

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-03-25-22

Date: March 28, 2025

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Annual Report on Category 2 (Municipal) Programs

Recommendation:

THAT Report Number GM-03-25-22 – Annual Report on Category 2 (Municipal) Programs be received as information.

Summary:

The Grand River Conservation Authority has reported to participating municipalities on 2024 accomplishments of non-mandatory Category 2 (municipal) programs delivered under Memorandums of Agreement.

Report:

As a result of amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act, in 2024 the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) entered Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with participating municipalities to fund continued delivery of non-mandatory Category 2 (municipal) programs and services. These programs include watershed sciences and collaborative planning, water quality monitoring and reporting, wastewater treatment optimization, conservation and stewardship services, and subwatershed services. These are key programs to advance the GRCA's strategic priority to improve the health of the Grand River watershed.

To fulfill the terms of the MOU, by March 15 of each year, the GRCA provides an annual report to participating municipalities on program accomplishments. The MOU identifies a list of program metrics and deliverables to support reporting.

Attached as Appendix A is the 2024 annual report provided to municipalities in March 2025. The report highlights program work that helped advance understanding of watershed conditions, improved water quality and watershed health, and fostered collaborative problem solving.

Financial Implications:

The GRCA's Category 2 programs had an approximate total budget of \$2,163,000 in 2024. Off-setting funding from a variety of municipal, provincial, and federal sources totaled \$1,031,974. The overall net cost to participating municipalities was \$1,017,000.

Other Department Considerations:

Staff from the Water Resources, Planning and Regulations Services, and Finance departments contributed to the annual report.

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