

Presentation to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee
26 October 2006
Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee

Agenda Item 4: Morris Island Conservation Area Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Plan

The Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee supports the staff recommendations outlined in the report.

The area is ecologically valuable, as indicated by its status as an ANSI (Area of Natural and Scientific Interest) and it has great potential as a tourist and recreation attraction. We have reviewed the plan and we believe that the infrastructure and capital repairs that are needed cannot logically be delayed or left undone forever. We recommend the approval of the special levy (as per Recommendation No. 2 in the staff report) and we also support the idea that outside funding be sought to minimize the amount of the levy.

OFGAC has reviewed the MCVA report on the Morris Island Conservation Area and finds it worthy of our and your support.

In regard to outside funding, OFGAC recommends that the Friends of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, a not-for profit and registered charitable organization, work with the people who volunteer at the Morris Island CA to identify projects within their capacity and to seek funding through the City's Green Partnership Pilot Program. Those funds are available to groups such as theirs who can show community contributions in the form of volunteer hours and/or labour and donations of goods and cash.

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