

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: November 28, 2018

ABCA Board of Directors approves release of new draft updated Shoreline Management Plan for public comment

Public invited to review, provide written comments until January 25, 2019 on draft plan, posted online at Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority website at abca.ca

The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) Board of Directors met on Thursday, November 22 and approved the release, for public review and comment, of an updated new Draft Proposed Shoreline Management Plan (SMP).

Members of the public can download the document online at abca.ca and interested people can provide written comments until January 25, 2019. The document was posted on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, on the abca.ca shoreline management plan page at this link: <https://www.abca.ca/page.php?page=shoreline-management> A hard copy of the document will also be available for inspection at the ABCA administration centre office east of Exeter.

The current Shoreline Management Plan was created in 1994 and updated in 2000. The conservation authority started work in 2015 to update technical information to support updates to the 2000 SMP document. "This new draft updated Shoreline Management Plan is the result of in-depth technical work completed since 2015," said Geoffrey Cade, ABCA Manager of Water and Planning.

"This new draft document has benefitted from comments from the public and municipalities over the past four years," he said. "This new draft plan reflects a great deal of research, thought, and local input."

Updates to the Shoreline Management Plan provide a consistent and up-to-date guide for development and municipal land use planning along the shoreline, according to the ABCA. The draft proposed plan includes draft development guidelines and policies for proposed shore protection structures by proponents. Updates to the current plan provide newer information on shoreline recession rates, ensure local policies and application of the Regulation conform to Province of Ontario policy, and keep policies current in light of emerging land use trends. The draft plan identifies shoreline hazards for flooding, erosion, and dynamic beaches and their impact on shoreline development.

"We look forward to written comments on the new draft plan and we will provide all those comments to the Board of Directors for their consideration prior to any decision on the draft plan in the new year," said Cade.

Interested people can provide their written comments by email to info@abca.ca – and are encouraged to put 'Draft SMP 2018-2019 Review and Comment' in the subject line. Those people who would like to submit comments by mail are invited to submit written comments by mail to 71108 Morrison Line, RR 3 Exeter, ON N0M 1S5 and to put 'Draft SMP 2018-2019 Review and Comment' on the envelope.

If you have any questions you are invited to contact Planning and Regulations staff at Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority or phone 519-235-2610 or toll-free 1-888-286-2610.

More than 530 people have subscribed to a regular e-newsletter about shoreline management. To sign up to receive these email updates you may visit this link: http://eepurl.com/bxn8_5.

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CONTACT: Geoffrey Cade, Manager of Water and Planning, at Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA), 519-235-2610 or 1-888-286-2610, extension 222, or e-mail gcade@abca.ca