

To: COUNCIL
Meeting Date: 3/25/2025
Subject: 25-037-CD Cambridge Country Manor Environmental Compliance Approval Application Signature
Submitted By: Tanya Gies, Chief Building Official
Prepared By: Tanya Gies, Chief Building Official
Report No.: 25-037-CD
File No.: C1101
Wards Affected: Ward 1

RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Report 25-037-CD Cambridge Country Manor Environmental Compliance Approval Application Signature be received;

AND THAT Council direct/authorize the CBO to advise the Ministry that the City has no objection to the construction of the Works in the City of Cambridge.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Purpose

Cambridge Country Manor, at 3680 Speedsville Rd, has been mandated to replace two existing septic systems that serve the facility. The facility’s wastewater is processed by septic systems as there is currently no access to municipal services on this property.

Due to the size of the system, the approval authority is the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) through an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA). The ECA requires confirmation that the City has no objection to the construction of the works in the municipality, where the “works” refers to the installation of the septic system.

Key Findings

- The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) requires Cambridge Country Manor to replace two existing septic systems that serve the Long-Term Care facility.

- The proposed septic system has a design flow that exceeds 10,000 litres per day and is being sized to accommodate future growth of the facility.
- Due to its size, the septic system must be approved by the MECP through an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).
- Section 7.2 of the ECA application requires a signature confirming the municipality has no objections to the construction of the works in the municipality.
- Relevant city staff have no objection to the construction of the septic system in the municipality. The property does not currently have access to municipal services, and in future, if municipal sanitary service is installed across the frontage of the property, they will be required to connect.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Strategic Action

Objective(s): Not Applicable

Strategic Action: Not Applicable

OR

Core Service

Program: Building Service

Core Service: Building Permits

BACKGROUND:

Cambridge Country Manor, at 3680 Speedsville Rd, is a long-term care facility with current capacity of 79 Beds.

The facility's existing two septic systems must be replaced, as mandated by the MECP.

The City's Building Division was contacted by Flow Spec Engineering, who were retained to design a new septic system for the facility and obtain the appropriate approvals.

The new system is being designed to accommodate the growth of the facility, which will increase the number of beds available in future, and due to its capacity of greater than 10,000 litres per day, requires an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).

Section 7.2 of the ECA application requires a signature from a municipal representative to signify that the, "...Municipality has no objection to the construction of the works in the Municipality." The signature in section 7.2. does not imply a technical review of the design as the approval authority for design and installation is the MECP.

ANALYSIS:

The jurisdiction for approval of septic systems in Ontario is based on the size and capacity of the system.

The Ontario Building Code (OBC) regulates the construction and installation of septic systems with a design flow of up to 10,000 liters per day. Septic systems regulated by the OBC would be reviewed for compliance by the Building Division through the building permit process and permit site inspections.

For septic systems that exceed 10,000 liters per day the MECP is the approval authority, and approval would be sought through an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).

As part of the ECA process, MECP requires confirmation that the municipality has no objection to the installation of the system in the municipality and some municipalities delegate authority to the Chief Building Official (CBO) to sign section 7.2 of the ECA application form on behalf of the municipality. Currently, the CBO in Cambridge does not have delegated authority for this purpose.

The new septic system proposed for Cambridge Country Manor is being designed to accommodate growth of the facility and any future building construction would need to go through the applicable approval processes such as site plan approval and building permit approval.

EXISTING POLICY / BY-LAW(S):

There is no existing policy/by-law.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact.

PUBLIC VALUE:

Does not apply.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE INPUT:

None.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Posted publicly as part of the report process.

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL CONSULTATION:

The Chief Building Official consulted with the Chief Planner, Senior Environmental Planner, Chief Engineer and Director of Environmental Services. All staff consulted have confirmed they have no objection to the construction of the new septic system on the property.

In future, if sanitary infrastructure is extended to a point at which a sanitary main is installed across the frontage of their property, the City would initiate a requirement for them to connect to the municipal system and abandon their septic system.

CONCLUSION:

To facilitate the replacement of the septic system serving the Cambridge Country Manor, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks requires confirmation that the Municipality has no objection to the construction of a new septic system on the property within the City of Cambridge.

A signature, by a representative of the Municipality, is required in Section 7.2. of the Environmental Compliance Approval application, of which Flow Spec Engineering, the designer of the new system is completing as part of the approval process with the MECP.

The CBO is seeking authorization to sign the form on behalf of the municipality.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: **No**

By-law: **No**

Budget Amendment: **No**

Policy: **No**

APPROVALS:

This report has gone through the appropriate workflow and has been reviewed and or approved by the following as required:

Director

Deputy City Manager

Chief Financial Officer

City Solicitor

City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

No attachments.