now to ensure we are ready to provide ongoing water servicing to the community.

What does it mean to you?

The project will explore the potential for upgrades at the existing Heidelberg wells and water treatment plant (WTP) or other water supply opportunities where capacity to service Heidelberg is available. One such opportunity could be from the St. Clements water supply system.



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The project does not add water supply servicing to areas where it is not currently provided.

### **Slide 4 – Study Area Map**

The map provides the approximate limit of the study area. Heidelberg and St. Clements are currently served by two separate water supply systems. The locations of the two water treatment plants are shown – the groundwater wells for each community are located at these plants.

The Heidelberg Water Treatment Plant is located in the Township of Woolwich. The St. Clements Water Treatment Plant is located in the Township of Wellesley in the Region of Waterloo.

The Region of Waterloo has included both the communities of Heidelberg and St. Clements in the study area due to their proximity to each other and for the purpose of scoping potential environmental or technical opportunities and constraints.

### **Slide 5 – The Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process**

The Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, or EA process, is a five-phase planning process that is approved under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. All Municipalities in Ontario are required to complete a Municipal Class EA when planning major infrastructure projects.

This project is being planned as a Schedule B project, which means it follows Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the planning process.

These steps include:

- identifying the problem or opportunity,
- developing and evaluating alternative solutions
- identifying the preferred solution
- documenting the decision-making process in a Project File Report for the public and stakeholders to review and comment
- implementing the recommendations through design and construction.

We are currently in Phase 1 of the study and are sharing the identified problems and opportunities with you for comment.

The second PCC will take place in Phase 2, which is tentatively planned for Winter 2022. The evaluation of alternative solutions will be presented for public review and comment.



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### **Slide 6 – Existing Water Infrastructure - Heidelberg**

The Heidelberg Water Treatment Plant is located on Bavarian Drive in the Township of Woolwich.

Water is collected from two groundwater wells at the site before entering the Region's water supply system for Heidelberg. The two wells serve approximately 1,100 residents.

Water Treatment Plants must meet approval requirements from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. The current rated capacity is 1,374 cubic metres per day, with a current maximum day demand of approximately 300 cubic metres per day.

### **Slide 7 – Existing Water Infrastructure – St. Clements**

The St. Clements Water Supply System has been included in this study due to its proximity to the Heidelberg system and to ensure the local constraints and opportunities are considered.

The St. Clements system is located on Expo Drive in the Township of Wellesley. Three wells provide water to the community, with water stored in a reservoir prior to being distributed to residents. The facility serves approximately 1,260 residents.

The water treatment plant rated capacity is 1,770 cubic metres per day, with a current maximum day demand of approximately 550 cubic metres per day.

Compared to the Heidelberg system, which serves a similar size population, the St. Clements system has a higher rated capacity and maximum day demand.

### **Slide 8 – Problem and Opportunity Statement**

The Problem and Opportunity statement is developed as part of Phase 1 of the Municipal Class EA process. The statement provides an overview of the issues to be addressed, as well as potential outcomes that may be achieved.

To summarize the issues, a recent condition assessment identified that components of the current water supply system serving Heidelberg will reach the end of their service life within the next five years. The EA Study will explore alternative solutions including upgrades to the existing Heidelberg wells and water treatment plant (WTP) and exploring other water supply opportunities where capacity to service Heidelberg is available, such as from the neighbouring community of St. Clements.

The intent of this Class EA Study is to establish a long-term water servicing solution for the community of Heidelberg that is safe, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable. This includes assessing the current system as well as alternative water supply options.



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### **Slide 9 – Natural Heritage Features Preliminary Screening**

The Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process includes the review of existing natural, social and economic environments that must be considered during the development and assessment of alternatives.

The map shows the results of the desktop review of natural heritage features such as wetlands, and watercourses. Wetlands are generally located to the north and south of the study area. One Provincially Significant Wetland is located south of St. Clements shown in dark blue hatching. Aquatic features are present, including a warmwater drain watercourse that passes under Lobsinger Line.

A cultural heritage desktop review was completed identifying potential heritage resources in St. Clements and Heidelberg. A Stage 1 archaeological assessment will be completed to assess the archaeological potential in the study area.

The Project Team will work closely with stakeholders and agencies and consider these features and the potential for impacts. Additional investigations may be required.

### **Slide 10 – Evaluation Criteria**

As the project enters Phase 2, alternative solutions will be developed and assessed against the potential impacts to the Social/Cultural, Natural Environment, Technical and Financial factors.

As an example, for the Social/ Cultural environment, alternative solutions will be assessed to find those that:

- Minimize impacts on existing residences, business, and other planned land uses and developments
- Protect archaeological and cultural heritage resources
- Protect health/safety.

If you have any comments or questions on the criteria listed, or feel there are others that should be added, please let us know.

### **Slide 11 – Next Steps**

The next step for the Project Team is to receive your input on the information presented today. We will then continue with our environmental investigations and begin to identify and evaluate the alternative solutions.

These findings will be presented at our second PCC along with proposed environmental mitigation measures. The potential date for PCC #2 is Winter 2022.

We will then identify a preferred alternative solution in Spring 2022. The decision-making process will be documented based on community input we've received within a Project File Report, which will be made available for public review for at least 30 days. The Project File Report is anticipated to be prepared in Spring 2022.



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Following the planning process, the Region will move forward with the design process in 2022 with construction to follow at the completion of the design.

**Slide 12 – Thank you!**

Thank you again for your interest in this project. We are glad you took the time to learn more about the project and how you can get involved.

Do you have any questions about the information presented here? Would you like more information on the problem and opportunity statement or the proposed evaluation process?

There are many ways to get in touch with the project team:

- You can fill out a comment sheet available on the Region's website, and return via mail or email to a member of the project team; or
- You can contact a project team member directly by email, telephone, or mail.

Comments are requested to be received by June 30, 2021 and can be sent to:

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Region of Waterloo, Water Services  
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Or you can send comments to the Stantec project manager:

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Links for the project website and the Region of Waterloo You Tube webpage are provided:

<https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/CurrentWaterProjects/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/regionofwaterloo>

Thank you again for your interest in this project. We look forward to hearing from you.