

**THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL HURON  
MELENA BEACH MUNICIPAL DRAIN  
GM BluePlan File No.: 518024-1  
Virtual Design Review Meeting  
QUESTIONS RECEIVED**

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**Question 1:** *Can you send out a PDF version of the Assessment Table?*

**Answer 1:**

We did not send hard copies of the draft Assessment Table to landowners. The assessment tables were provided within the posted video.

**Question 2:** *How will you plan to address future maintenance in the new report on the existing drain?*

**Answer 2:**

Future maintenance on the existing drain shall be assessed as per the 2008 Engineers Report.

**Question 3:** *Will the area required for construction necessitate removal of all or most of the tree line along the east side of Melena Drive?*

**Answer 3:**

No, the working width for construction of the drain shall be designated as 20m wide and is to be located east of the rear property line of the residences fronting Melena Drive. Trees will only be removed as required for construction and very few are anticipated for removal.

**Question 4:** *Will GM BluePlan or the awarded contractor work with the landowners on the placement of the service sweep?*

**Answer 4:**

Yes, at the request of a Landowner the exact location of the service sweeps can be adjusted slightly during construction after consultation with the Engineer and the Contractor.

**Question 5:** *Does the Drainage Act follow a similar process to the old Local Improvement Act?*

**Answer 5:**

We are unfamiliar with the exact process under the Local Improvement Act. This project is being completed under the Drainage Act.

**Question 6:** *If a landowner is not in agreement with the proposed solution, is the landowner obliged to contribute?*

**Answer 6:**

Yes. A sufficient petition has been submitted and all affected parties are required to pay their portion of the cost of the drain as laid out in the Assessment Table included in the Engineer's Report.

**Question 7:** *What options does a landowner have to appeal?*

**Answer 7:**

Information on the Appeals under the Drainage Act can be found in Section 47 to 62 of the Drainage Act R.S.O. 1990 c. D.17 which can be found in the link below;

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90d17#BK52>

Typically appeals under the Drainage Act are made to the Court of Revision and/or the Drainage Tribunal. Each has prescribed steps and costs associated with those appeals.

**Question 8:** *Is the drainage report in a draft form that can be reviewed?*

**Answer 8:**

No, The Engineer's Report is currently being finalized and will be revised as per comments received in response to the Virtual Design Review Meeting video.

**Question 9:** *How will this proposal be impacted by the proposed redevelopment of the farm fields into 13 homes?*

**Answer 9:**

We have been in communication with the Engineering consultant responsible for the land development and have accounted for these lands in the design.

**Question 10:** *Will a separate drainage solution be required at the north field?*

**Answer 10:**

The project limits do not extend north of Melena Beach Side Road. Any drainage concerns north of Melena Beach Side Road would require a separate drainage solution.

**Question 11:** *Do basements impact groundwater flow and contribute to the drainage problem (bank seepage)?*

**Answer 11:**

We don't envision basements posing significant obstruction to groundwater flow however this is beyond the scope of this project. The project is to address what is occurring under present conditions.

**Question 12:** *Can you explain the "modified Todgham method"? Is this method standard practice for drainage solution apportionment and is this the accepted practice of Huron County?*

**Answer 12:**

The modified Todgham Method is an industry accepted practice for fair and equitable apportionment of costs under the Drainage Act. It is widely used across the province.

**Question 13:** *Can you explain the allowance to Robin Lawrie but the substantial contribution from the Clark's whose farm is east of Highway 21?*

**Answer 13:**

The Robin Lawrie land is provided an allowance for both Damages and Right-of-Way under the Act based on the fact that the new drain will be constructed predominantly on this property.

The Clark property contributes water to the drainage system through a culvert across Highway 21 and are assessed for their contribution through an Outlet assessment under the Act.

**Question 14:** *Was the 2008 system oversized such that the two additional pipes can be accommodated and maintain the same 50-year level of protection? Is the existing Melena Beach Drain out of date with the expansion of the watershed in include the south portion of Mr. Lawrie's field?*

**Answer 14:**

GM BluePlan was not involved in the 2008 design and construction however we have no reason to believe that this work was oversized. The area included on the revised watershed will marginally affect the 50-year level of service. The extension to the Melena Beach Drain provides a more efficient conduit of collecting and channeling this water to the outlet.

**Question 15:** *What effect will the additional houses have on the drainage problem?*

**Answer 15:**

The lands east of Melena Drive have been accounted for within the calculations. Any development of these lands including any potential increase in runoff will be reviewed as part of the development process with the Municipality.

**Question 16:** *What will happen when water is added to the existing drain at the beach were the water comes out and what will the added water do to that area?*

**Answer 16:**

As per the 2008 Report the outlet has been designed and constructed with Rip-Rap to mitigate erosion. This is not proposed to change.

**Question 17:** *Have all the correct calculations and protocols been followed and verified by an independent engineering company?*

**Answer 17:**

No. GM BluePlan was the engineering firm retained to respond to this petition. Upon receiving a copy of the completed Drainage Report, Landowners are welcome to review the calculations, protocols or any other aspect with the project with whomever they feel is appropriate.

**Question 18:** *What plans will be put in place to maintain and ensure the drain doesn't exceed capacity?*

**Answer 18:**

The proposed drain and the 2008 construction have both been designed to a set level of service. There will be occasions where storm events will exceed the capacity of the drain.

**Question 19:** *Is the entire berm placed on Lot 39 Concession 1? If so, will the west side of the berm start at the property line or at the edge of existing trees? How much higher, on average, will the berm be than the existing ground?*

**Answer 19:**

The West side of the berm will be positioned approximately at the rear property line of the residences fronting Melena Drive. The berm height will vary along its length but will range from approximately 0.3 – 0.8m above the existing ground.

**Question 20:** *Can the location of catch basin 2 proposed in the Municipal Drain be adjusted?*

**Answer 20:**

The location of catch basin 2 was selected as the preferred location based on the topography of the site. We can review if further information is provided to us however unless there is a compelling reason to do so the location of catch basin 2 will not be moved.

**Question 21:** *Why are landowners expected to pay for Drainage when water from lands elsewhere contribute to the issue.*

**Answer 21:**

The modified Todgham Method has been used to fairly proportion costs amongst contributing Landowners. Those lands “contributing to the issue” have been assessed accordingly.

**Question 22:** *Would the bank protection be more effective if it were closer to the bank (ie. along the road?)*

**Answer 22:** We can not definitively say if moving the berm and drain closer to the bank would have an impact on its effectiveness. This would scenario would leave a number of Landowner concerns unaddressed and constructability would be an issue.

**Question 23:** *How did the Engineer arrive at the Assessment?*

**Answer 23:**

Using the modified Todgham Method.

**Question 24:** *Does the location of the French Drain pose a health risk based on the location of the septic systems?*

**Answer 24:**

Based on the information provided the drain complies with the minimum setbacks for sewage systems as outlined in the Ontario Building Code. Any future development would be required to do the same.

**Question 25:** *Could Branch B be routed around the residential properties?*

**Answer 25:** Yes, we will review re-locating Branch 'B' to the north of the residential properties.

**Question 26:** *Is the existing outlet in good condition and will the existing outlet remain?*

**Answer 26:**

We have received no concerns from Landowners or the Municipality's Drainage regarding the condition of the existing drain's outlet. Yes, the existing outlet will remain.

**Question 27:** *Will the existing catch basin be replaced?*

**Answer 27:**

The existing catch basin which was installed under the 2008 report will remain.