



AGENDA
Strategic Priorities Committee

April 17, 2018

9:00 am

Council Chambers, Town Hall

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the April 17, 2018 Strategic Priorities Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

4. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Upper Thames River Conservation Authority re: Review of February 21-22 Flood

Material to be provided on April 17 at the meeting by the presenter.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the delegation from Upper Thames River Conservation Authority regarding review of February 21-22 flood be received.

4.2 Rob Staffen and Dave Courtnage re: Ideas to Share - UTRCA, Business Investments and Our Community

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT the delegation from Rob Staffen and Dave Courtnage regarding ideas to share - UTRCA, business investments and our community, be received.

5. CLOSED SESSION

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council move into a session that is closed to the public at _____am as authorized under the Municipal Act, Section 239(2)(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

5.1 CAO 13-2018 CONFIDENTIAL Due Diligence re: Perth South Industrial Servicing Request

6. RISE AND REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Strategic Priorities Committee rise from a closed session at _____pm.

7. NEXT MEETING

May 15, 2018 - 9:00am, Council Chambers

- Planned Topics: Care Coordination Agreement, PRC Business Plan, and Sign By-law update

8. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT this meeting of the Strategic Priorities Committee adjourn at _____ pm.

Ideas to Share: UTRCA, Business Investments and Our Communities

Dave Courtnage

Rob Staffen

April 17, 2018

Agenda

- This presentation will be about Opportunities for our Community
- Sharing the data on the Operation by UTRCA of Wildwood Dam:
UTRCA may be putting our Community at Risk
- Power Shift from Private Sector to Public Sector
- UTRCA/St. Marys “**Circle of Importance**”
- IDEA “Smart and Caring Community Fund” for Parks, Cycling, Trails and Natural Forests – Next Generation
- **Plans moving forward**

It is About Community

- Our Families believes in 20 year plans, how would you leave these businesses to your Grandchildren and to your Community
- Understanding the Ideas behind the “13 Ways to Kill a Community” concept made our Families realize we need to get involved
- Power has shifted from the Private Sector (that pay the taxes) to the Public Sector and jobs (UTRCA authority),
- We want UTRCA and St. Marys (other Communities) to be Partners in providing clean water, safety to our Businesses and to our Families, and Parks and Recreation to the next generation
- *Community Partners:* We (a Business Owners) want to be a respected and admired as an important assets of the community at large; so that we attract tourists, we will attract industry, we will attract professionals and we will attract people to become part of the community.

Where are we Today?

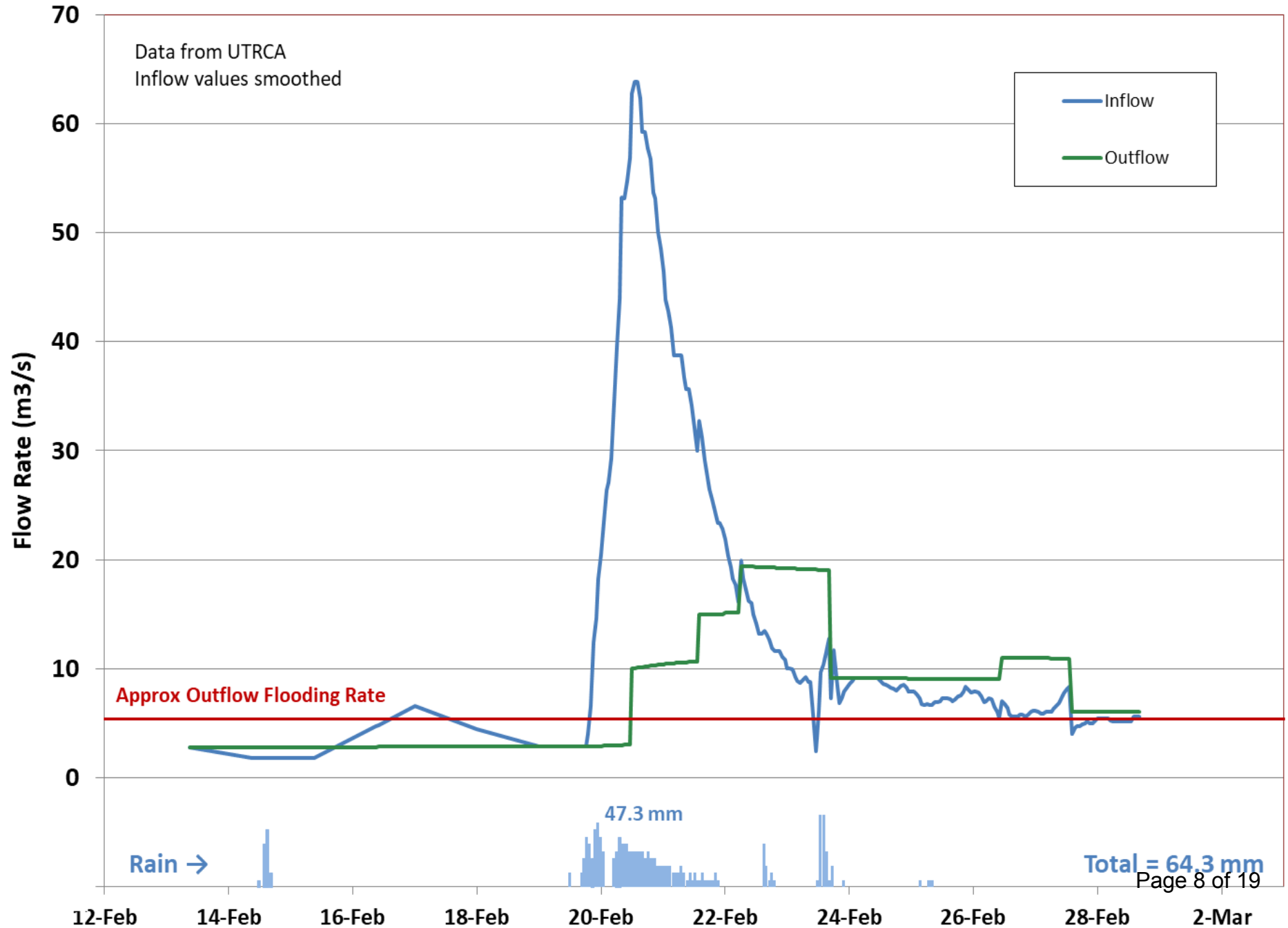
- Working with UTRCA is difficult; The 200 Year flood line is unrealistic in cases of existing Sites
- Increasing and **Unsustainable Costs** of UTRCA (Costs of the organization are up substantially, 8.7% in Labour alone whereby Business is struggling to survive and cutting labour, especially with the new Minimum wage policies and Communities are facing lost Tax Base(s) and other Government cut backs)
- UTRCA **Lack of Accountability**- in business we are rated on performance versus standards or forecast, UTRCA is perceived as Enabling its Staff: “Defending positions and individuals” versus “The Community and the team”
- Downtown Development Issues (European Examples)

Operation by UTRCA of Wildwood Dam

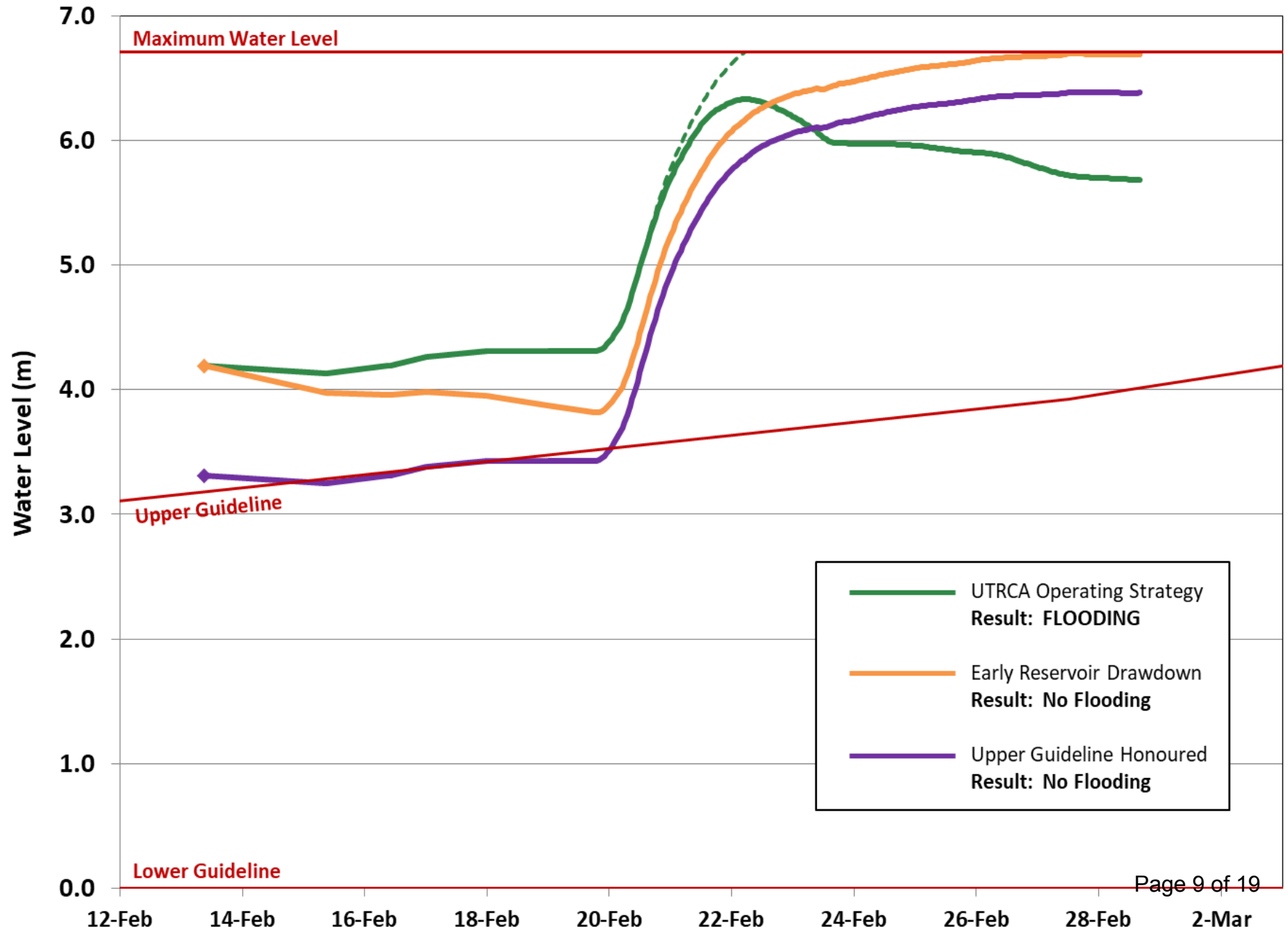
Flooding Summary

- All recent Trout Creek floods are due to operational errors, not weather events
 - UTRCA routinely operates outside the design basis operating parameters
 - UTRCA routinely operates outside its own operating guidelines
 - UTRCA consistently ignores data that would help prevent flooding

Wildwood Flow Rates - February 2018 Flooding



Wildwood Water Levels - Three Operating Strategies



Operation by UTRCA of Wildwood Dam

Flooding Summary

- Solutions that would prevent flooding and preserve all of flow augmentation capability presented to UTRCA, but rejected
 - Inconvenience to boaters, campers and cottage owners
 - Flow augmentation is the only priority, flood control is an incidental side benefit
 - Some flooding is acceptable as part of the flood control mandate
- Without changes to operating strategy, a flooding disaster for St. Marys is inevitable
- UTRCA's handling of the flooding problem is just a **symptom of the problem**

St. Marys, other Communities and UTRCA As Partners NOT Adversaries

- Communities, where we work, **where we pay our taxes**, where we run our Businesses or where we volunteer for our Town should be the **#1 priority** for UTRCA
(The existing relationship is backwards)
- UTRCA actually work for us (our Communities) and we should **work together as partners** in helping Businesses grow and flourish; yet UTRCA is feared by Business (and avoided if they can) for all the wrong reasons. **This is not a True Partnership**

UTRCA “CIRCLE OF IMPORTANCE” Current

#1:

Manage & Expand
Natural Areas

2:

Protect and Improve
Water Quality

No Question but at
what cost: 200 year
Flood line?

3: Provide Outdoor
Recreation/Education

UTRCA “CIRCLE OF IMPORTANCE” Current

#4 Protect Life and Property from
Flooding/Erosion

The 100 year flood line does that.

#5 Community

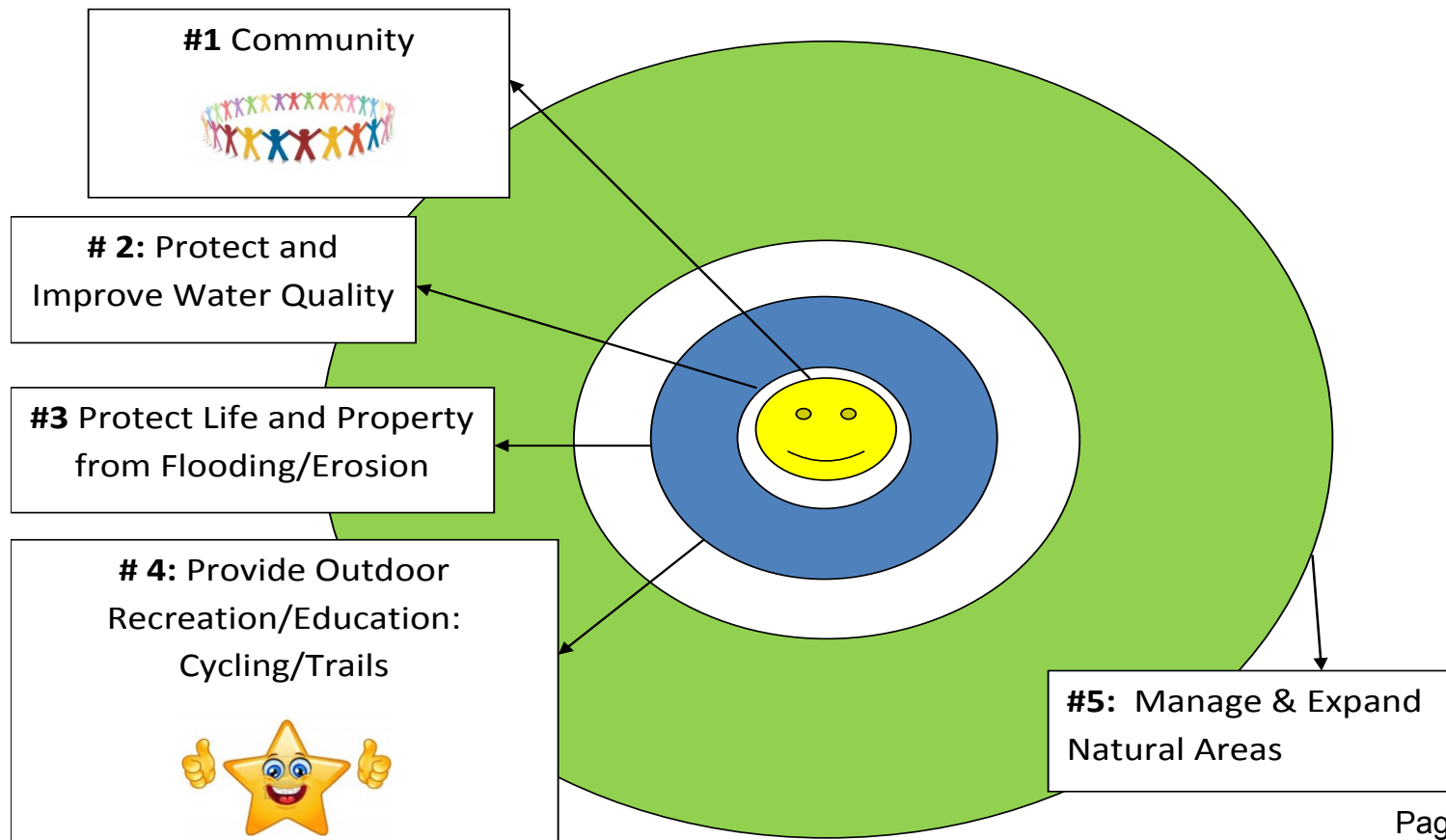
Not even mentioned in
the Vision for UTRCA?



Save
Downtowns like
Europe does.



UTRCA “CIRCLE OF IMPORTANCE” In Order of Priorities



Ontario's Cycling Strategy: 20 Year Plan- Where is UTRCA on Cycling?



Partnership: St. Marys/London/ Perth South/Stratford and UTRCA

- UTRCA to “Engage with our Communities”
 - ✓ Insist that UTRCA work with communities to align their priorities to be consistent with those of the communities they serve.
 - ✓ UTRCA has willing partners in the process. To ignore them is irresponsible.
 - ✓ Streamline the regulatory process. Work with the towns to establish criteria and allow the towns to work within them, rather than micromanaging every application.
 - ✓ Partners Work Together to Promote Downtown Development; especially Attainable Housing and unique Commercial venues. (Europe example) .

Partnership: St. Marys/London/ Perth South/Stratford and UTRCA

- UTRCA to be held “Accountable to our Communities”
 - ✓ Join with other like-thinking communities and **withhold funding increases** to UTRCA until the recommendations are met.
 - ✓ UTRCA to develop **Performance standards** that provide their staff with specific **performance** expectations for each major duty. Review them. Enforce them.
 - ✓ Review the operation of Wildwood Dam to **ensure the protection** of St. Marys residents and businesses.
 - ✓ Permit the use of **common sense**. Blind adherence to pre-conceived ideas rarely produces the correct result.

Partnership: St. Marys/London/ Perth South/Stratford and UTRCA

- UTRCA to “Co-Create a Vision of Community”
 - ✓ Ideas to enhance Revenue should be encouraged and rewarded
 - ✓ Cycling Paths and Hiking Trails
 - ✓ Recognize the funding limitations of small communities
 - ✓ Work with Communities to seek creative ways to fund programs (sell the farms):
 - “A Smart and Caring Community Foundation “
 - “Parks, Recreation, Trails and Cycling Paths”
 - Annual Fundraising Community Event
 - Sale of Farms Owned by UTRCA

QUESTIONS?
