

Master Plan for the Cheltenham Badlands

Public Meeting #2

January 25, 2015



Agenda

- **Sign-in / Review display boards**
7 – 7:30 PM
- **Presentation of Stage 1 findings (Dillon/OHT)**
7:30 PM – 8 PM
- **Questions and answers (Dillon/OHT)**
- **Closing remarks**
- **Open house / Complete comment forms**
Meeting adjourns at 9 PM

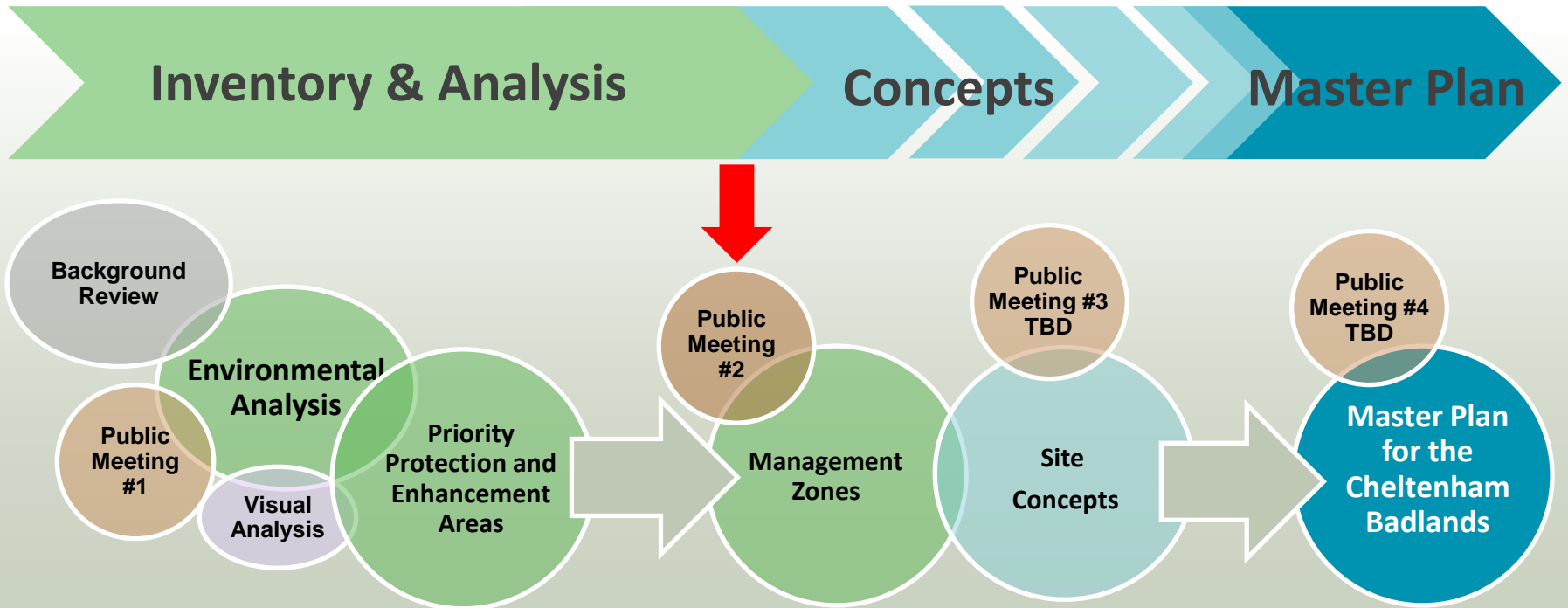
Meeting purpose

- **Public consultation update (display boards)**
 - Online survey results; public meeting #1 input
- **Master Plan analysis – Review of Stage 1 report (Presentation & Display Boards)**
 - Priority protection mapping; Key management strategies

Meeting format

- Respect the moderator and each other
- Be brief and to the point - allow time for others to be heard
- Seek common ground and understanding
- Success depends on participation
- Adhere to schedule
- Put away electronic devices

Study process



Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System

- Cheltenham Badlands fall within the Escarpment Protection Area land use designation of the **Niagara Escarpment Plan**.
- Identified as an Escarpment Access park in the **Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System**.
- Escarpment access parks provide opportunities for public access to the Niagara Escarpment. May provide modest facilities to support day use activities at view points, scenic areas, or other points of interest.

Public consultation techniques (NEPOSS planning manual)

Informing

- ✓ Mail/email notices
- ✓ Newspaper ads
- ✓ Notices at the site
- ✓ Website postings
- ✓ Social media

Information gathering

- ✓ One-on-one; group discussions
- ✓ Survey
- ✓ Requests for comments and input (online or via mail)

Engaging participation

- ✓ One-on-one; group discussions
- ✓ Open houses, presentations, two-way information sharing
- Site visits
- Moderated on-line forums

Creating partnerships

- ✓ Joint decision making (Planning Team)
- ✓ Meetings with local interest groups (Caledon Countryside Alliance on planning team, others welcome)

✓ = used in the Master Plan process

Guiding principles for the Cheltenham Badlands

1. Conservation of the property's cultural and natural heritage values.
2. Safety for all individuals who visit the site.
3. Improved accessibility for those who wish to access the site.
4. Enhanced opportunities for interpretation and public education.

Stage 1 Inventory & analysis summary

- Builds on past technical studies and site assessments, supplemented by field investigations.
- Assessment of resources and management issues for: **natural heritage, cultural heritage, recreation, visual resources, and visitor management.**
- Priority protection areas mapping & evaluation.
- Recommended management zones (NEPOSS).
- Development considerations to inform site concepts.

Priority protection areas

- Uses framework of integrated natural heritage system planning, i.e. natural core areas, natural corridors.
- Identifies a level of protection from 1 to 5 (highest to lowest) based on the relative significance and sensitivity of features. Applied to the features on site.
- In areas of overlap, the highest Priority protection area prevailed.
- Includes cultural heritage resources, recreation features (e.g. Bruce Trail), and views.
- Priority protection areas will inform boundaries of management zones, uses, and management strategies.

Priority protection Level 1

- Natural features that are considered to be particularly sensitive(e.g. provincially significant wetlands, cold-water streams, steep scarp face slopes.
- The Badlands features were ranked Level 1 relative to other features on the site, due to their sensitive and unique characteristics.

Priority protection Level 2

- High-quality natural areas that contribute essential components to the natural heritage system.
- Identified Level 2 areas on the site include:
 - non-provincially significant wetland/marsh
 - watercourses and their buffers (typically 15 metres/49 feet)
 - habitat for species at risk

Priority protection Level 3

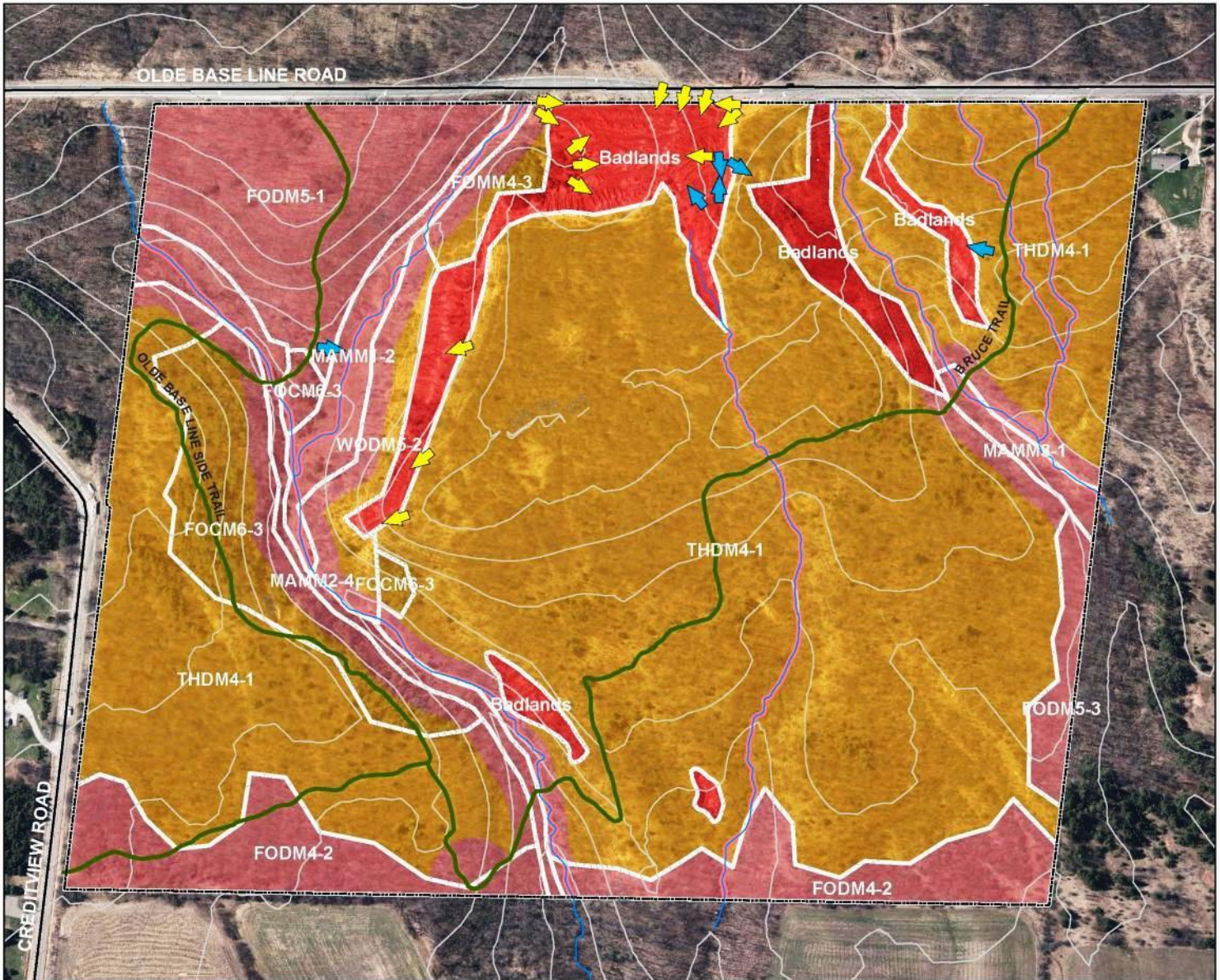
- Similar purpose to Levels 1 and 2 but includes features that are typically more resilient.
- Identified Level 3 areas on the site include:
 - interior forest (> 100 metres/328 feet from the edge)
 - critical function and habitat for provincially rare species
 - significant views and viewsheds
 - cultural heritage features (stone foundation)

Priority protection Level 4

- Areas that buffer or contribute to the protection of other sensitive natural features and functions (e.g., fringe forest areas < 100m/328 feet in size), plantations, regenerating forest and shrub thickets).
- On the site, these areas are overlaid by areas identified as Priority Protection Levels 2 and 3 (higher protection). Therefore, no Level 4 areas appear on the map.

Priority protection Level 5

- Natural features that support broader ecological functions and species diversity (e.g., cultural meadows, agricultural fields).
- There were no identified Level 5 areas on the site.



CHELTENHAM BADLANDS

**FIGURE 9:
PRIORITY PROTECTION AREAS**

LEGEND

- PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- WATERCOURSE
- ROADS
- MAJOR CONTOURS 5M
- MINOR CONTOURS 1M
- VIEWS OF BADLANDS
- OTHER VIEWS INTERNAL TO THE SITE

PRIORITY PROTECTION LEVELS

- 1
- 2
- 3



0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Meters

MAP DRAWING INFORMATION:

MAP CREATED BY: MK
MAP CHECKED BY:
MAP PROJECTION: NAD 1983
UTM ZONE 17N

PROJECT: 15-2394
STATUS: DRAFT
DATE: 12/03/15



Adaptive management approach

- Monitors for ongoing physical, biological and social indicators.
- Includes reiterative evaluation of goals.
- Management re-direction is based on changing conditions, new information or changing public expectations.
- Further studies and/or monitoring for species of conservation concern and species at risk may be required, depending on future uses of the property.

Natural heritage management approach

Invasive species

- Invasive plant species include phragmites, garlic mustard, European buckthorn.
- Emerald Ash Borer infestations are present on the site.
- Management via removal / replanting is needed to encourage desirable species and improve floristic diversity.
- Additional assessment of invasive species locations is needed to inform a maintenance and monitoring regime.

Natural heritage management approach

Species of conservation concern /species at risk

- Are present on the site and considered within the evaluation and ranking of Priority Protection Areas.
- Further site-specific assessments may be needed if future development is proposed (e.g., trails) which has the potential to impact the species or their habitat.
- Ongoing monitoring will be an important component of a management plan.

Visitor management approach

Badlands feature

- Limit public access of the feature to viewing, due to physical impacts (erosion and compaction) and social impacts (sense of crowding, interruption of views).
- Potential access solution is a viewing deck/boardwalk adjacent to Olde Base Line, potentially extending along the perimeter of the badlands (to be further examined in Stage 2 – Concepts).
- Explore ways to manage erosion run-off from the Badlands into wetland/watercourses.

Visitor management approach

Natural areas

- Control access through natural areas via a managed system of trails /footpaths.
- Limit trails and visitor support facilities to more resilient areas.
- Close/manage rogue trails.

Visitor management approach

Trails and viewing areas

- Consider social carrying capacity (comfort level of users), visual and physical impacts of developed features.
- Explore opportunities for loop trails to enhance visitor experience and allow pedestrian flow.
- Incorporate interpretive/educational messaging.

NEPOSS management zones

- Requirement of Niagara Escarpment Plan for NEPOSS sites.
- Guides permitted sites uses, development options and management priorities and policies.
- Subject to the management planning process. Boundaries are linked to the development of site concepts.
- 6 NEPOSS Management Zones that were considered are: Nature reserve zone, natural zone, access zone, historical zone, development zone, and resource management zones.

Applicable management zones

Nature reserve zone

Description: Habitat of endangered, threatened and rare species or species of special concern, wildlife and fish habitat, streams/wetlands, woodlands, ANSIs

Permitted uses (NEPOSS): Trails, signage, interpretive facilities, temporary research facilities, conservation practices.

Location on the Badlands: Majority of the site

Applicable Management Zones

Access zone

Description: Staging areas to support uses in other zones

Location: Bruce Trail trailheads, planned parking lot(s) on Olde Base Line Road, potential parking lot on Creditview Road (requires further evaluation)

Permitted Uses (NEPOSS): Minimal facilities to support uses (e.g., trailheads, signage, walkways, parking lots).

Next steps

- Complete draft of Stage 1 Inventory and Analysis report
- Local resident group discussion forum
- Preparation of preliminary site concepts.
- Public meeting #3 – Site concepts
 - Workshop format
 - Spring 2016 (timing to be determined)
 - Possible relocation to Inglewood Community Centre.



Questions/Comments?