



Welcome to the Ridge Landfill Environmental Assessment Open House

EA Open House #2

December 6, 2018

Ridge Landfill Today

- Waste Connections owns 340 ha of land west of Erieau Road.
- 262 ha of this land is the existing landfill site.
- The current approved capacity is 21 million cubic metres.
- The site can currently accept up to 1.3 million tonnes of waste per year.
- The site can currently receive residential waste from Chatham-Kent and its four adjacent municipalities.
- The site can currently receive industrial, institutional & commercial waste from all of Ontario.
- The landfill is expected to reach its capacity in 2021.
- We have an excellent environmental record at the landfill site.

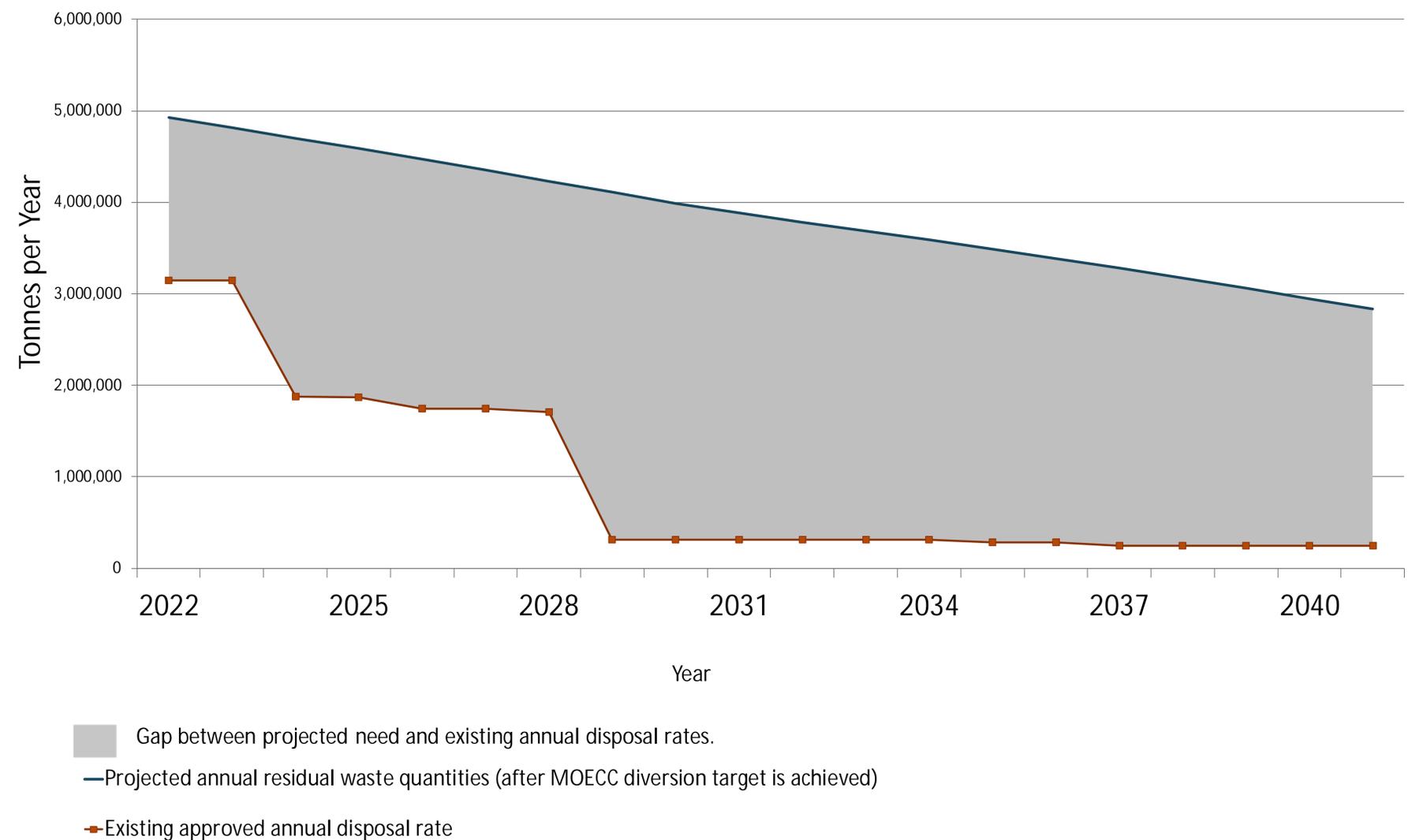


In May 2018, Waste Connections received approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to proceed with the Environmental Assessment for a proposed expansion of the Ridge Landfill.

Need and Opportunity

- Despite increased waste diversion, over 9 million tonnes of Ontario residual waste is disposed of annually in Ontario and the U.S.
- The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has new diversion targets (80% by 2050) which have been factored into the waste projections.
- With the expected closure of existing Ontario landfill sites over the next 10 years (which would include the Ridge Landfill reaching capacity in 2021) and the new diversion targets, it is anticipated that there will be a need for additional waste disposal capacity in southern and central Ontario.
- The Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario Building the Circular Economy (February 2017) recognizes that *"while Ontario strives for a waste-free future, there will still be a need for landfill space"*.

Projected Post-Diversion Residual Waste Disposal Need and Existing Approved Annual Disposal Rates (2022-2041)

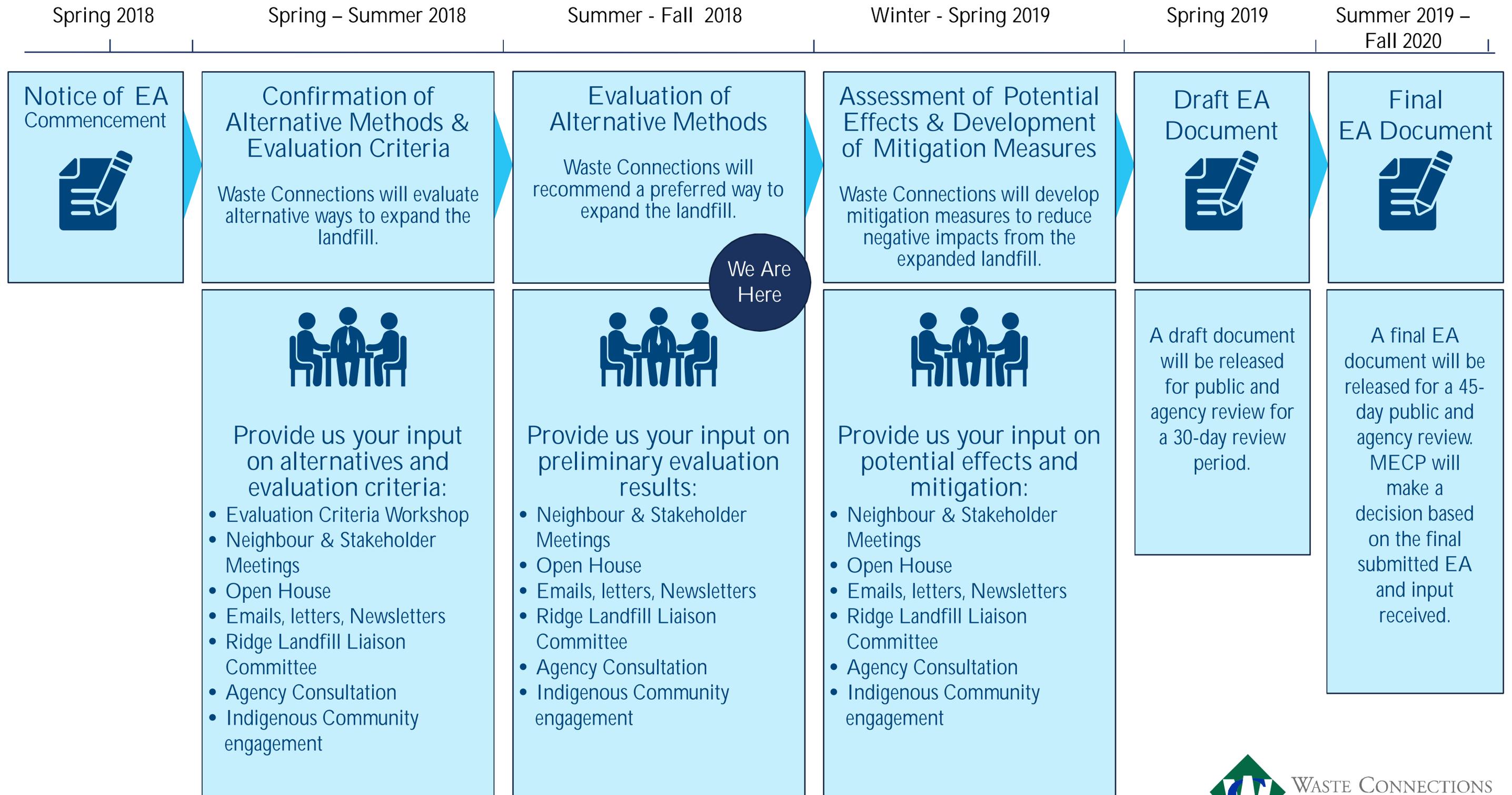


Key Elements of the Proposed Expansion

- The expansion will occur at the existing Ridge Landfill property on the 340 ha of land west of Erieau Road.
- The extent of the expansion area will be determined early in the EA process and is anticipated to range from about 55 to 85 ha.
- The annual volume and type of waste accepted will not change from what is currently being accepted (up to 1.3 million tonnes of solid non-hazardous waste per year). No increase in truck traffic is anticipated.
- The service area for industrial, commercial & institutional waste would be reduced from all of Ontario to southern and central Ontario only.
- The service area for residential waste would be reduced from Chatham-Kent and its adjacent four municipalities to Chatham-Kent only.
- The project includes a commitment to look at enhanced diversion opportunities to assist the Province in meeting its diversion goals.
- A key focus of the expansion will be design and operations measures toward continued maintenance of an excellent environmental record.
- The expansion will not exceed the maximum height restriction dictated by the proximity of the airport (i.e. 241 metres above sea level).



Key EA Steps and Comprehensive Consultation Plan



We Are Here

What We Have Heard So Far

Issues raised will be incorporated into the impact assessment and appropriate mitigation will be developed for the proposed expansion.

A: Drivers will be reminded to use the designated haul route and new signs have been put up to better direct drivers.

Q: Landfill trucks use roads other than the haul route and don't obey traffic rules (speed, stop signs).

Q: Will hazardous waste be brought to Ridge?

A: Only IC&I Waste and Chatham-Kent municipal waste will be allowed at Ridge Landfill. No hazardous waste is or will be allowed.

A: Litter pick-up and site maintenance are undertaken regularly at the site. Please contact the Ridge Landfill with specific site maintenance concerns and landfill staff will work to address them.

Q: Blowing litter, and site maintenance need to be addressed

Q: Road conditions on the haul route are poor.

A: Waste Connections will continue to work with Chatham-Kent to complete timely road maintenance on the designated haul route.

A: All available means including daily soil cover, odour control systems, and landfill gas capture are employed to minimize odour. These practices will continue to be included as part of the expansion.

Q: Odour is a concern amongst neighbours.

Q: What will be done about crows?

A: The fill area is covered daily to reduce the attractants for birds. The landfill also uses pro-active measures (birds of prey / falconry and noise scare) to control the amount of birds.

What We Have Heard So Far

What We Have Heard So Far

Issues raised will be incorporated into the impact assessment and appropriate mitigation will be developed for the proposed expansion.

A: There is greater than 30 m of natural clay below the landfill and each landfill cell has been constructed with a leachate collection system to prevent impacts from the site. 20+ years of monitoring has not identified any impact to groundwater.

Q: Will the site contaminate my residential well?

Q: Back-up beepers are noisy

A: Back-up beepers are used to ensure the safety of all site users and staff. We are currently investigating lower decibel back-up beepers for our equipment. A noise study will form part of the expansion EA.

A: Waste Connections is committed to more regular dialogue. Neighbours are also encouraged to contact the landfill management staff with any questions or to discuss concerns.

Q: Need to communicate more with neighbours

Q: Will there be additional truck traffic?

A: The annual waste disposal tonnage at the site will not increase. Additional waste truck traffic is therefore not anticipated.

A: For every tree removed two trees will be replanted.

Q: Woodlot removal is a concern.

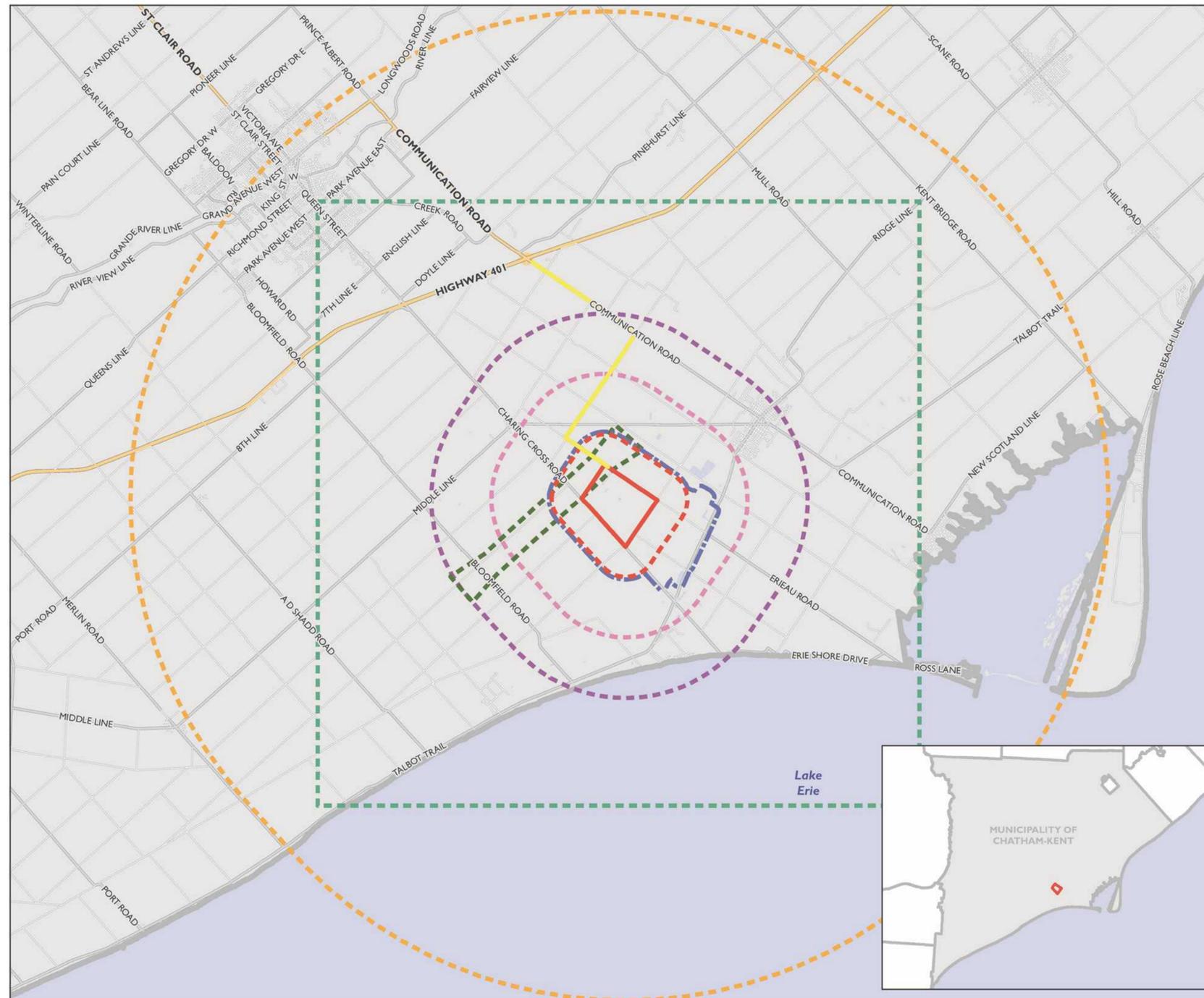
Q: Will property value protection and compensation be provided?

A: Waste Connections will update the current compensation plan once the EA is complete.

What We Have Heard So Far

Study Areas

Study areas will be used to confirm existing conditions; evaluate Site Development Alternatives; and identify and assess potential impacts of the preferred Site Development Alternative.



RIDGE LANDFILL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

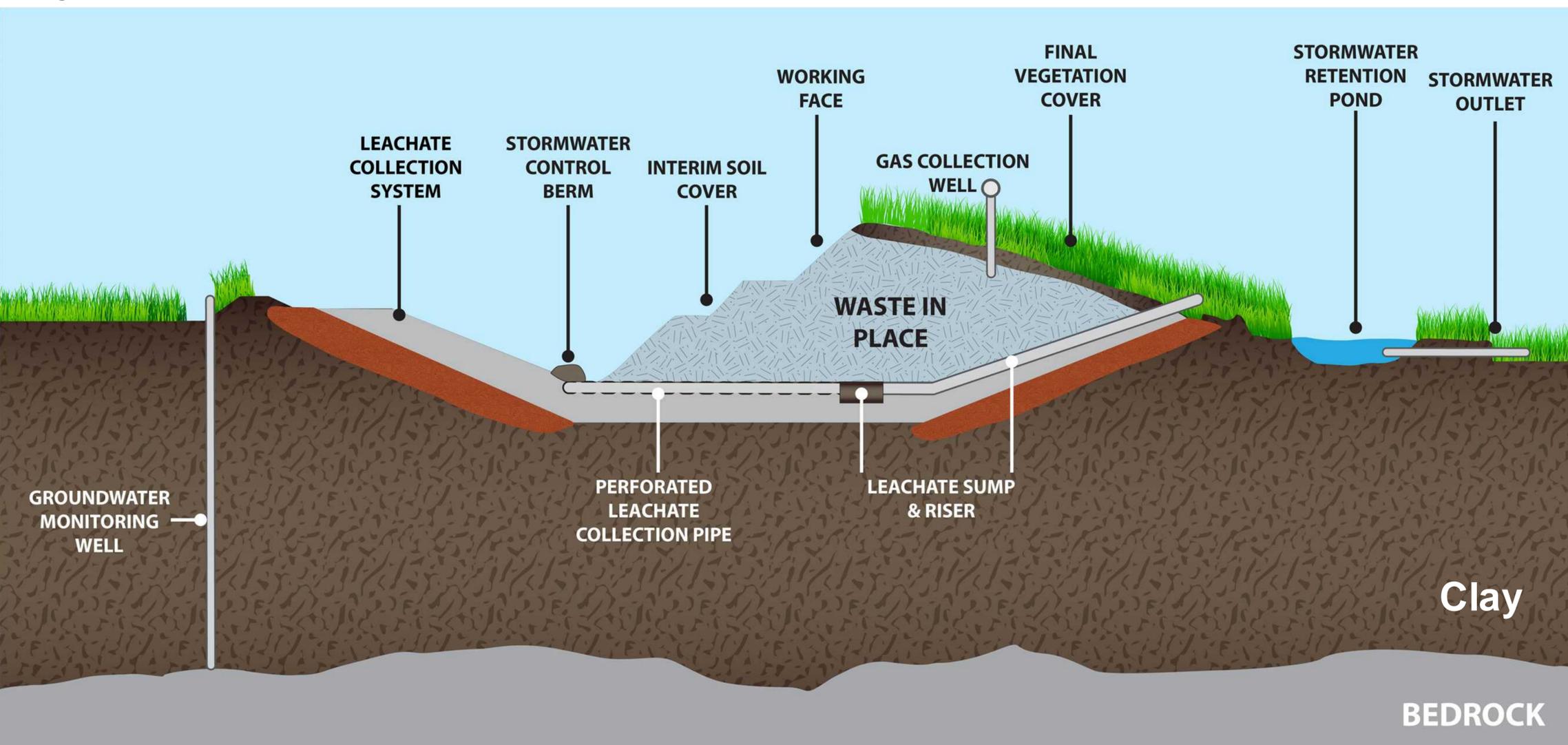
FIGURE 2-1 STUDY AREAS

- On Site Property Boundary:
 - Archaeology and Heritage
 - Biology
 - Climate Change
 - Hydrogeology
 - Atmospheric
 - Bird Hazard
 - Surface Water
 - Design and Operations
 - Noise
 - Socio-economic
 - Transportation
- Haul Route (Study Area includes all adjacent properties):
 - Climate Change
 - Atmospheric
 - Agriculture
 - Surface Water
 - Noise
 - Socio-economic
 - Transportation
- Off-Site Agriculture and Socio-economic Study Areas
- Off-Site Surface Water Study Area
- Off-Site Aviation Study Area
- Off-Site Visual Study Area
- Off-Site Hydrogeology Study Area
- Off-Site Atmospheric Study Area
- Off-Site Bird Hazard Study Area

Natural Environment Existing Conditions - Water

Surface Water: Surface water features on the Ridge Landfill property include the Howard, Duke, and Scott Drains, 5 stormwater ponds and a flood control facility.

Groundwater: The Ridge Landfill has >30 m of natural clays underlying the site. These low permeability clay soils mean very low rates of infiltration and groundwater movement providing a natural barrier in addition to engineered controls to protect groundwater. Monitoring since the 1980's shows that the landfill is not impacting groundwater resources.

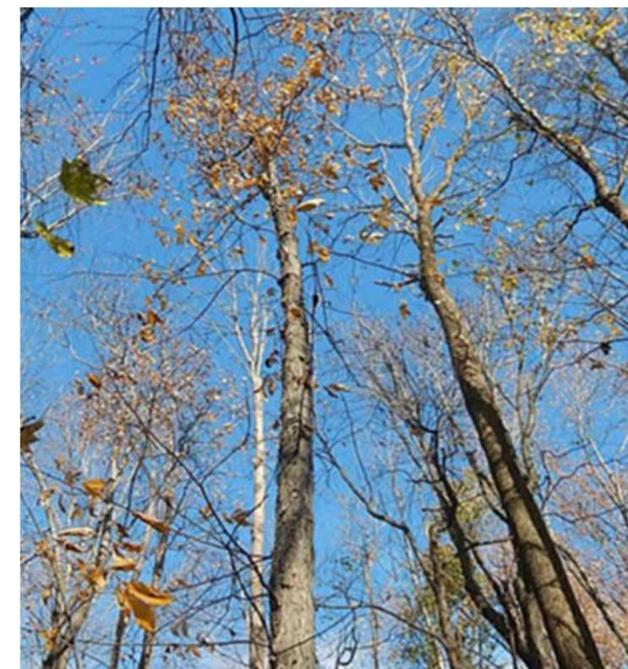


A cross-section of the Ridge Landfill provides an underground view of the waste disposal areas.

Natural Environment Existing Conditions – Biological

Field investigation focusing on the southeast and southwest woodlots occurred during the 2015, 2016 and 2017 field seasons and included:

Ecological Land Classification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 natural vegetation communities & 7 cultural communities observed. All observed communities are common to Ontario.
Breeding Bird Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41 bird species identified including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 species at risk, the eastern meadowlark and barn swallow, observed in 2017 only. ○ 1 Species of Conservation Concern, eastern wood pee-wee, observed in the southeast woodlot in 2015.
Turtle Habitat/Basking Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turtle nesting/basking habitat was identified in 2 of the on-site ponds. These pond are not considered overwintering habitat.
Aquatic Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish species observed are not considered provincially or federally at risk.
Botanical Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 165 botanical species were documented. 1 species, stiff cowbane, is listed as very rare in Ontario and was observed in southeast woodlot.
Amphibian Call Count Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 amphibian species were heard calling. None are at risk in Ontario.
Species at Risk Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species at risk bat habitat was identified in the southeast woodlot.



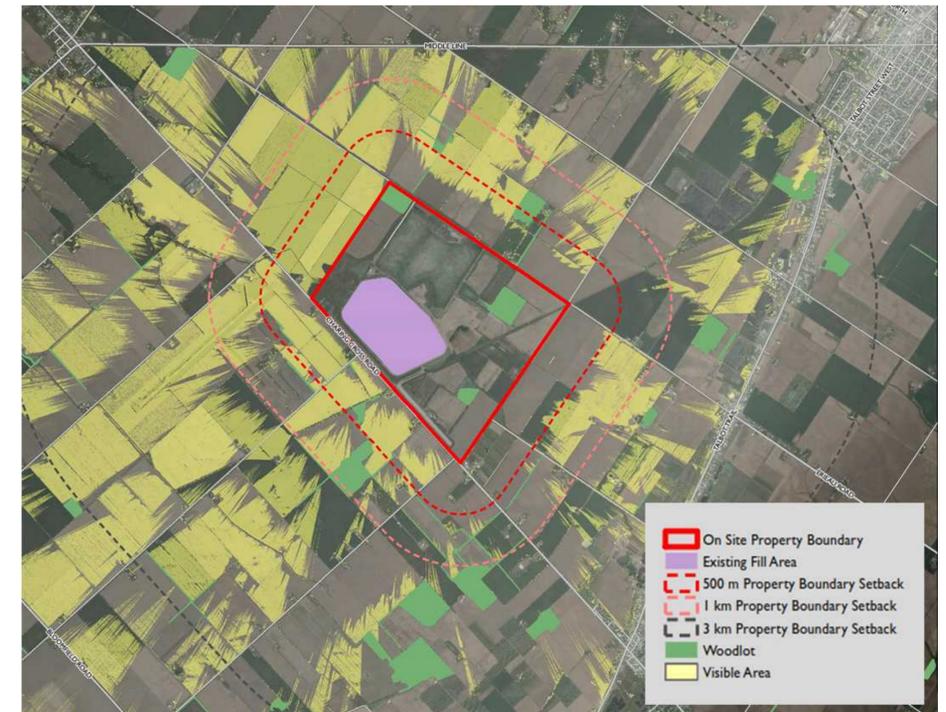
Social and Economic Existing Conditions

Social Environment

- There are two (2) rented properties on the Ridge Landfill, 25 residences within 1 km and 31 residences along the haul route.
- Minimal tourism and recreational uses in the vicinity of the Ridge Landfill.
- Currently no Indigenous or traditional uses of the Ridge Landfill property.
- Based on a visual assessment modelling tool, the existing fill area can be seen from approximately 25-30% of the land within 3 km of the site.

Economic

- Chatham-Kent has a slowing growth rate (CREC, 2011).
- Businesses operating near the site include a fruit stand, a small equipment dealer, and various agricultural operations. There are two (2) businesses and 4 institutions along the haul route.
- The Chatham-Kent airport is located near the site and there are other public organizations (Ministry of Transportation of Ontario) along the haul route.
- The Ridge Landfill has contributed over \$14 million annually to the local economy of Chatham-Kent and to the neighbouring communities of Blenheim, Charring Cross and Cedar Springs. This includes \$9 million in purchases of goods and services in the region annually.
- Waste Connections currently employs 60 people most of whom live in the community, 23 are directly involved with the landfill operation.



WASTE CONNECTIONS
OF
CANADA

Cultural Environment and Built Environment Existing Conditions

Cultural Environment

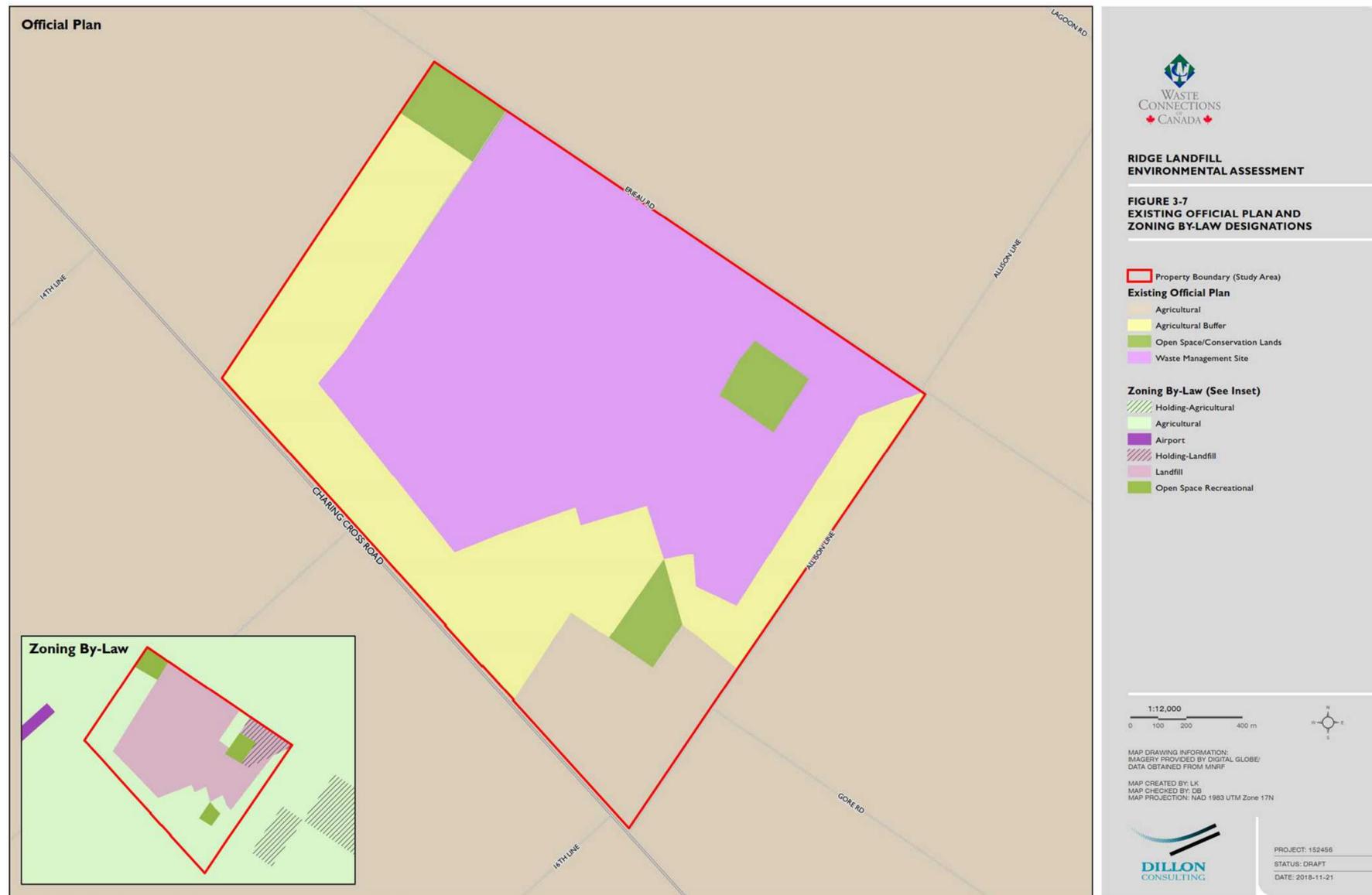
- Twenty three cultural heritage sites are in or adjacent to the study area including: Nine barns, Five residences (1 on-site), Seven farmscapes (2 on-site), One institution (now a residence). None of these resources are registered heritage buildings/sites.
- A Stage 1 Archaeological Study has been completed for the property. It identifies some lands that have been undisturbed. Further assessment will be completed for the preferred site where appropriate.
- Any archaeological resources identified during the Stage 2 or additional future assessment will be catalogued and removed.



Built Environment

- Key existing on-site infrastructure includes the office, weigh scale and scale house, equipment maintenance building, leachate collection system and holding tanks, landfill gas collection system and flare, existing roads and monitoring wells.
- Key off-site infrastructure includes the designated haul route. Approximately 200 trucks per day travel between the landfill and the Highway 401 interchange.
- The Chatham-Kent Municipal Airport is a site neighbour. Waste Connections works with the airport to control wildlife that could impact airport operations.

Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments



The existing site is designated and zoned for waste management in the Chatham-Kent Official Plan and zoning by-law.

The following will be required for the proposed expansion:

- Official Plan Amendment – to extend the designation of the site for waste management land use to include the proposed expansion.
- Zoning By-law Amendment – to permit the use of the site for landfilling waste.
- Site Plan Application – to make sure the proposed use and placement of buildings and key features complies with Official Plan policies and Zoning By-law requirements.

Further information on the municipal planning approvals required for the proposed expansion will be presented at Open House #3 in spring 2019.

Site Development Alternatives

Alternative 1:

- Expansion of the West Landfill (A) removes the southwest woodlot. The existing pond will be relocated along with a section of the drain.
- Expansion of the South Landfill (B) including a small vertical expansion. New pond and berm at the south edge of the property.
- Vertical expansion of the Old Landfill.

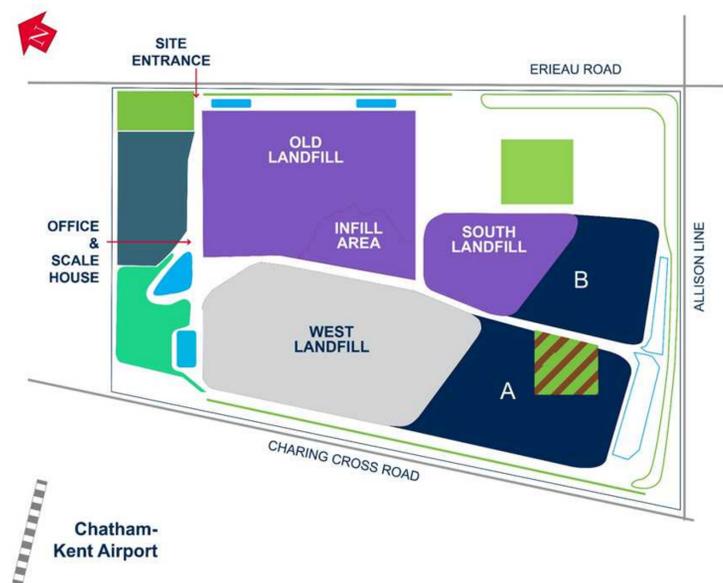
Alternative 2:

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- Landfill mining and vertical expansion of the Old Landfill.

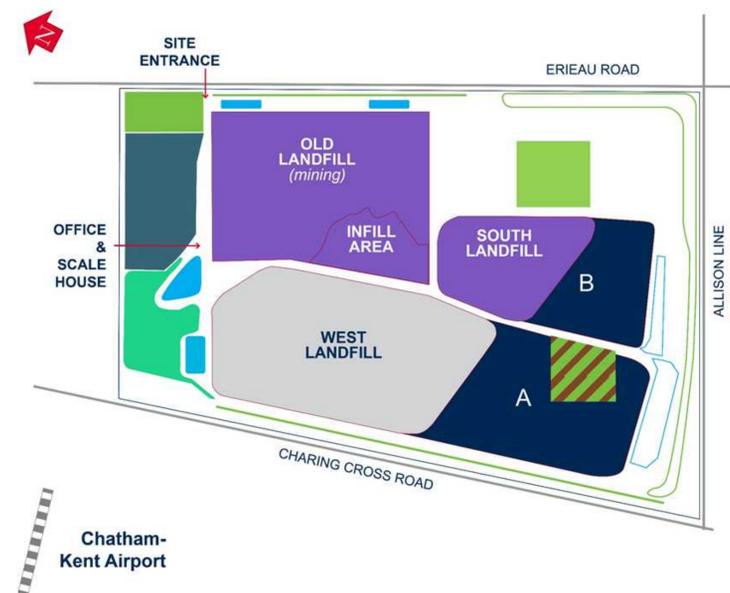
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- New fill area (C) removes the southeast woodlot.
- No change to the Old Landfill.

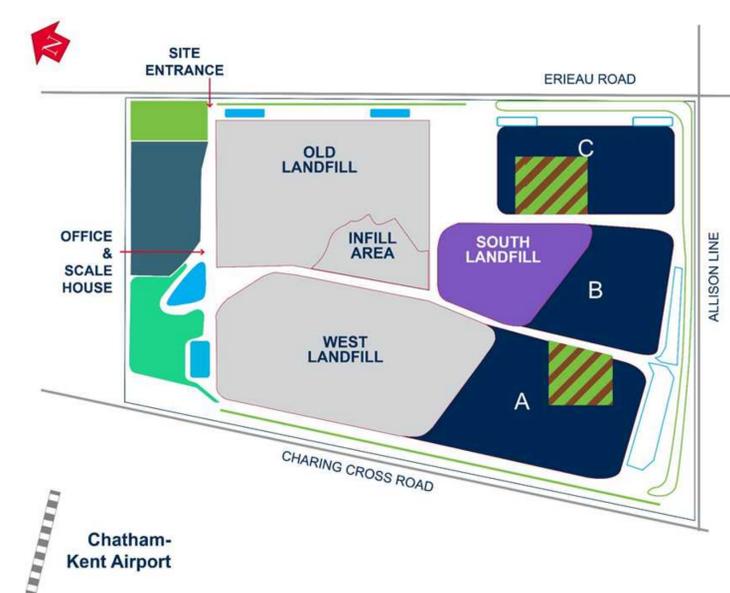
Site Development Alternative 1



Site Development Alternative 2



Site Development Alternative 3



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Waste Connections Property Line | Proposed Lateral Expansion Areas | Woodlot to Be Removed |
| Existing Landfill Area (No Change) | Proposed Vertical Expansion Areas | Proposed Stormwater Pond |
| Existing Woodlot Area | Flood Control | Proposed Berm |
| Existing Stormwater Pond | Potential Flood Control/ Soil Stockpile Area | |

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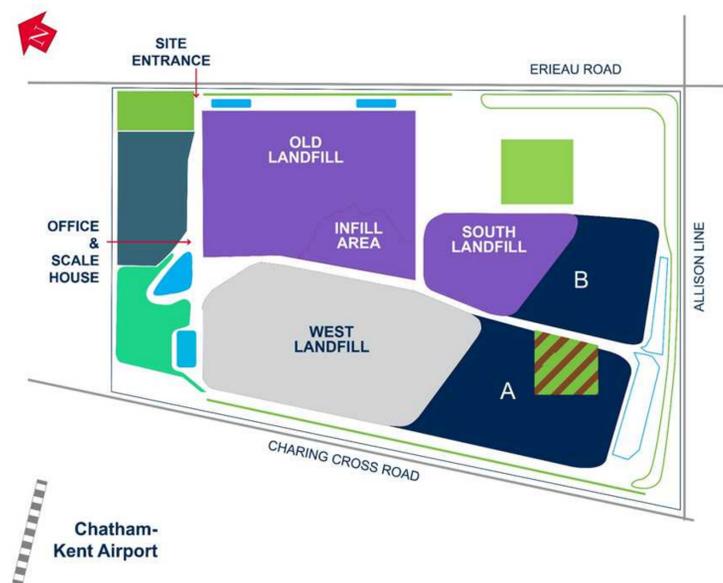
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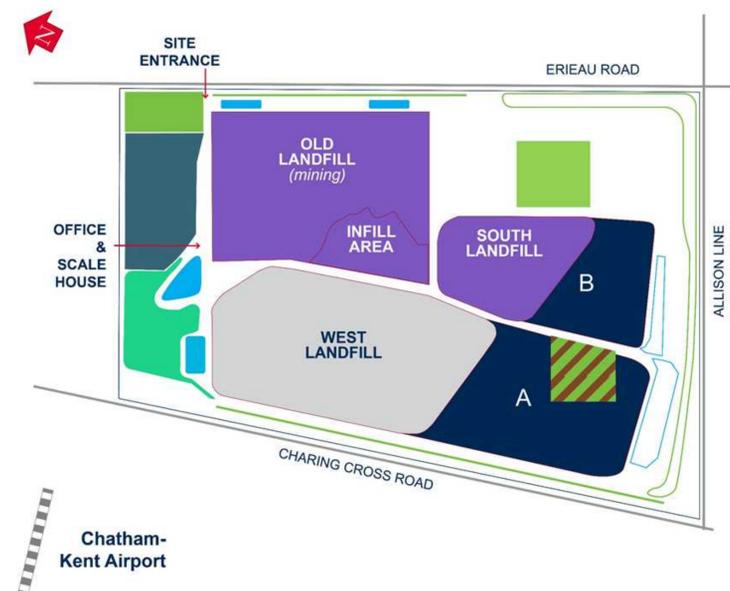
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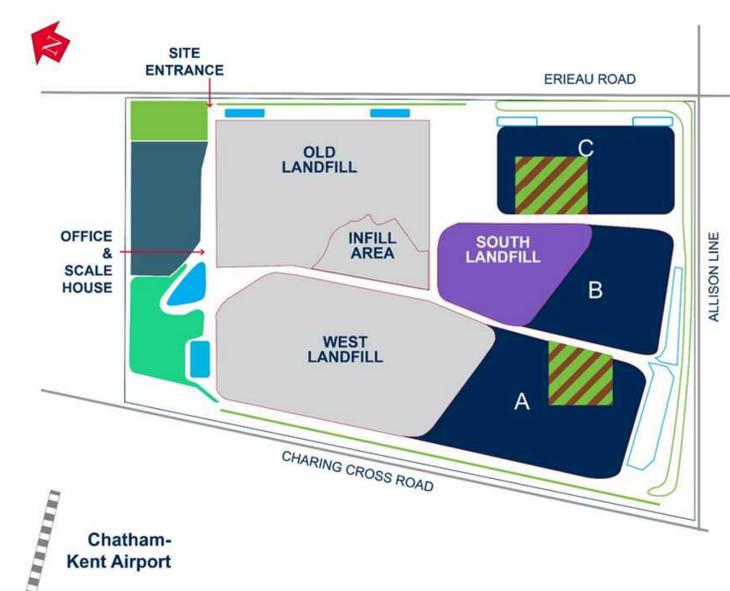
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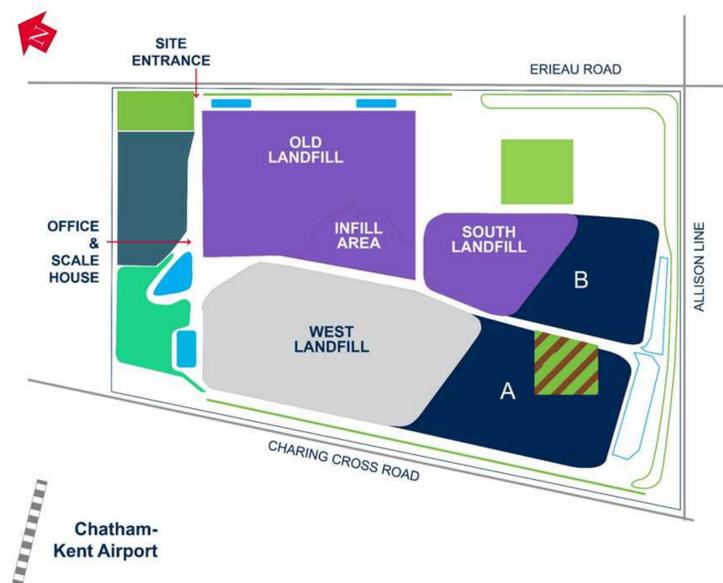
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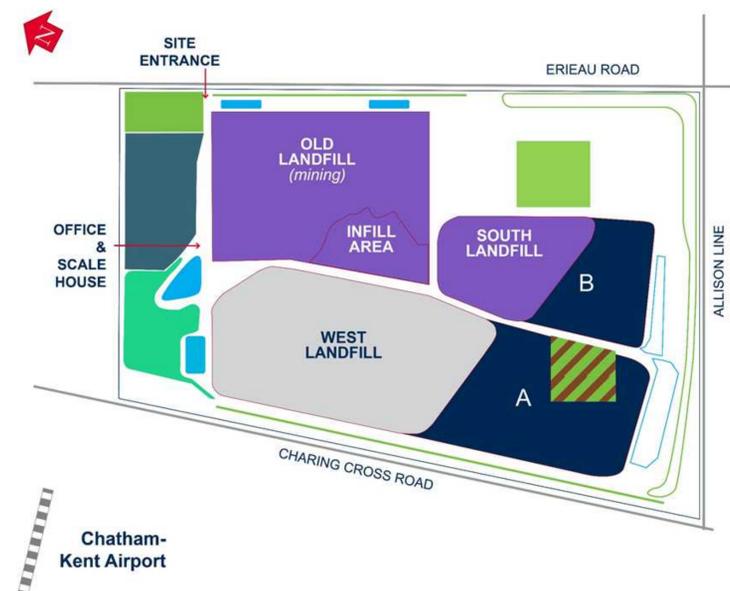
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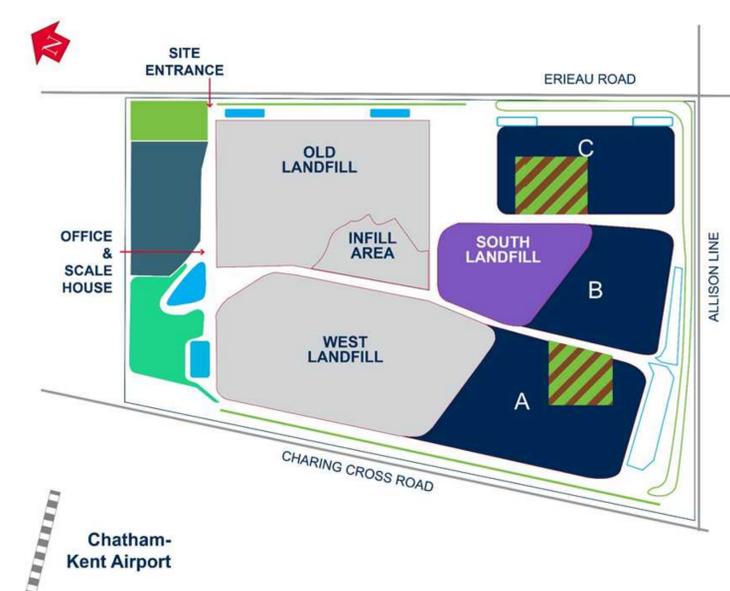
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Evaluation of Site Development Alternatives

Environment	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
Natural Environment Biological Ranking	Neutral	Neutral	Disadvantage
Natural Environment Physical Ranking	Neutral	Disadvantage	Neutral
Social Ranking	Neutral	Disadvantage	Neutral
Economic Ranking	Neutral	Major Disadvantage	Disadvantage
Cultural Ranking	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Built Environment Ranking	Neutral	Disadvantage	Disadvantage

Preliminary Preference

Rationale for Site Development Alternative Rankings

- Removal of the southwest woodlot is common to all three alternatives.
- Alternative 3 results in the removal of the southeast woodlot which has habitat for a significant Species at Risk (bat).
- Landfill operations for all three alternatives will be similar, with minimal operational impact on groundwater and surface water anticipated.
- Alternative 2 includes landfill mining which could have potential impacts on air quality, dust and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Landfill operations for all three alternatives will be similar, with minimal potential for noise, and a comparable number of waste trucks to today.
- All three alternatives will result in additional landfill area at the same height as the current mound.
- Alternative 2 includes landfill mining, which may produce additional odour and has a greater potential for worker health and safety issues.
- Landfill operations for all three alternatives will be similar, with Alternative 2 having greater potential for odour impacts on businesses due to landfill mining.
- All three alternatives result in the displacement of agricultural land.
- Alternative 1 is the least expensive at approximately \$60 million while Alternative 3 is approximately \$80 million and Alternative 2 is the costliest alternative at approximately \$165 million.
- No archaeological impact is anticipated.
- All three alternatives will result in the removal/demolition of the residence, barn and farmscape identified as cultural heritage resources.
- All three of the alternatives will have minimal impact on municipal roads and the airport infrastructure.
- Waste Connections will continue to support road upgrades on the designated haul route.
- Alternative 2 includes landfill mining which is a complex construction process compared to the other alternatives.
- Alternative 3 has a larger footprint, compared to the other alternatives, limiting land use flexibility for the future.

Leachate Treatment Alternatives

Alternative 1: Discharge to Sanitary Sewer

- Leachate is collected east of the Old Landfill.
- Leachate is conveyed via the existing underground forcemain to the Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons.

Alternative 2: On-site Pre-treatment

- Leachate would be pre-treated to meet one or more specific parameters if necessary to assist the Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons in meeting effluent quality.
- Requires construction of a pre-treatment facility on the Ridge property.
- Pre-treated leachate would be conveyed via the existing underground forcemain to the Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons.

Alternative 3: Full Treatment

- Leachate would be fully treated on-site to meet surface water discharge criteria.
- Requires construction of a full treatment plant on the Ridge property.
- Treated leachate would be discharged to an on-site local drain.

Chatham-Kent Public Utilities Commission has confirmed that the Blenheim Wastewater Treatment Lagoons has the capacity to continue to accept leachate from the existing and the proposed expanded landfill over the EA planning period (2022 to 2041).



Evaluation of Leachate Treatment Alternatives

Environment	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
Natural Environment Biological Ranking	Neutral	Neutral	Major Disadvantage
Natural Environment Physical Ranking	Neutral	Neutral	Disadvantage
Social Ranking	Neutral	Disadvantage	Major Disadvantage
Economic Ranking	Major Advantage	Disadvantage	Major Disadvantage
Cultural Ranking	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Built Environment Ranking	Major Advantage	Disadvantage	Major Disadvantage
Preliminary Preference			

Rationale for Leachate Treatment Alternative Rankings			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternatives 1 and 2 have minimal potential for impact on aquatic habitat as the risk of an accidental spill, leak or discharge to the natural environment is low compared to Alternative 3. Alternative 3, full on-site treatment, has the potential risk of an accidental discharge of untreated leachate if there is a plant upset. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternatives 1 and 2 have minimal potential for impact on surface water compared to Alternative 3, which has the potential risk for an accidental discharge of untreated leachate if there is a plant upset. The potential for impact on groundwater is minimal for all alternatives due to the 30 metres of natural clay under the site. Alternatives 1 and 2 require limited energy to pump the leachate and complete selective treatment. A full treatment plant (Alternative 3) is energy intensive with a greater potential to impact air quality and generate greenhouse gas. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative 1 results in no change to leachate treatment system. Alternatives 2 and 3 require progressively greater construction and operation activity on-site. Alternative 2 (minor on-site processing) will have a potential for noise and odour impacts on residents; Alternative 3 (major on-site processing) will have the greatest potential for noise and odour impacts. None of the alternatives are anticipated to change traffic; however trucking leachate is a contingency for all alternatives (as it is today). 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative 1 results in no change to leachate treatment system. Alternatives 2 and 3 require progressively greater construction and operation activity on-site. Alternative 2 (minor on-site processing) will have a potential for disruption impacts to businesses; Alternative 3 (major on-site processing) will have the greatest potential for disruption. There is no additional cost for Alternative 1 as infrastructure is already in place; Alternative 2 would cost approximately \$3-5 million; Alternative 3 would cost approximately \$15-20 million. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None of the alternatives are anticipated to have impacts on archaeological resources. Any construction will occur in areas already disturbed and/or any resources uncovered will be removed. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None of the alternatives are expected to impact transportation infrastructure. Alternative 1 is a continuation of existing operations, a low complexity system with no additional staff required; Alternative 2 is more complex with some additional staff; Alternative 3 is the most complex and requires a full complement of treatment staff and waste stream management 			

Landfill Gas Management Alternatives

Alternative 1: Flaring

- Collection and conveyance of landfill gas to on-site flares.
- Landfill gas is burnt under high temperatures and controlled conditions which destroys the methane and trace organic compounds in landfill gas.
- A widely used landfill gas management method at large landfills and is currently used at Ridge Landfill.



Alternative 2: Energy Recovery - Renewable Natural Gas

- Construction of a facility that through the application of technology, recovers renewable natural gas from landfill gas.
- Dependent on being able to develop a commercially viable project with a 3rd party who can either use or market the energy.
- There is no existing or confirmed future RNG facility at this time.
- A back-up flare system similar to Alternative 1 would still be required.



Alternative 3: Energy Recovery – Electricity

- Construction of infrastructure to convert landfill gas to electricity and transmission lines to feed it into the electricity grid.
- Dependent on regulatory and commercial opportunities in the energy market to deliver power off-site in the future.
- There is no current market for electricity generated from gas at the Ridge Landfill.
- A back-up flare system similar to Alternative 1 would still be required.

Evaluating Landfill Gas Management Alternatives

Environment	Alternative 1 - Flaring	Alternative 2 - Energy Recovery (RNG)	Alternative 3 - Energy Recovery (Electricity)
Natural Environment Physical Ranking	Neutral	Advantage	Advantage
Social Ranking	Neutral	Disadvantage	Disadvantage
Economic Ranking	Neutral	Disadvantage	Disadvantage
Cultural Ranking	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Built Environment Ranking	Advantage	Disadvantage	Disadvantage
Preliminary Preference			

Rationale for Landfill Gas Management Alternative Rankings

- All three alternatives are effective at removing greenhouse gases and no significant change to air quality as experienced currently is expected.
- Alternatives 2 and 3 has the benefit of offsetting the use of traditional fuel with renewable energy.
- None of the alternatives are expected to generate significant odours during operation. Backup and contingency plans will in place to address potential upset conditions.
- Alternative 1 involves minimal construction and is not expected to result in any change to noise.
- Alternatives 2 and 3 do have the potential to result in construction noise; the extent of impact of construction on landfill neighbours would depend on the nature and location of facilities.
- None of the alternatives are expected to generate significant odours during operation. Backup and contingency plans will be in place to address potential upset conditions.
- Alternative 1 is more cost effective than Alternatives 2 and 3 which are yet to be deemed as economically viable for the Ridge Landfill.
- None of the alternatives are anticipated to have impacts on archaeological resources. Any construction will occur in areas already disturbed and/or any resources uncovered will be removed.
- Consistent with current operation, Alternative 1 is easy to maintain and operate.
- Alternatives 2 and 3 involving the recovery of energy are more complex with specialize equipment and technology. These alternatives will be commercially driven and require third party involvement.

Diversion – What We’ve Heard From Our Neighbours

Waste Connections is committed to being an industry leader, assisting the province in diverting waste from disposal as per the *Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario* by:

- Continuing to work with customers to identify opportunities to reduce materials going to disposal;
- Safely removing recyclables from the waste collected at waste transfer stations; and
- Seeking opportunities to promote additional re-use and recycling.

As part of the Ridge Environmental Assessment, Waste Connections of Canada is required to look at different ways to enhance diversion in it’s Southern and Central Ontario service area and at the Ridge Landfill. A Workshop and Open House held in spring 2018, a public survey and interviews of landfill neighbours generated the following ideas:

<p>Many residents use the charity boxes throughout the community on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Residents identified Ridge as a potential location for diversion drop off or swap facilities with the caveat that they did not want traffic, noise, odour, dust or litter impacts resulting from it. There was interest expressed in drop off or swap facilities.</p>	<p>Identified need for expanded HHW programs - locations and frequency.</p>
<p>General wish for organics and expanded Blue Box programs. Suggested that more education would be valuable to help people understand the current recycling program.</p>	<p>Desire for an expansion of rural waste and recyclable collection services.</p>	<p>Existing Transfer Stations are used for tires, white goods, leaf and yard waste and electronics. Some additional materials for consideration include mattresses, paints, organics, construction and demolition waste and furniture. Commenters liked using the transfer stations as they are close to where most people live.</p>

Conclusions & Next Steps

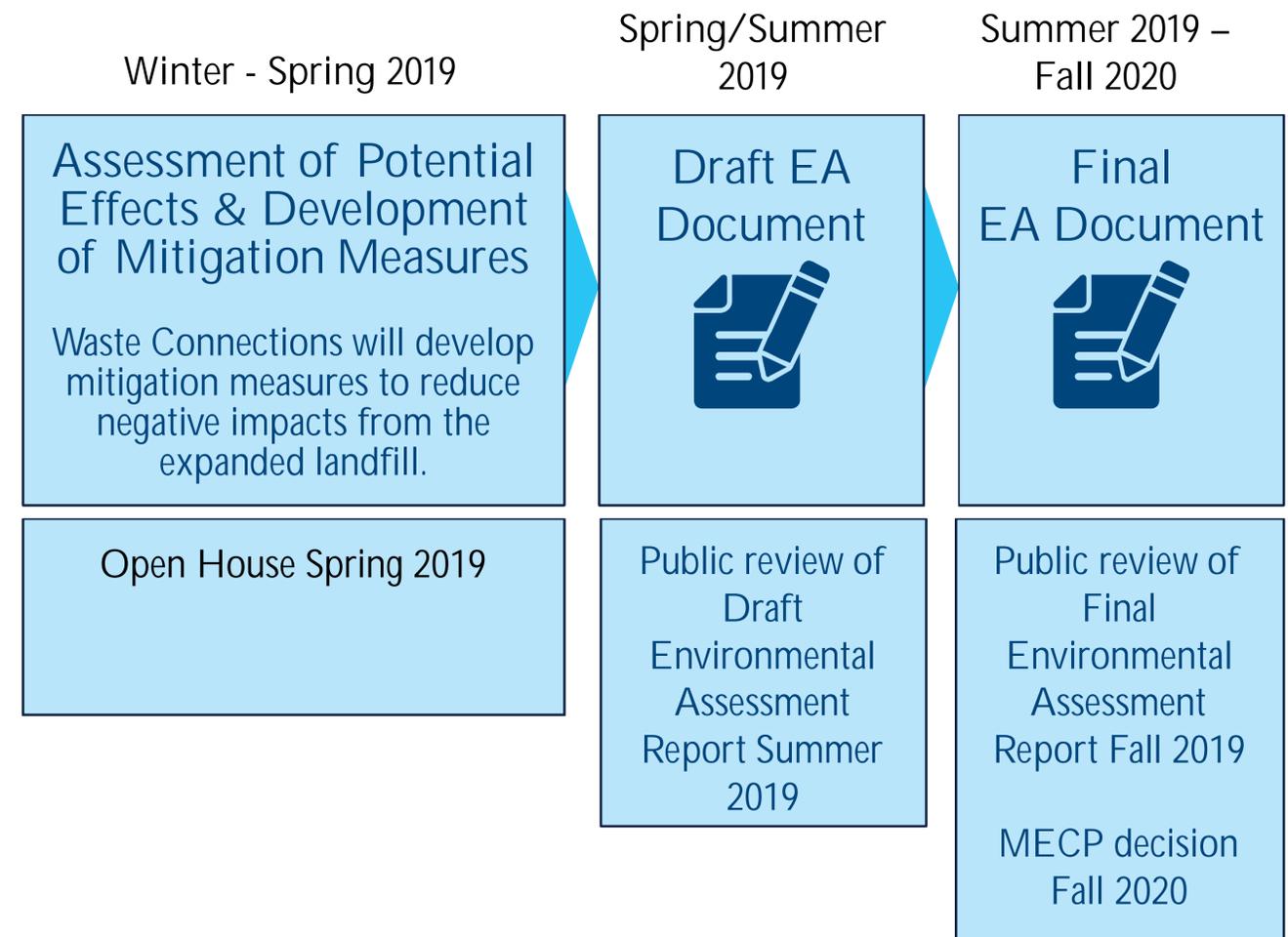
Preliminary Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative for the Ridge Landfill expansion, subject to public and agency input includes:

- Expansion of the landfill footprint into Areas A and B with a height to match the West Landfill.
- Vertical expansion of the Old Landfill and the South Landfill to match the height of the West Landfill.
- Continued flaring of landfill gas.
- Continued discharge of leachate to the existing sanitary sewer.

Assessment of Potential Effects and Mitigation

- The next step in the process will be to identify potential effects associated with the preferred alternative and to develop mitigation to minimize or eliminate these effects.
- This work will include:
 - Natural environment (biology, groundwater, surface water, atmospheric, climate change)
 - Social environment (disruption impact on residences (e.g. visual, noise, odour and traffic))
 - Economic environment (disruption impact on businesses, agriculture)
 - Cultural environment (archaeology, cultural heritage)
 - Built environment (land use, transportation (including aviation and bird hazard) and site infrastructure)
- An Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment is required for this project and discussions are underway with Chatham-Kent.



Stay Involved

Waste Connections is committed to keeping the community involved:

Public Open Houses & Website

To exchange information and hear community concerns and questions in person or via www.ridgelandfill.com



Community Newsletters

To provide news and information about the site and proposed expansion project.



Stakeholder Meetings

To provide opportunity for one-on-one meetings with Waste Connections staff to discuss the proposed expansion project.



Thank You

We want to hear from you!

Your issues or concerns are important to us!

- We want to know about them.
- We want to address them where possible.
- We want to demonstrate how we took your feedback into consideration.

Please leave your written questions or comments with us today, or send them to us anytime at: ridgelandfill.com

