

Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System 2018-2019

An update for the
City of Burlington Councillors

Burlington City Hall
November 04, 2019



- Our **vision** for the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System is that it will be known internationally as a protected, permanent and connected natural lands sanctuary from the Harbour to the Escarpment that promotes ecosystem and human health within Ontario's Greenbelt.
- Our **mission** will be to collaboratively continue preserving and enhancing the natural lands using a sustainable approach that balances natural ecosystem health with responsible human appreciation and activities to achieve the vision.



(2009 Conservation Land Management Strategy)

The EcoPark System

- A flexible, effective, permanent and voluntary collaboration among the land-owning agencies involved
- It is **not** a proposal for a single, large "park" owned by one agency
- Almost \$2.5 million in grant funding and over \$ 8 million invested or obtained from third parties toward the goals of the program, including securement of an additional 123 ha, extensive planning, public engagement, research, stewardship, and other results



Our Core Program

- Land Securement
- Stewardship and Restoration
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement
- Management Plans



2021-2030 Strategic Plan

We are shaping the 2021-2030 EcoPark System strategic plan through a series of Management Committee workshops and public engagement.



Proposal for Renewed Strategic Plan: 2021-2030

- 2019: Writing Strategic Plan, including engagement with all partners, stakeholders, public; waypoints at 2025, 2030
- 2020: Seek approval from all Boards and Councils, finalize management arrangements, 2021-2026(?). write third iteration of MOU
- 2021: New Strategic Plan launched to coincide with renewal of MOU



Thank You!

