

Strategic Directions 2009-2014

A Strategic Plan for the Oak Ridges Trail



This document was reviewed and approved by the:

Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan Advisory Committee on January 16, 2009

Oak Ridges Trail Association Board of Directors on January 31, 2009

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Executive Summary

Purpose of the Strategic Plan

The Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan, *Strategic Directions 2009-2014*, is a comprehensive document, outlining how the Oak Ridges Trail Association will continue work begun in 1992 to expand, secure, develop, manage and maintain the Oak Ridges Trail as a continuous recreational trail along the Oak Ridges Moraine, from the Niagara Escarpment to the Rice Lakes Plains. The plan will provide strategic direction for the next five years (2009-2014) and promote appreciation and respect for the moraine's ecological, cultural and scenic integrity.

The strategic plan will support the implementation of Section 39 of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, which calls for the development and maintenance of a recreational trail system that will provide continuous access and travel across the entire moraine accessible to all people including persons with disabilities.

The strategy will guide the development of a trail system that is:

- designed to maintain and where possible, improve or restore the ecological integrity of the moraine,
- located in the Natural Core and Natural Linkage Areas as much as possible, and
- located away from public roads.

The location of the trail must also recognize sensitive habitats and result in minimal impact on the natural environment.

The strategic plan will also be used to support project proposals and funding requests to funding organizations, to obtain support for the securement, management and maintenance of the Oak Ridges Trail and for the operation of the Oak Ridges Trail Association.

It is not the purpose of this plan to recommend the expropriation of land for trail purposes.

Administration of the Oak Ridges Trail

The overall administration and management of the Oak Ridges Trail will be led by the Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA), a volunteer group working in partnership with a number of other trail clubs, municipalities, conservation authorities, the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation, Save the Oak Ridges Moraine Coalition and the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust.

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This strategic plan contains a number of sections covering such topics as Trail Planning, Trail Access, Trail Securement, Financial Sustainability, and Administration.

Implementation of this strategic plan will be conditional upon availability of human and financial resources.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Guiding Principles

The Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Directions 2009-2014 is a comprehensive document, outlining how the Oak Ridges Trail Association will continue work begun in 1992 to expand, secure, develop, manage and maintain the Oak Ridges Trail as a continuous recreational trail along the Oak Ridges Moraine, from the Niagara Escarpment to the Rice Lake Plains. The plan will provide strategic direction for the next five years (2009-2014) and promote appreciation and respect for the moraine's ecological, cultural and scenic integrity.

The strategic plan supports the implementation of Section 39 of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, which calls for the development and maintenance of a recreational trail system that will provide continuous access and travel across the entire moraine accessible to all people including persons with disabilities.

The strategic plan will guide the development of a trail system that is designed to maintain and where possible, improve or restore the ecological integrity of the moraine; is located in the Natural Core and Natural Linkage Areas as much as possible; and is located away from public roads. The location of the trail must also recognize sensitive habitats and result in minimal impact on the natural environment.

The strategic plan will also be used to support project proposals and funding requests to funding organizations to obtain support for the securement, management and maintenance of the Oak Ridges Trail. This is not a strategic plan for the member-targeted activities and services of the Oak Ridges Trail Association.

It is not the purpose of this plan to recommend the expropriation of land for trail purposes.



1.2 Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan

The strategic plan will be used to implement a number of recommendations contained in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, issued by the Province of Ontario on April 22, 2002.

Specifically, the strategy will support the implementation of Section 39 of the Conservation Plan, which calls for the development and maintenance of a recreational trail system. Section 39 reads thus:

Trail system

39. (1) *A recreational trail system shall be established to provide continuous access and travel along the entire Plan Area, accessible to all including persons with disabilities.*

(2) *The trail system shall,*

(a) *be designed to maintain and, where possible, improve or restore the ecological integrity of the Plan Area;*

(b) *be located in the Natural Core Areas and Natural Linkage Areas as much as possible;*

(c) *be located away from unopened road allowances as much as possible.*

(3) *Despite anything else in this Plan, the following uses, buildings and structures are permitted on the trail system:*

1. *Non-motorized trail uses.*

2. *Parking, signage, washrooms and interpretive facilities to support access to the trail system.*

3. *Fencing to define and protect the trails.*

4. *Works to improve access to the trail system and remove barriers to its use, for the benefit of all including persons with disabilities.*

5. *Works to protect ecologically sensitive portions of the trail system.*

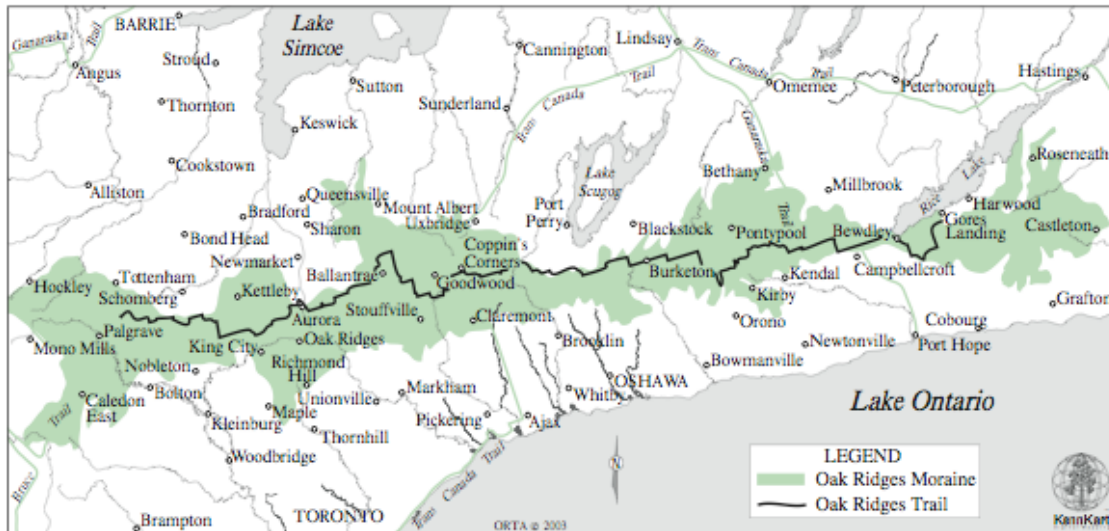
6. *Conservation and erosion control to protect or restore key natural heritage features and hydrologically sensitive features and the related ecological functions along the trail system.*

(4) *Paragraph 1 of subsection (3) does not prohibit the use of motorized wheelchairs by persons who need them for mobility*

1.3 Oak Ridges Trail

The Oak Ridges Trail (also referred to as the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail) is a continuous footpath extending over 220 kilometers across the Oak Ridges Moraine with a number of local side trails. The route of the Oak Ridges Trail is located entirely on lands owned by other agencies and individuals – federal, provincial, municipal governments, conservation authorities, NGOs, institutions, and private individuals – who have made their properties accessible to the Oak Ridges Trail Association for the purposes of the trail.

It is to be noted that, in a number of locations, the trail does not follow the route preferred by the association nor does it satisfy the criteria of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. This strategic plan addresses these deficiencies.



1.4 Oak Ridges Trail Association

The trail is managed and maintained by the Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA), a volunteer organization inaugurated in May 1992. One of ORTA's main objectives is to develop and secure the Oak Ridges Trail for walking/hiking purposes, "thereby promoting an appreciation and respect for the Moraine's ecological, cultural, and scenic integrity, with the aim of retaining the trail corridor in its natural state."

Ten chapters of members and volunteers have helped to build and now maintain the trail sections for public use in all seasons. Moving west to east, the trail chapters include Caledon, King, Aurora, Richmond Hill, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Uxbridge, Scugog, Clarington, Hope-Hamilton and Northumberland. At the present time the Oak Ridges Trail Association has approximately 650 memberships. The association has promoted the trail through its website, local events and media, and The Moraine For Life Adventure Relay, an annual trail race. Over 250 group outings are organized by ORTA each year. Member-targeted activities and services of the association are funded by membership dues, individual donations, and the sale of trail guidebooks.



1.5 Vision for the Oak Ridges Trail

The design and development of the Oak Ridges Trail system as a hiking trail providing continuous east-west access across the Oak Ridges Moraine will be continued in compliance with the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. The trail will be expanded to the eastern and western extents of the moraine. Side trails will continue to be developed linking to other trails, areas of natural, historical or cultural significance and neighboring communities. The trail will be located on public lands in the Natural Core and Natural Linkage Areas to the extent possible and will provide access to all people including those with disabilities.

1.6 Strategic Plan 2004-2008

The initial strategic plan was prepared in 2003 with the advice and assistance of an ORTA Steering Committee. The Steering Committee consisted of Harold Sellers, President of ORTA; Stan Butcher, Vice-President of ORTA; Peter Schaefer, Trail Director of ORTA; Kim Gavine, Program Manager, Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation; Fred Johnson, Oak Ridges Moraine Project Coordinator, Ministry of Natural Resources; and Drew Cherry, Project Facilitator. Preparation of the strategic plan was assisted through a grant provided by the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation. It was by the ORTA Board and published in February 2004.

Early in the planning process it was agreed that the strategic plan would cover a number of specific topics: optimum trail alignment, trail route to eastern gateway, improved access, connections with other trails, accessibility, trail securement, financial sustainability, staffing strategy and monitoring. These topics were addressed through a series of focus group sessions, held with ORTA Chapter members, other trail clubs and associations, staff from municipalities, conservation authorities, and stewardship councils.

1.6.1 Accomplishments 2004-2008

The following table (Table 1) shows the trail statistics in 2004 and 2008, the beginning and end of the strategic plan covering that period.

1.7 Strategic Directions 2009-2014

The 2004-2008 Strategic Plan underwent review by the Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan Advisory Committee (committee membership in Appendix B) in 2008. After implementing the recommendations of the committee, this strategic plan was considered and approved by the ORTA Board of Directors. It will provide strategic direction with respect to the trail for the next five-year period, specifically 2009 through 2014.

Table 1 on the next pages details the targets set for this time period.

Table 1 Objectives & Status

Statistic or Objective	2004 Status	2008 Status	2009-2014 Objective
Main Trail (see Appendix H)	197.9 km	225.9 km	270 km
Side Trails (see Appendix E)	47.9 km in 18 trails	71.94 km in 28 trails	100 km in 35 trails
Total Trails	245.8 km	297.8 km	350 km
Identify Optimum Trail Corridor	Underway	Completed	Review & Revise
Main Trail Located within Optimum Trail Corridor (Note 1) (see Appendix H)	74.7 km 37.7%	116.4 km 51.5%	175 km 65%
Main Trail Located on Public Lands (see Appendix H)	45.7 km 23.1%	68.0 km 30.1%	121 km 45%
Main Trail Located Off Road (see Appendix H)	106.0 km 53.5%	133.9 km 59.3%	189 km 70%
Establish Relationships with Other Trail Organizations	Some in place	Complete	Review & Revise
Connections with Other Trails	Some existing	75% complete	100%, adding Rouge and Millbrook
Gateway Sites Established	One, at Aurora	50% complete (Palgrave, Aurora complete; Richmond Hill, Castleton and Warkworth in progress)	100%
Off Road Parking Facilities, every 10 km (max. 15 km) (see Appendix F)	Sites identified, some existing	23 existing 9 required	30 of the 32 identified to date

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Parking Facilities at West and East Trailheads	0%	80% complete. Palgrave done, Castleton and Warkworth require only signage.	100%
Accessible Trail (see Appendix G)	0 km	12.15 km assessed and documented	30 km assessed and documented
Trail Signed	Confirmation required	Complete. 100% blazed and signed.	Maintain and continue to improve
Trail Conflict Resolution	Required	Completed thru membership and dialogue with Hike Ontario and Ontario Trails Council, and adoption of Risk Management Manual.	Maintain
Shared Use with Other Trail Users	Extent to be determined	50% complete with establishment of numerous landowner agreements.	Further agreements required.
Partnership with Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition (CAMC)	Informal	Complete. CAMC represented on Advisory Committee.	Maintain.
Seasonal pass for trail use in Ganaraska Forest	Required	Complete. Annual fee agreed to.	Maintain
ORT Guidebook Show Connections to Other Trails	Omissions to be identified	Complete.	Maintain.
ORT Shown on Commercial Map Publications	Review required	Complete.	Maintain.
Working Relationship with Conservation Authorities	Informal and incomplete	Complete. Trail access agreements in place. CA representation on Advisory Committee.	Maintain.

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Funding Partnership with Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation	Complete	Maintained	Maintain.
Funding Partnerships with Other Funding Organizations	Review required	Complete.	Maintain.
Funding Partnerships with Governments and NGOs	Review required	Underway. Annual grants received from King and Clarington.	Expand as required
Long Term Financial Sustainability Strategy	Required	Progressing. Adventure Relay being developed as the major funding source.	To be completed & Board approved
Human Resources Staffing Strategy	Required	In progress. Resource Development Officer begins January 2009.	Positions filled as identified under Working Together project
Strategic Plan Monitoring & Reporting	Required	50% complete with 2009-2014 Strategic Plan. Still need annual reports.	Publish annual reports.

Note 1: On-road sections of the trail are excluded from the Optimum Trail Corridor.

2. TRAIL PLANNING

2.1 Existing Trail Alignment

The Oak Ridges Trail presently exists as a continuous walking/hiking trail extending over 220 km in an east-west direction across the Oak Ridges Moraine. Starting near Palgrave in the Caledon Hills, the trail presently extends east to the Northumberland County Forest. One of the objectives of the strategic plan is to have the trail extended to the eastern boundary of the moraine in the Rice Lake Plains area and to the western boundary at the Niagara Escarpment.

At the present time only portions of the trail are ideally located, namely in the Natural Core and Natural Linkage Areas as shown in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. In some locations sections of the trail are located off the moraine or in the Settlement or Countryside Areas. Portions of the trail are also located on public roads and road allowances. It is recognized that these existing sections of the trail must be maintained until such time as the trail can be relocated to the optimum trail alignment.

2.2 Optimum Trail Alignment

A major element of the 2004-2008 work was to identify the optimum trail alignment. This is presented as a trail corridor approximately 1 km wide extending in an east-west direction across the length of the moraine. The trail itself will be a minimum of 1 metre wide and will eventually be located within the trail corridor.

It is recognized that the optimum location of the trail will be guided by the provisions of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. The location of the trail will support the requirements of Section 37 (1) of the Conservation Plan for low-intensity recreational uses. That is, the trail will be designed to have minimal impact on the natural environment, require very little terrain or vegetation modification, and few if any buildings or structures. Any structures that are required as an accessory use to the trail will be permitted only if it can be demonstrated that the adverse effects on the ecological integrity of the Plan Area will be kept to a minimum.

2.3 Optimum Trail Corridor

Identification of the optimum trail corridor is based on conformity with selection criteria outlined below. The location of the trail corridor is identified on a series of Land Use Designation Maps located in Appendix 'A' at the end of this plan.

The Optimum Trail Corridor – typically 1 kilometer wide – is intended to provide ORTA with a guideline for locating an actual section of trail so that it aligns with other sections.

Where it is considered desirable to locate outside the recommended Trail Corridor, the matter will be brought to the ORTA Board, as this may impact other sections and connections with adjoining trails.

Changes to the corridor may be found necessary for various reasons. For example, if access to the land is denied by the owner or the terrain makes the routing impractical. Similarly, new opportunities for a more attractive corridor may develop over the years.

2.3.1 Key Considerations for the Optimum Trail Corridor

- Designed to provide a continuous east-west trail across the moraine.
- Located in the Natural Core Areas and the Natural Linkage Areas to the extent possible.
- Located on public and private lands where long-term trail security can be achieved.
- Consideration of the Selection Criteria for the Optimum Trail Alignment (below).

2.3.2 Selection Criteria for the Optimum Trail Alignment

There is an optimum alignment for the constructed trail within the trail corridor. ORTA will use the following selection criteria to identify the specific location of the trail within the trail corridor:

- Located off public roads and traveled road allowances to the extent possible.
- Designed to minimize contact with roads and non-compatible trails.
- Sited to follow a safe route when crossing public highways and roads, steep slopes, streams and rivers, etc. and designed to avoid hazardous road intersections.
- Designed to provide access for all people including persons with disabilities.
- Sited to provide good opportunities for loop and side trails as well as connections with other hiking trails.
- Designed to maintain and where possible improve or restore the ecological integrity of the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan Area.
- Sited to avoid sensitive cultural and ecological areas and minimize impact on the natural environment.
- Sited to minimize disturbance and interference with adjacent land uses.
- Designed to support and enhance local and regional tourism initiatives.
- Sited to take advantage of scenic opportunities.
- Designed to support low-impact, non-motorized recreation and physical activity to promote health and wellness.

In considering any new trails, major trail reconstruction or the establishment of related facilities, ORTA will consult with the appropriate municipality and/or conservation authority to identify any special measures or precautions necessary to ensure protection of the moraine's ecological and hydrological integrity.

2.4 Principles of Environmental Protection

While the purpose of the Oak Ridges Trail is to provide public access, enjoyment and appreciation of the Oak Ridges Moraine, these objectives must be balanced with a respect for the significant and sensitive nature of the natural environment on the moraine, including natural heritage, hydrological features and functions, and its distinctive landform.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan speaks specifically to special measures that need to be taken in the design, management and maintenance of the Oak Ridges Trail and associated minor recreational uses. ORTA will ensure that the intent of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, with respect to these policies, is met by:

- Ensuring the location, design, construction and maintenance of trails and associated features are carried out in a manner that considers environmental impacts,
- Incorporating appropriate information in signage and other educational materials,
- Promoting the Trail User's Code (see Appendix D).

2.5 Relocation of the Trail to the Optimum Trail Corridor

The following provisions will apply to the relocation of the existing trail to the optimum trail corridor:

- Where the existing trail is located outside the optimum trail corridor, the long-term objective will be to eventually relocate the trail to be in the corridor as shown on the Land Use Designation Maps in Appendix 'A'.
- ORTA will determine the detailed trail alignment within the optimum corridor.
- To locate the trail outside the optimum trail corridor, approval of the ORTA Board of Directors will be required, following consultation with and approval by the municipality, conservation authority or other landowner.
- It is recognized that it may not be possible to relocate the trail within the optimum trail corridor across the entire moraine in the short or medium term. Until such time as the trail can be successfully relocated, the existing trail will continue to be maintained and managed in its present location.
- In certain locations it has been agreed, for various reasons, to have more than one optimum trail corridor (e.g. Yonge Street corridor, Uxbridge Township north and south routes, and trail termini in Castleton and Warkworth).



2.6 Side and Loop Trails

The connection of side and loop trails to the main Oak Ridges Trail is designed to provide a complete trail system.

Loop trails are one of the most significant features of a trail system and are frequently the most heavily used sections of the trail. Users can choose a shorter-term hike and one without the need for retracing steps or placing vehicles at either end of the trail. ORTA therefore recognizes that significant effort should be made to increase the number of loop trails across the Moraine, with each chapter of the trail offering several loop trails.

Side trails are those trails that branch off the main east-west trail. Side trails may provide :

- gateways to the main trail
- additional access points
- connections to communities on or adjacent to the main trail
- a connecting link to other trails
- an alternate route to provide hikers with an opportunity to observe cultural, historic, scenic, and in some cases, ecologically significant sites

Side and loop trails may also provide opportunities for parking facilities in locations that the main trail cannot offer. Further, they can facilitate public physical activity in additional areas, increased accessible trail use, and support local tourism and businesses. Appendix E lists current side and loop trails.

2.6.1 Strategic Activities for Side and Loop Trails

- ORTA will establish targets for side and loop trails such that each chapter offers users multiple choices for short-term hikes, with easy access requiring only a single vehicle
- ORTA will use side trails to connect to a community where the main trail does not pass through the community
- New gateways and access points will be identified where a side trail can provide access to the main trail
- ORTA will develop side and loop trails giving consideration to cultural, historic, scenic and ecologically significant points of interest

2.7 Adjoining Trails and Other Trail Users

There are presently many other recreational trails located across the Oak Ridges Moraine. These trails are operated by a number of different landowners and trail managers, e.g. municipalities, conservation authorities, other trail associations, etc. They provide a variety of outdoor uses and activities, such as hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, cycling, snowmobiling, motocross, horseback riding, etc. Some of these uses are compatible with the purpose of the Oak Ridges Trail, which is essentially to provide a hiking trail across the moraine. Others are less compatible and some would be considered incompatible. The landowner ultimately decides which trail uses are permissible.

The Oak Ridges Trail Association will pursue strategic partnerships and working relationships with other trail clubs and associations in order to support connections with adjacent compatible trails. These include, but are not limited to, the Trans Canada, Bruce, Nokiidaa, Rouge, Seaton, Waterfront, and Ganaraska trails. As of 2008, connections exist with the Trans Canada Trail (Caledon & Uxbridge), the Ganaraska Hiking Trail, the Nokiidaa Trail and the Bruce Trail (at Palgrave Side Trail).

2.7.1 Strategic Activities for Connections with Adjoining Trails

- ORTA will form strategic partnerships and working arrangements with other trail clubs and associations, municipalities and conservation authorities for the purpose of improving communications, coordinating efforts, addressing trail use conflicts and providing connections with other trails.
- ORTA will enter into access agreements with municipalities, conservation authorities and other organizations, as necessary, with the goal of utilizing existing trails. These agreements may identify a process for the resolution of trail use conflicts.
- ORTA will look for compatibility with other trail users, (e.g. cross country skiers, cyclists, equestrians, etc.). However, where the location of the Oak Ridges Trail is considered to be in conflict with motorized uses (e.g. snowmobile, motocross) ORTA will investigate the possibility of developing an adjacent, parallel trail for hiking purposes.
- ORTA will continue to work with the individual conservation authorities of the Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition to ensure continued access to trails on conservation authority lands.
- Appropriate signage should note where the Oak Ridges Trail connects with other trails. The placement of signs should note the transition from public lands to private lands and vice versa.
- The Oak Ridges Trail Guidebook will show connecting links with other trails where they can be clearly identified.
- ORTA will support the inclusion of the Oak Ridges Trail in commercial map publications that cover the moraine.
- ORTA will continue to work with Conservation Authorities and other public bodies to determine which trails on their lands could be closed for restoration, logging or other purposes and when, in order to minimize impacts on the Oak Ridges Trail.

3. TRAIL ACCESS

3.1 Gateways to the Trail

Gateways to the Oak Ridges Trail will be situated at the western and eastern limits of the Oak Ridges Moraine, as well as along the Yonge Street Corridor. Gateways may also be established in other communities where significant trail systems exist or where an important connection to the community's economic, cultural, social or recreational assets can be realized.

Gateways to the trail should have a physical presence, which may include facilities such as a sign, archway, parking lot, kiosk, interpretive centre, etc.

Some of the advantages of locating a gateway to the trail in a community include access to public parking, accommodations, supplies, shopping, emergency facilities, etc.



3.1.2 Strategic Activities for Gateways to the Trail

- Gateways to the Oak Ridges Trail should have a physical presence that will announce their location.
- Eastern gateways will be in Northumberland County, on or near the eastern extent of the Moraine, in the communities of Castleton and Warkworth.
- Western gateways will include connection to the main Bruce Trail as well as its side trails.
- There will be two gateways on the Yonge St. corridor; one to mark the Aurora main trail route and the second to mark the southern main trail route through the community of Oak Ridges and the Oak Ridges Corridor Park.
- ORTA will explore other opportunities to provide additional gateways to the trail in communities on or adjacent to the main trail.

3.2 Parking Standards

There is an identified need to provide improved access and more designated (P) parking areas along the Oak Ridges Trail. The strategic plan targets for a designated (P) off road parking area that can accommodate a minimum of six cars to be provided for every 10 km or at a maximum 15 km of trail. In some locations this target has already been met, however, in other locations

this target has yet to be achieved. A designated, off road parking area will also be provided at the trailheads.

Designated (P) parking areas, where practical, will be located at the junction of side trails and the main trail, and at the junction of other trails and the Oak Ridges Trail. The location of designated parking sites should be considered in conjunction with the location of roadside (R) parking areas and compliance with the accessibility standards applicable to parking facilities.

Since ORTA does not own the land upon which the trail exists, the standards and requirements of the landowner will take precedence in the consideration of ORTA's needs for parking facilities.

Designated parking areas must meet existing standards for grading, surfacing, signage and accessibility. Municipalities and conservation authorities will be approached to explore partnership opportunities with ORTA to provide the necessary parking areas. Municipalities and conservation authorities who are interested in partnering will also be asked to assume responsibility for snow removal, grass cutting, grading and major maintenance in parking areas. ORTA will also consider partnering with other public agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs) to assist with the provision of designated parking sites on their properties.

Appendix F details the available designated (P) parking areas on the trail, as of the end of 2008.

3.2.1 Strategic Activities for Parking Access

- A designated (P) parking area capable of accommodating a minimum of six cars will be provided for every 10 km or at maximum, every 15 km of trail.
- A designated parking area capable of accommodating a minimum of six cars will be located at the east and west trailheads.
- The location of the designated parking areas will be considered in conjunction with the location of roadside (R) parking areas.
- Designated parking areas will be properly signed with permanent materials, adequately surfaced and graded.
- Parking facilities will meet applicable standards, including the parking standards under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with a Disability Act (2005)*.
- Public agencies and NGOs located along the trail will be approached to determine if they would be prepared to partner with ORTA to provide and maintain designated parking areas (e.g. ORTA could look after regular, light maintenance; the municipality or other partners could look after maintenance requiring heavy equipment – grading, snow removal, grass cutting, etc.)
- Trail users will be encouraged to use parking areas designated on ORTA maps and/or by signage.
- Key access points to the trail (e.g. east and west gateways, Yonge St. gateways and strategic locations where the main trail links with side trails or other trails) will have adequate parking, permanent signage and adequate access from the parking area to the trail.



3.3 Accessibility

Section 39(1) of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan directs that a recreational trail shall be established to provide continuous access and travel along the entire Plan Area, accessible to all, including persons with disabilities. This Strategic Plan recognizes that the proportion of people with disabilities in Ontario is increasing and that approximately 1 of every 2 families includes someone with a disability. Because recreational activities of 50% of Ontarians are influenced by accessibility issues, this Strategic Plan supports the goal of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.

In relation to accessibility, ORTA recognizes that disability may encompass many different abilities, such as differences in mobility, agility, vision, hearing, cognition or mental health (scope consistent with the *Ontarians with a Disability Act, 2001*).

The Strategic Plan is founded on our knowledge that the greatest accessibility barriers on trails result from the same issues that result in negative environmental impacts. Easily eroded surfaces, poor drainage, concentration of water flow, alteration of natural drainage patterns and trail user impacts on steep terrain (foot slippage, etc.) are examples of the factors that most commonly create access barriers as well as environmental damage. It is recognized that protection of the natural resource, and in particular sensitive natural, cultural, or historic features, must always be the first priority in decisions regarding trail design, construction and maintenance. If the unique environment of the Oak Ridges Moraine deteriorates because of the ORT, then the primary reason to have the trail largely disappears.

Within the parameters of environmental protection, the Strategic Plan commits the ORTA to pursue a trail that can be enjoyed by Ontarians of all abilities in all new trail construction or substantial reconstruction/relocation.



On sections of existing trail, the Universal Trail Assessment Process will be used to provide trail users with objective information about the on-trail conditions and to identify sections of the trail where accessibility could be increased with reasonable modifications or improvements. To date, over 12 km of the existing ORT has been assessed using the Universal Trail Assessment Process. Appendix G lists the accessed trails, as of 2008.

3.3.1 Strategic Activities to Enhance Accessibility

The ORTA supports the goal of Section 39(1) of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan to provide continuous access and travel along the entire Plan Area, accessible to all, including persons with disabilities. While the top priority for decision-making and work related to the Oak Ridges Trail will always be protection of the moraine, over the timeframe of this Strategic Plan the ORTA will work to enhance accessibility for all Ontarians, including people with disabilities.

“Ontario’s Best Trails: Guidelines and Best Practices for the Design, Construction and Maintenance of Sustainable Trails for All Ontarians”, published by the Trails for All Ontarians Collaborative in 2006, will be used by ORTA during the design and construction of new trail sections, as well as the reconstruction of existing sections. In addition, ORTA will work to update its construction standards and procedures to reflect the trail standards required under the Accessibility for Ontarians with a Disability Act (2005) and any future amendments to that Act.

The additional costs associated with these efforts to enhance accessibility are expected to be minimal, except where the desired trail route is through a particularly fragile environment that requires alternative surfacing. However, through these efforts to enhance accessibility along the Oak Ridges Trail, ORTA will be able to pursue sources of funding which prioritize the needs of people with disabilities (e.g. Community-in-Action Fund, Trails for Life, LHIN Health Units) to assist with trail design and construction costs or the cost of providing the information gathered

with the Universal Trail Assessment Process to trail users. Public agencies and NGOs will also be encouraged to assist in building the new trail sections that will be accessible.

It is also recognized that the legal standards for trail accessibility being developed under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (2005) are expected to come into force in early 2010. Once those standards have been finalized, the ORTA may modify the efforts outlined above in order to ensure compliance with the required legal standards.

3.4 Signage Standards

Signage will be provided to mark the Oak Ridges Trail, recognize other trail clubs and landowners, mark parking areas and trail links, and, where necessary, indicate lands to which access is not permitted. Where other trails link with the Oak Ridges Trail, an attempt will be made to partner for a common sign. Signs at designated parking areas should also show connections with other trails. Signs erected at designated parking areas should be permanent, e.g. mounted on a laminated plastic, metal or acetate board.

Paper copies of the trail map will not be provided at designated parking areas because of the potential for vandalism and litter.

ORTA will explore with emergency services agencies an acceptable form of referencing access to the trail. This may include the possibility of using “numbered” signs along the Oak Ridges Trail to indicate the distance hikers have traveled and where they are relative to the nearest road access. Gateways and key access points to the trail should have adequate signage, designated parking areas, permanent maps showing trail routes, and well-marked access from parking areas to the trail.



3.4.1 Strategic Activities for Signage Standards

- ORTA will strive to use shared signage to indicate where other trails link with the Oak Ridges Trail.
- Signs will be placed at designated parking areas and will show connections with other trails and identify access to the Oak Ridges Trail.
- Appropriate signage will be provided to note designated, off-road parking areas for accessibility.
- Signs erected at designated parking areas will be permanent, e.g. plastic or metal, and will be placed to obtain maximum exposure to the public.
- ORTA will explore with emergency services agencies an acceptable form of referencing access to the trail.
- Gateways and key access points to the trail will be adequately signed. Access from parking areas to the trail will be well-marked.
- Signs will comply with the relevant sections of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with a Disability Act* information and communication accessibility standard (e.g. letter size, colour contrast), which is expected to be in force by the end of 2009.

4. TRAIL SECUREMENT STRATEGY

4.1 Principles

The Oak Ridges Trail Association does not directly hold any lands. The present Oak Ridges Trail, which extends over 220 km from the Caledon Hills in the west to the Northumberland Forest in the east, is located on lands owned by private individuals, federal, provincial or municipal governments, conservation authorities or other bodies. The Oak Ridges Trail Association does not wish to acquire lands in its name; however, the association is clearly interested in locating the Oak Ridges Trail on public lands where access will remain secure in perpetuity.

Two of the Selection Criteria for determining the Optimum Trail Alignment included the following:

- Located off public roads and traveled road allowances to the extent possible, and
- Located on public and private lands where long-term trail security can be achieved.

Notwithstanding the above, ORTA will consider the use of unopened road allowances for trail purposes, if they provide the most suitable alignment for the trail and the municipality gives ORTA reasonable assurances that the road allowance will not be opened for public motorized transportation or placed in private ownership.

Appendix H provides detailed information on the ownership and location of the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail.

4.1.2 Strategic Activities for Trail Securement

The basic Trail Securement Strategy for the Oak Ridges Trail Association will be to move as much of the trail as possible from public roads and private lands to public lands.

- ORTA will take a leadership role in initiating partnerships with municipalities, conservation authorities, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, and other parties, to develop and implement specific securement actions in support of these Strategic Directions.
- As a preference, ORTA will seek to have the trail located on public lands held by public agencies and NGOs.
- Licence agreements will be established with municipalities for the use of unopened road allowances, especially non-traveled road allowances.
- Where public ownership is not an option, consideration will be given to the use of other methods facilitated or provided by conservation authorities, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT) and/or the Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT). These methods may include:
 - Donations
 - Fee Simple
 - Easement
 - Lease
- ORTA has entered in to a Memorandum of Understanding with the ORMLT. Under this agreement the ORMLT may obtain and hold lands for conservation purposes, with provision for the trail. ORTA will develop, manage and maintain the trail across these lands, where permitted.
- Where the above approaches are not feasible, ORTA will continue to develop and maintain the Oak Ridges Trail on private lands through licence agreements or informal “handshake” agreements with the landowners.



5. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

5.1 Funding Sources for Financial Sustainability

Prior to 2004, the Oak Ridges Trail was developed largely through private and public donations. The Oak Ridges Trail Association needs to secure funding for the long term in order to ensure that the ongoing management and operation of the trail remains financially sustainable. Funds are necessary for the day-to-day and long term operations of the Oak Ridges Trail Association which include: maintaining the trail, determining the optimum trail alignment, securing the trail, extending the trail to the eastern and western boundaries of the moraine, improving access, providing connecting links with other trails, ensuring sections of the trail are made accessible to persons with disabilities, and increasing public awareness. As objectives are achieved there will still remain activities and tasks that require sustained funding.

The Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan provides direction to ORTA for developing, managing and maintaining the trail over the long term. However, equally important, the strategy will also be used to support project proposals and funding requests to government ministries, agencies, and organizations that may provide funding for trail building projects.

5.1.1 Strategic Activities for Financial Sustainability

- ORTA has achieved a funding partnership with the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation for developing, managing and maintaining the Oak Ridges Trail in compliance with the requirements of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.
- The Province of Ontario will be requested to continue the support of the implementation of the Conservation Plan, with respect to the trail, through the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation or another appointed body.
- The relationship with the Foundation will be further supported by partnerships and agreements with other groups and organizations doing work on the moraine, such as the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust.
- ORTA has joined the Land Trust and Save the Oak Ridges Moraine Coalition (STORM) in an effort - The Moraine. For Life. Working Together for the Oak Ridges Moraine - to share resources and collaborate wherever possible.
- ORTA will seek support from other funding organizations such as the Ontario Trillium Foundation, TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment, and Shell Environmental Fund.
- ORTA will pursue a more formalized partnership with municipalities, public agencies and NGOs on the moraine to secure a long-term commitment to funding and assistance with trail management, land securement for trail purposes, parking and accessibility.
- ORTA has developed a fundraising program that identifies revenues through increased membership, individual donations and planned giving, and events, such as The Moraine For Life Adventure Relay.
- As goals and objectives are realized, ORTA will adapt its fundraising to focus on continuing and newly-identified activities and tasks.

6. ADMINISTRATION

6.1 Administration and Management

The overall administration and management of the Oak Ridges Trail will be led by the Oak Ridges Trail Association working in partnership with other trail groups and associations, municipalities, conservation authorities, public agencies, NGOs, the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation, Save the Oak Ridges Moraine Coalition and the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust.

ORTA is governed by a Board of Directors, elected at an Annual General Meeting. The Board consists of a President, Vice-President, Past President, Treasurer, Secretary, Trail Director, Membership Director, Publicity Director, several Directors-at-Large and ten Chapter Chairs. The Board of Directors is responsible for directing the organization and ensuring security of resources and records.

The Executive Committee of ORTA spends a substantial amount of time overseeing the day-to-day operations of the association.

The association is currently organized into ten Trail Chapters along the moraine, so that local knowledge can be used to plan, develop and maintain the trail. Each Chapter is represented on the Board of Directors by a Chapter Chair and is responsible for the maintenance and management of their section of the trail. All members have input into trail development and maintenance and vote on ORTA business.

6.2 Staffing Plan

Although ORTA was initially highly successful as a volunteer organization developing and maintaining the trail, accelerated development during the years 2004-2008 (see paragraph 1.6.1) resulted primarily from the leadership provided by a full-time Executive Director supported by a part-time Administrative Assistant/Office Manager. The increased length of the ORT system and the number and complexity of ongoing issues requires the continued provision of a number of full or part-time, paid staff. These staff positions are considered essential to facilitate development and to assist with the ongoing operation and management of the Oak Ridges Trail to meet the requirements of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and this strategic plan.

If ORTA is to continue as a viable organization, it needs to enhance its human resources staffing strategy to allow the Executive Director to engage in overall development of the association, in addition to the trail system. Depending upon identified need and funding availability, other paid staff could be considered at a later date, for responsibilities such as accounting, volunteer management, landowner relations, trail securement, hike program coordination, membership services, etc. The ORTA Executive Committee would make all staff appointments. Implementation of The Moraine. For Life. collaborative will provide many of these as shared services and thereby ORTA and its partners can become more cost effective.

During the years 2004-2008 ORTA also benefited significantly from having an office facility shared with two moraine partners. In addition to housing the paid staff and ensuring the security

of essential records, the facility encouraged dialogue amongst the moraine organizations and enabled volunteers to more effectively contribute to a variety of tasks. Thus the permanent provision of a shared office is considered essential to the continued progress of the ORT trail and association.

6.3 Monitoring

ORTA will have a monitoring framework to:

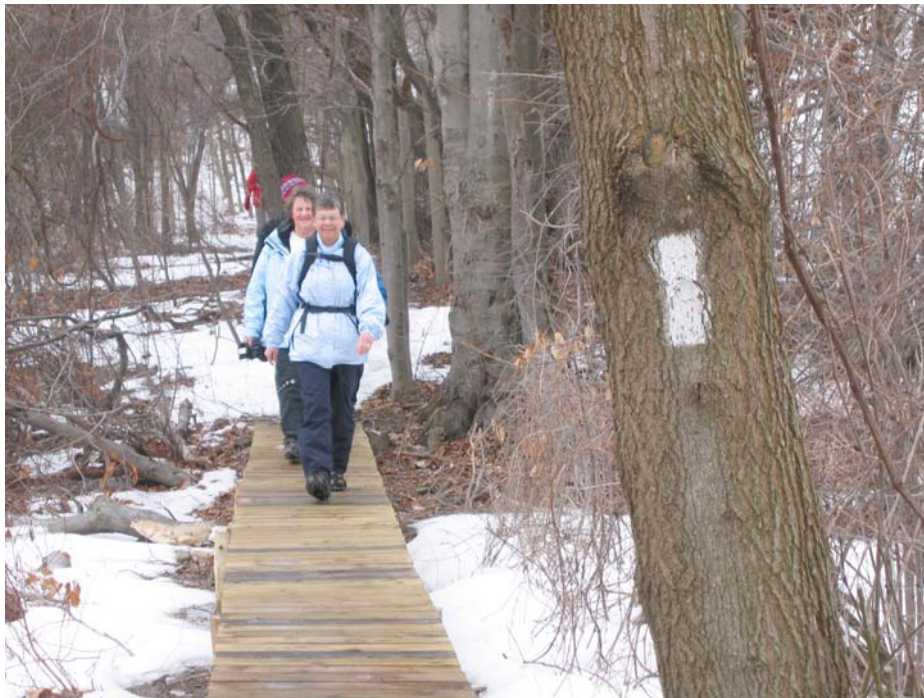
- identify targets and performance measures discussed in the strategic plan, and
- report on the accomplishment of those targets to its membership, funders and partners.

Table 1 on pages 10-12 details trail statistics and objectives at the beginning of the time period covered by this strategic plan, as well as the targets and objectives to be achieved during its term.

Monitoring of progress and the effectiveness of the strategic plan, in achieving its purpose and objectives, will be achieved through regular review by the Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan Advisory Committee and the Oak Ridges Trail Association Board of Directors. The Advisory Committee shall advise ORTA, whereas specific actions shall be the responsibility of the ORTA Executive Director, ORTA Executive Committee or Board of Directors, as appropriate.

Funders who might provide concurrent or periodic repeat funding will also be provided with progress reports.

ORTA will publish annual reports for its members and stakeholders, thus providing opportunities for achievements and accomplishments to be compared with targets and objectives.



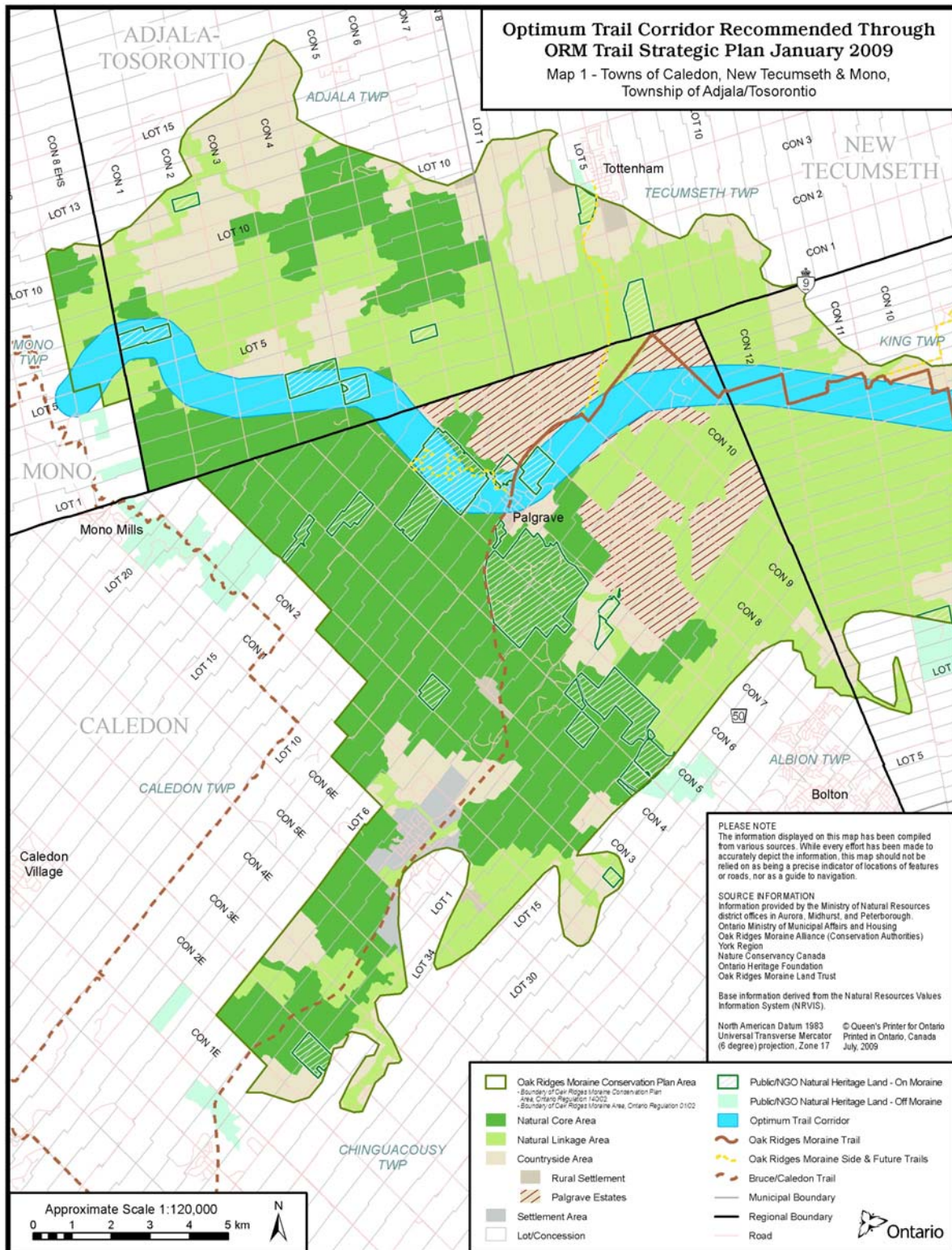
Appendix 'A'

Optimum Trail Corridor Recommended Through Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan.

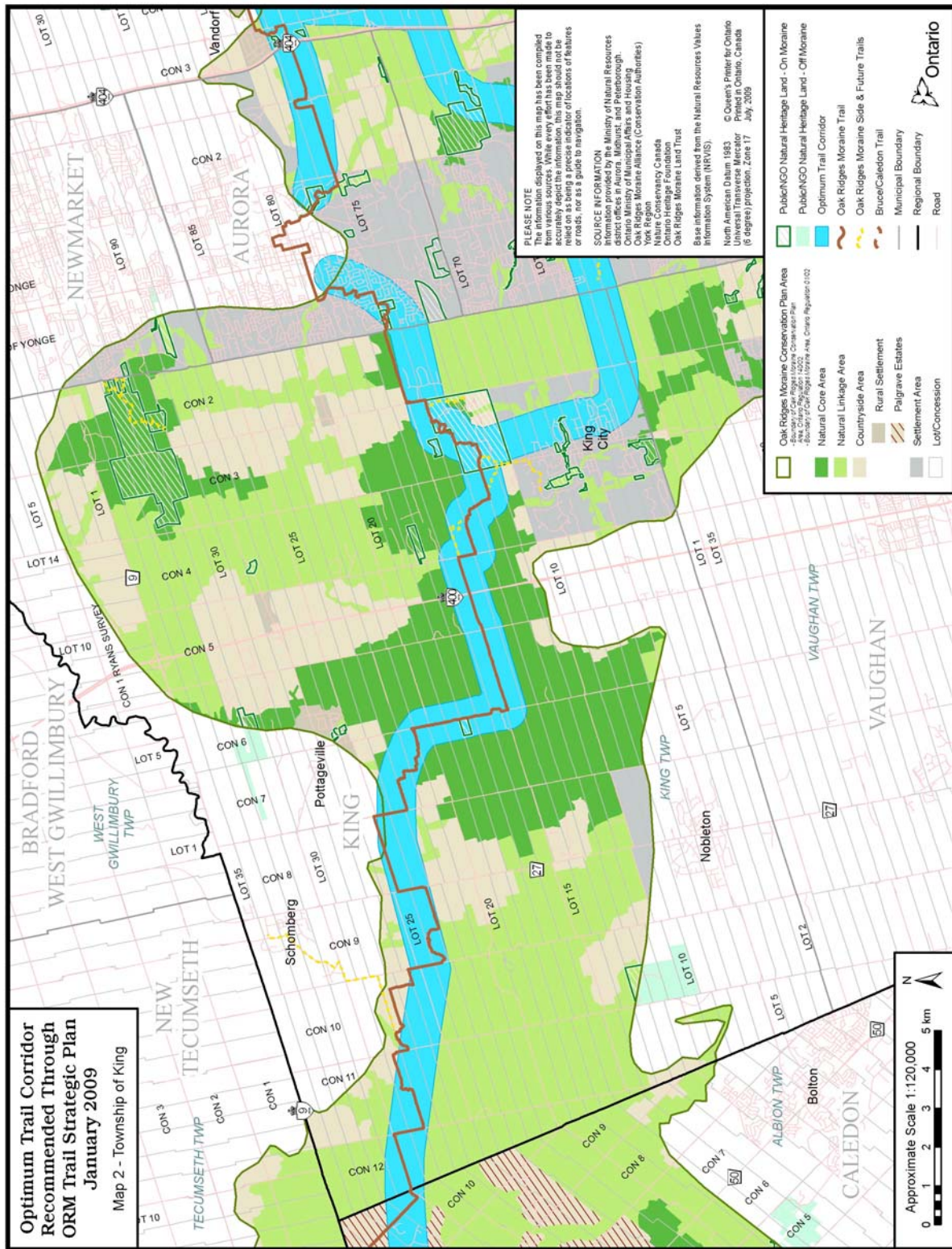
The following maps show the identified Optimum Trail Corridor and Oak Ridges Trail alignments, as of January 2007. The Optimum Trail Corridor periodically undergoes a reassessment by the Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan Advisory Committee and the Oak Ridges Trail Association Board of Directors. As revisions are approved, they will be inserted into this Strategic Plan. The current trail alignment is available at any time from the Oak Ridges Trail Association.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Aurora District Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources for providing the custom cartography produced for the Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan.

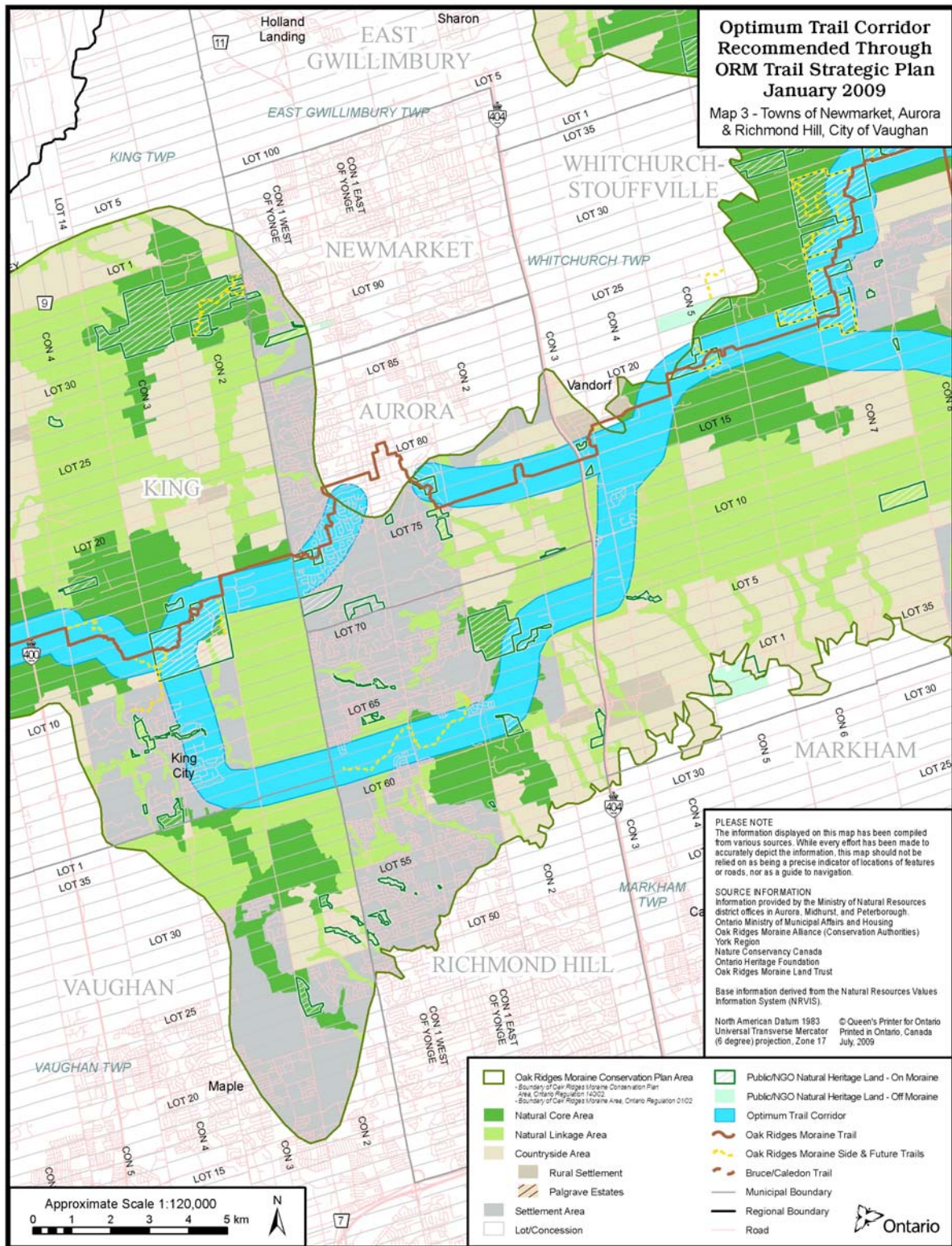
Map 1 – Towns of Caledon, New Tecumseth and Mono, Township of Adjala/Toronto



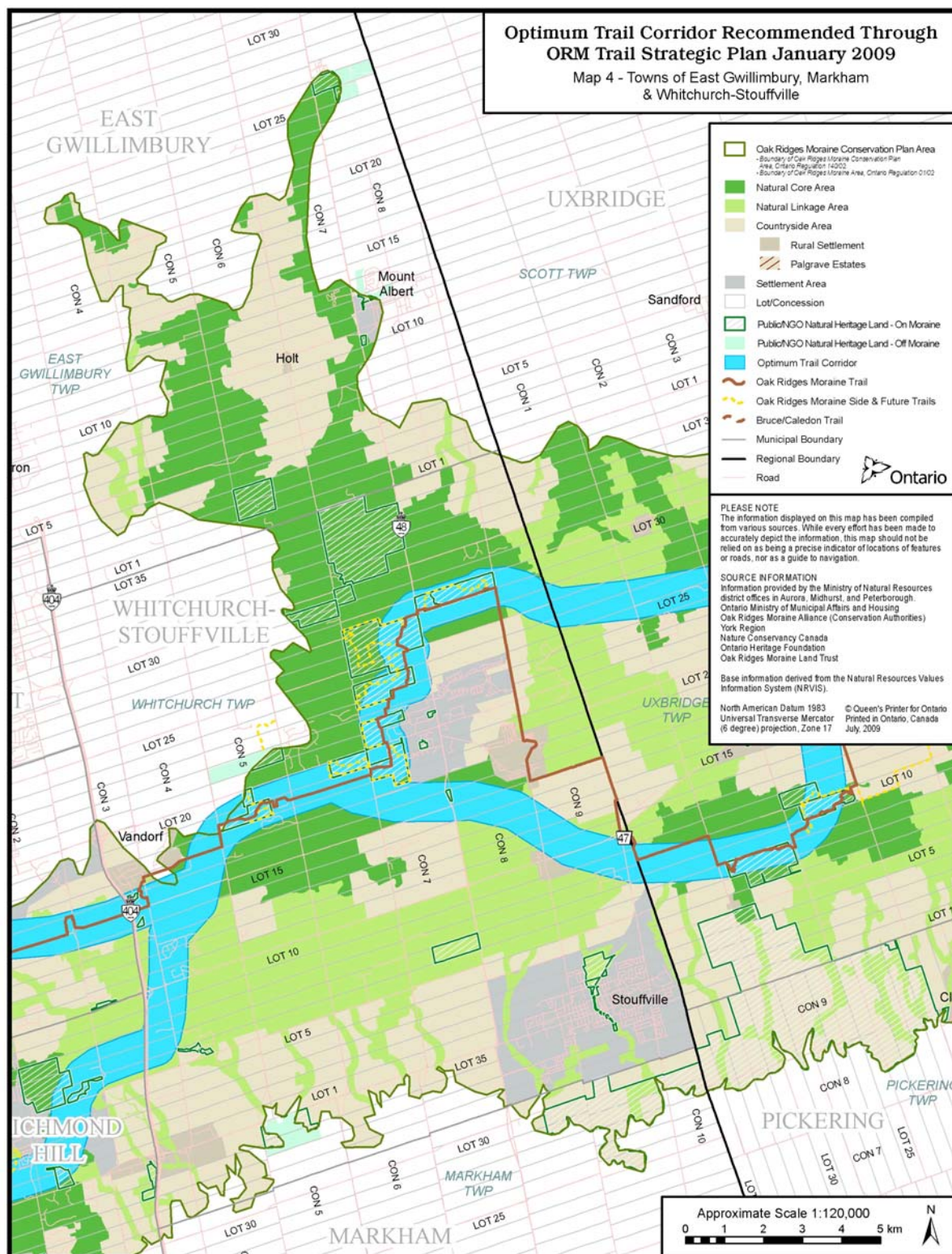
Map 2 – Township of King



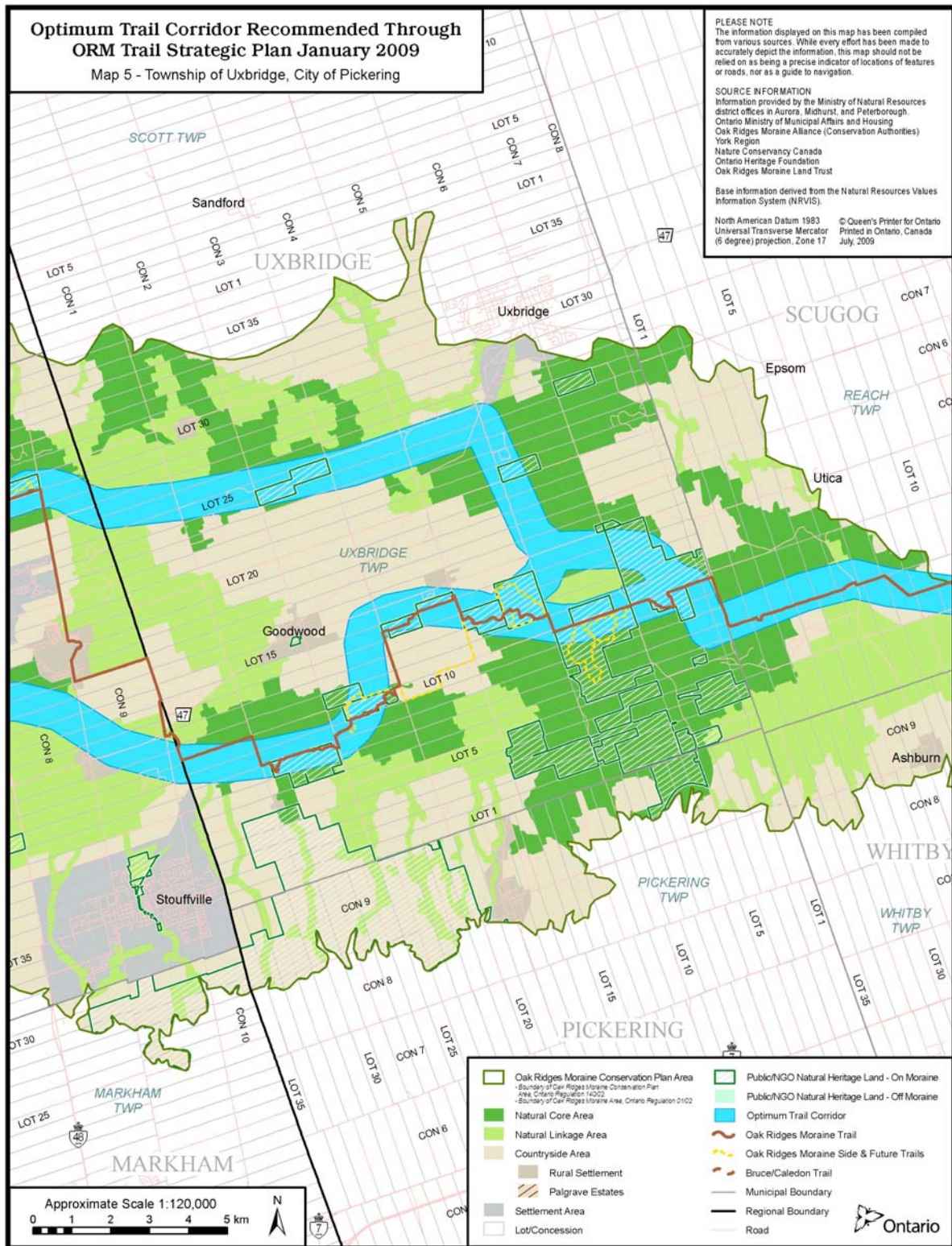
Map 3 – Towns of Aurora, Richmond Hill and Newmarket, City of Vaughan



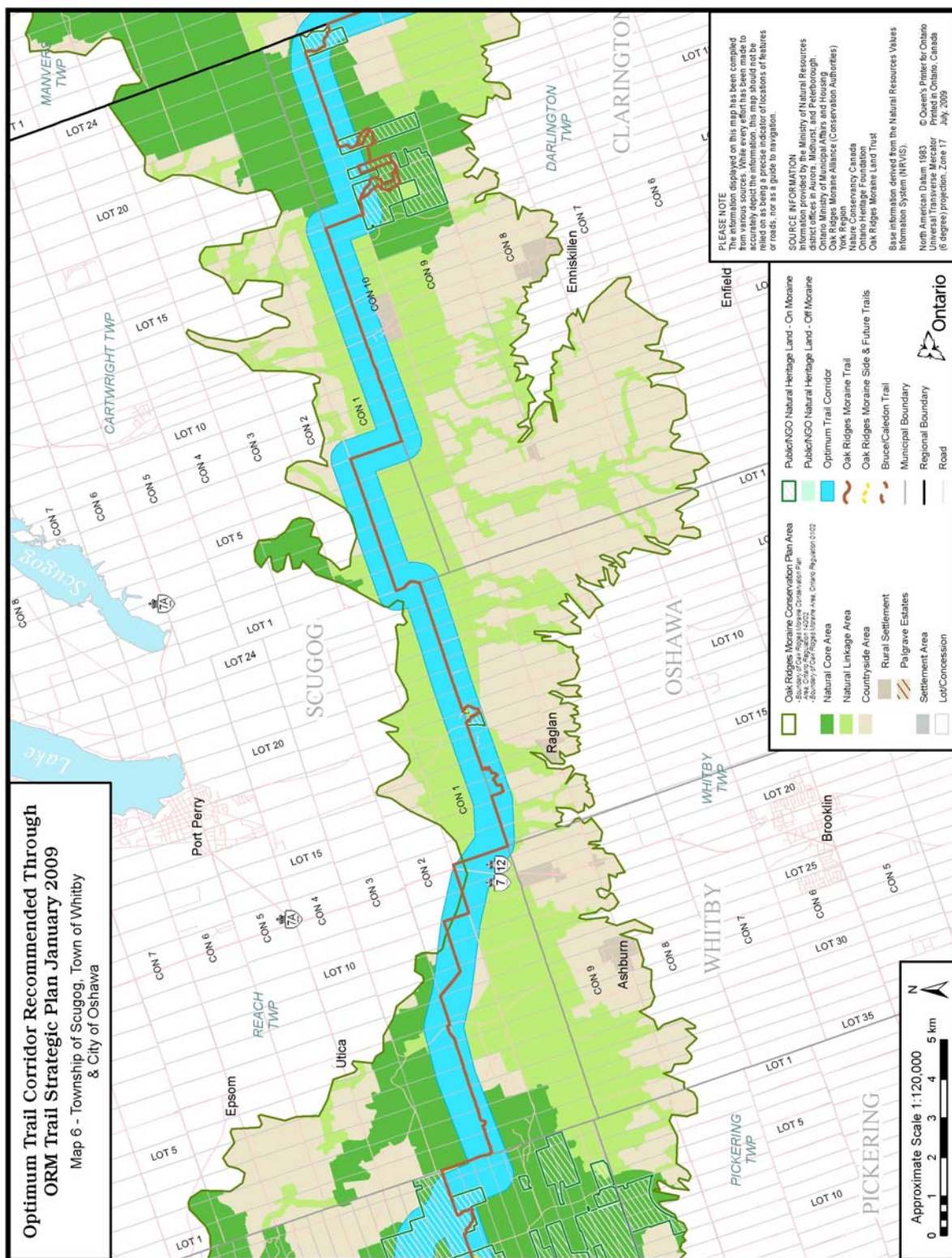
Map 4 – Towns of East Gwillimbury, Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville



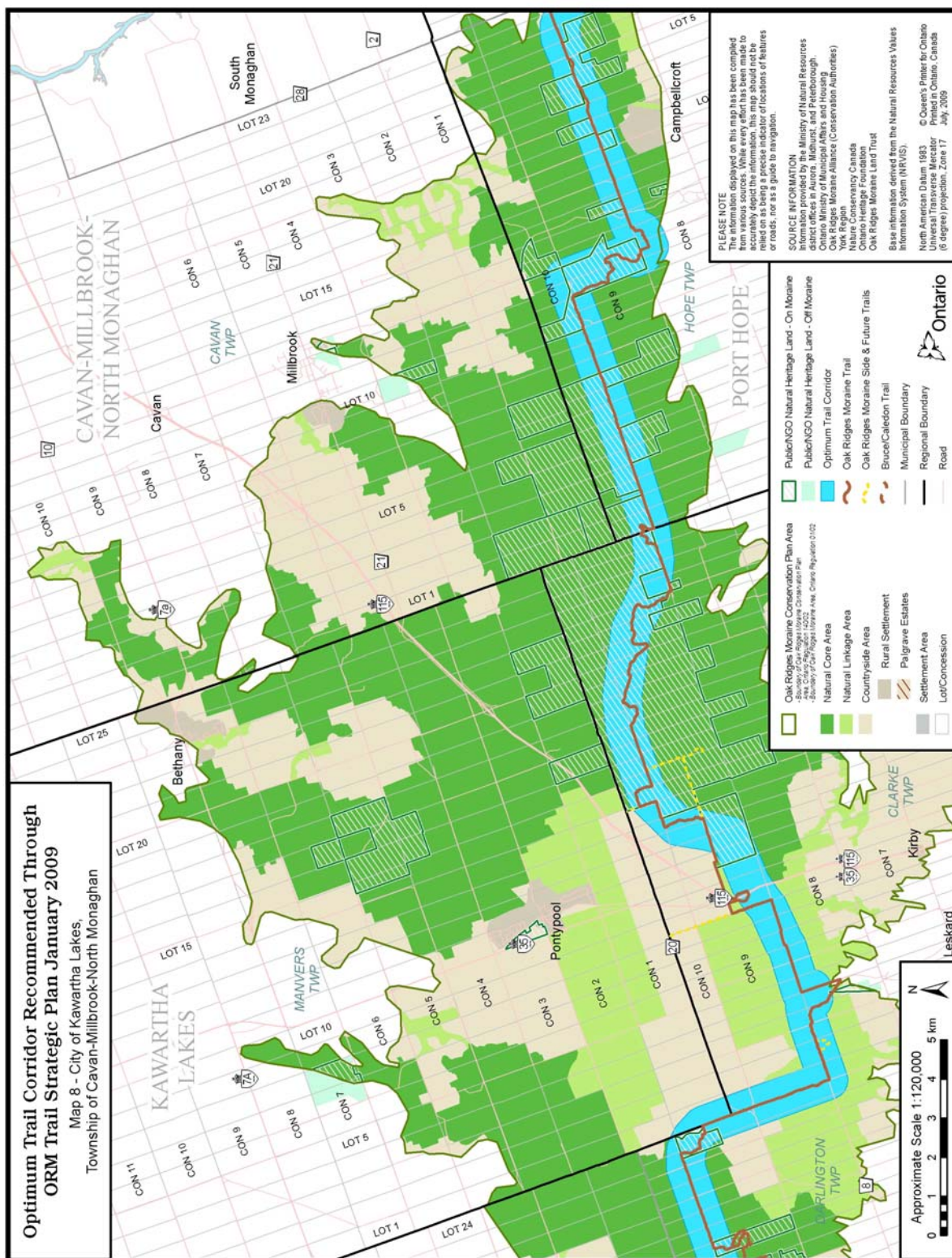
Map 5 – Township of Uxbridge, City of Pickering



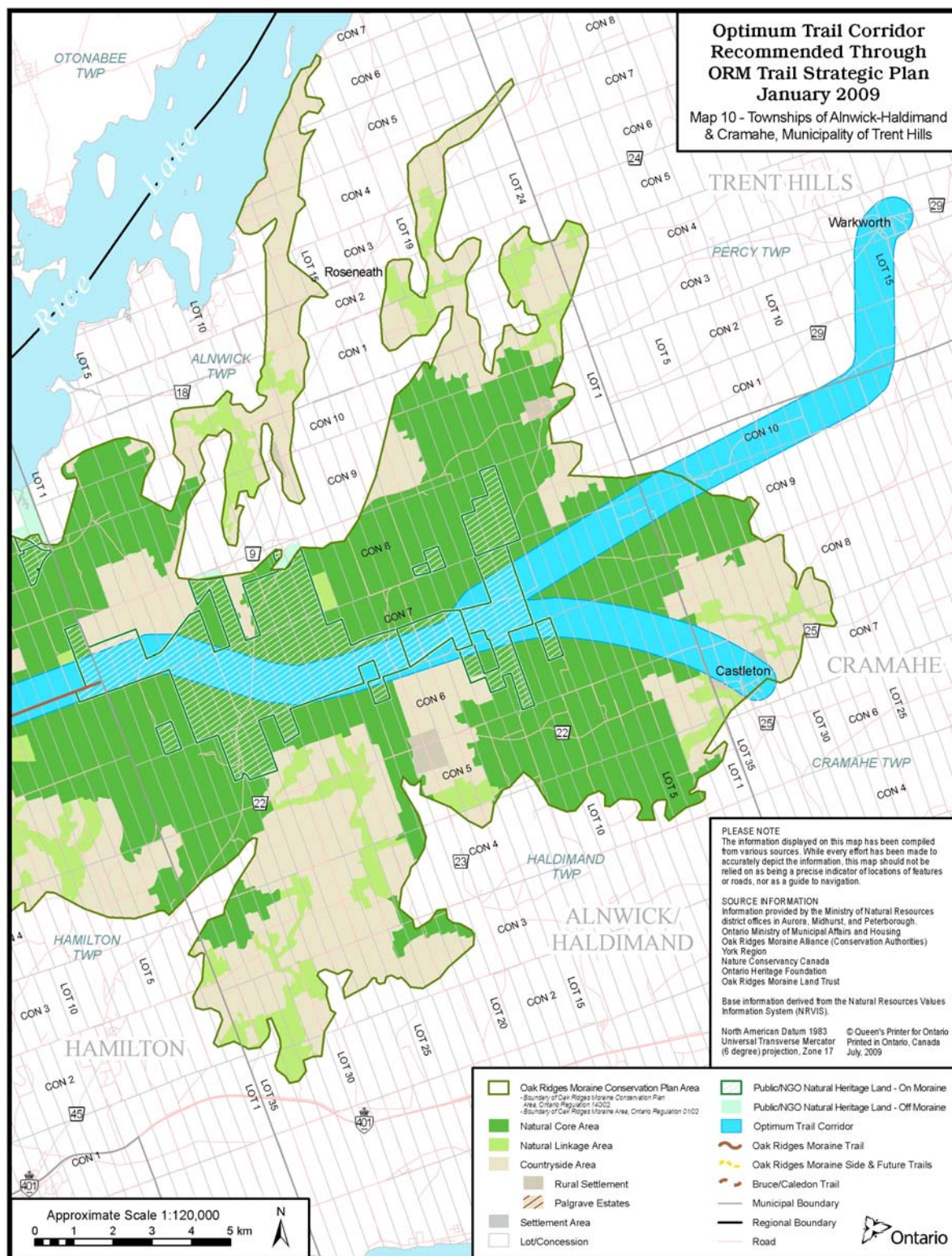
Map 6 – Township of Scugog, Town of Whitby, City of Oshawa



Map 8 – City of Kawartha Lakes, Township of Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan



Map 10 – Townships of Alnwick/Haldimand and Cramahe, Municipality of Trent Hills



Appendix ‘B’**Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan Advisory Committee**

Stakeholder Group	Name	Contact Information
ORTA	Peter Schaefer	peter.sch@sympatico.ca
ORMF	Kim Gavine Lisa Turnbull	kim.gavine@ormf.com lisa.turnbull@ormf.com
ORMLT	Susan Walmer	susan.walmer@bellnet.ca
Conservation Authorities	David Burnett , CAMC representing eastern ORM Mike Bender , TRCA, representing west and central ORM	dburnett@trca.on.ca 416-661-6600 ext 5361 mbender@trca.on.ca 416-661-6600 ext 5287
Province	Deb Pella Keen , MNR	debbie.pellakeen@ontario.ca (905)713-7372
Regions	Ian Buchanan , York Region	ian.buchanan@york.ca 905-895-1200 ext 5204
Municipalities	Ingrid Svelnis , Town of Uxbridge	isvelnis@town.uxbridge.on.ca
STORM Coalition	Anna Tilman	annatilman@sympatico.ca (905) 841-0095
Community & Environmental Groups	Brian Buckles , Uxbridge Naturally	buckles@zing-net.ca
Other Trails	Bob Short , Ganaraska Trail Association	mb.short@sympatico.ca
Accessibility	Patti Longmuir , Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability	pe.longmuir@utoronto.ca 416-445-2358
Industry	vacant	
Tourism	vacant	

Appendix 'C'

Definitions

Countryside Areas – A designation contained in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. The purpose of Countryside Areas is to encourage agricultural and other rural uses that support the Plan's objectives.

Designated (P) Parking Area – A designated parking area located off the public road as shown on the trail maps in the Oak Ridges Trail Guidebook and marked by a capital P.

Gateways – Gateways to the Oak Ridges Trail identify a public entrance to the trail and will have a physical presence such as a sign, archway, parking lot, kiosk, permanent map of the trail etc.

Natural Core Areas – A designation contained in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. The purpose of Natural Core Areas is to maintain and where possible improve or restore the ecological integrity of the Plan Area.

Natural Linkage Areas – A designation contained in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. The purpose of Natural Linkage Areas is to maintain and where possible improve or restore the ecological integrity of the Plan Area and to maintain and where possible improve or restore, regional-scale open space linkages between Natural Core Areas and along river valleys and stream corridors.

Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) – Organizations that may or may not be funded by government but are independent of and work at arms length from the government. Examples include the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, the Ontario Heritage Trust, and the Oak Ridges Trail Association.

Oak Ridges Moraine – The area subject to the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan as outlined on the maps in Appendix 'A'.

Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan – An ecologically-based plan established by the Ontario government to provide land use and resource management direction for the 190,000 hectares of land and water located within the moraine.

Optimum Trail Alignment – The best or most favorable location for the trail as outlined in the Selection Criteria for Optimum Trail Alignment in the strategic plan. The trail will be a minimum of 1 metre wide, located if at all possible, in the Optimum Trail Corridor and designed to have minimal impact on the natural environment.

Optimum Trail Corridor – The best or most favorable location for the trail corridor as outlined in the Selection Criteria for Optimum Trail Corridor in the strategic plan. The Optimum Trail Corridor will be approximately 1 km wide, and will extend in an east-west direction across the length of the moraine in the Natural Core and Natural Linkage Areas to the extent possible.

Public Agency – Agencies, departments, ministries representing the federal, provincial or municipal government. For example the Ministry of Natural Resources is a public agency representing the provincial government.

Roadside (R) Parking Area – A roadside parking area as shown on the trail maps in the Oak Ridges Trail Guidebook and marked with a capital R.

Settlement Areas – A designation contained in the oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. The purpose of the Settlement Areas is to focus and contain urban growth.

Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) – An evaluation process that provides an objective method of documenting trail conditions. The resulting Trail Access Information (TAI) provides information such as grade, cross slope, surface, width and obstacles found on the trail. TAI enables users to make informed decisions about whether a trail suits their abilities and interests.

Appendix 'D'

Trail User's Code

- Hike only along marked routes - do not leave the trail.
- Use stiles to climb fences. Close gates behind you.
- Carry out all garbage.
- Respect the privacy of residents.
- Walk around the edge of fields, do not cross them.
- Control your dog on a leash at all times.
- Do not disturb the wildlife or farm animals.
- Leave trees, flowers and plants as you found them for others to enjoy.
- No overnight camping or fires except where permitted in designated areas.
- Take nothing but photographs and leave only your thanks.

Appendix 'E'**Side and Loop Trails**

Chapter	Trail	Side Trail	Loop Trail
Caledon	Meadow	0.27 km	1.0 km loop with main trail
	Tottenham	6.42 km	
King	Schomberg	2.57 km	
	Pine Farms	1.59 km	3.48 km loop with main trail
	Millar	1.88 km	2.42 km loop with main trail
	King City	1.7 km	
	Gate House	1.06 km	
	Koffler-Bales	3.82 km	2.2 km loop at east end
Aurora	-		
Richmond Hill	-		
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Whitchurch	0.71 km	
	Robinson	1.31 km	1.62 km loop with main trail
	Pangman Springs	1.2 km	
	Dainty	2.96 km	2.86 km loop
	Clarke	2.79 km	3.82 km loop with main trail
	Patterson	1.59 km	2.26 km loop with main trail
	Hall	3.74 km	5.35 km loop with main trail
	Eldred King	5.14 km	5.66 km loop with main trail
	Hollidge	2.53 km	4.25 km loop with main trail
Uxbridge	White Family	0.51 km	0.59 km loop with main trail
	Secord	2.6 km	4.4 km loop with main trail
	Albright	3.91 km	
	Al Shaw	3.83 km	4.45 km loop with main trail
	West Walker	4.4 km	4.56 km loop
	East Walker	3.1 km	3.33 km loop
Scugog	Purple Woods	0.3 km	1.11 km loop with main trail
Clarington	Yeo	0.84 km	1.12 km loop with main trail
	Bluebird	1.73 km	
	Forest Road	3.44 km	6.13 km loop with main trail
Hope-Hamilton	Gore's Landing	6.0 km	
TOTALS	28 side trails	71.94 km	

Appendix ‘F’**Parking Facilities**

Parking Sites	Distance Target: P every 10 km (max. 15 km)
Palgrave Mill Pond, Caledon	4.4 km to Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Mt. Pleasant Rd., Caledon	10.5 km to Puck’s Farm, 11 th Con.
Puck’s Farm, King Township	15 km to 7 th Con. south deadend
7 th Con., King Township	10 km to Eaton Hall, Seneca
Eaton Hall, Seneca College, King Twp.	9.5 km to Town Park, Aurora
Sheppard’s Bush C.A., Aurora	8 km to Village of Vandorf park
Bathurst Glen Golf Course, Richmond Hill	4.5 km to Old Colony Road
Vandorf Park, Whitchurch-Stouffville	5 km to Whitchurch C.A.
Whitchurch CA, Whitchurch-Stouffville	4 km to Dainty Tract
Dainty Tract, Whitchurch-Stouffville	3.2 km to Hall Tract
Hall Tract, Whitchurch-Stouffville	3 to Eldred King Forest
Eldred King Forest, Whitchurch-Stouffville	1.2 km to Hollidge Tract
Hollidge Tract, Whitchurch-Stouffville	19.5 km to Secord Forest
Secord Forest, Uxbridge Township	10 km to 6 th Con.
6 th Con., Uxbridge Twp.	2.1 km to 7 th Con.
7 th Con., Uxbridge Twp.	18.5 km to Purple Woods CA
Purple Woods C.A., Oshawa	19 km to Long Sault C.A.
Long Sault C.A., Clarington	14 km to Leskard Road
Leskard Road, Clarington	5 km to Hwy 115
Hwy. 115 at Hwy. 35, Clarington	6.2 km to Boundary Road P3
Boundary Rd. P3, Clarington	9.8 km to Ganaraska Forest Centre
Ganaraska Forest Centre, Hamilton Twp.	18 km to Bewdley waterfront park
Bewdley waterfront park	17 km to end of trail at Johnstone Rd.

Appendix ‘G’**Accessible Trails**

The following sections of the Oak Ridges Trail (and in some cases adjoining trails) have been documented using the Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP).

Chapter	Trail Name	Description
Caledon	Caledon Trailway	3.8 km
King	Woodland Passage, Seneca	0.5 km with 0.2 km road connection
	Gate House Side Trail	1.0 km
	Marylake (Keele St. to Barn)	0.75 km
Aurora	Sheppard’s Bush C.A.	1.1 km on several connected trails
	Holland River Trail	2.1 km
	Case Woodlot	0.8 km
Richmond Hill		
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Whitchurch Side Trail	0.2 km
	Hollidge Tract	1.0 km
Uxbridge	Secord Pond	0.3 km
Scugog		
Clarington	Old Swamp Road	0.6 km
Hope-Hamilton		
TOTALS	11 trails	12.15 km

Appendix 'H'

Main Trail Statistics

CHAPTER	Main Trail Total	Public Lands	Private Lands	On Roads	Unopened Road Allowances
CALEDON	15.25 km	9.02 km	0 km	4.81 km	1.42 km
% distribution		59.1 %	0 %	31.5 %	9.3 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	10.44 km 68.5 %	9.02 km	0 km		1.42 km
KING	33.91 km	0 km	17.08 km	12.35 km	4.48 km
% distribution		0 %	50.4 %	36.4 %	13.2 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	19.96 km 58.9 %	0 km	15.48 km		4.48 km
AURORA	13.87 km	3.58 km	0.73 km	9.56 km	0 km
% distribution		25.8 %	5.3 %	68.9 %	0 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	4.31 km 31.1 %	3.58 km	0.73 km		0 km
RICHMOND HILL	5.13 km	5.13 km	0 km	0 km	0 km
% distribution		100 %			
In Optimum Trail Corridor	5.13 km 100 %	5.13 km			
WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE	27.5 km	10.47 km	0 km	16.33 km	0.7 km
% distribution		38.1 %	0 %	59.4 %	2.5 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	11.17 km 40.6 %	10.47 km	0 km		0.7 km
UXBRIDGE	21.07 km	14.57 km	0.6 km	4.0 km	1.9 km
% distribution		69.2 %	2.8 %	19.0 %	9.0 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	17.07 km 81%	14.57 km	0.6 km		1.9 km

Oak Ridges Trail Strategic Plan 2009-2014

SCUGOG	32.53 km	2.55 km	0 km	17.28 km	12.7 km
% distribution		7.8 %	0 %	53.1 %	39.0 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	15.25 km 46.9 %	2.55 km	0 km		12.7 km
CLARINGTON	39.89 km	22.04 km	1.63 km	6.23 km	9.99 km
% distribution		55.3 %	4.1 %	15.6 %	25.0 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	20.44 km 51.2 %	10.15 km	0.3 km		9.99 km
HOPE-HAMILTON	36.72 km	0.67 km	0 km	21.42 km	14.63 km
% distribution		1.8 %	0 %	58.3 %	39.8 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	12.66 km 34.5 %	0.67 km	0 km		11.99 km
Total Main Trail	225.87 km	68.03 km	20.04 km	91.98 km	45.82 km
% distribution		30.1 %	8.9 %	40.7 %	20.3 %
In Optimum Trail Corridor	116.43 km 51.5 %	51.01 km 75 %	17.11 km 85.4 %		43.18 km 94.2 %

Summary:

As of December 2008 the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail had 225.87 km of main trail.

30.1 % or 68.03 km is on public lands

8.9 % or 20.04 km is on private lands

40.7 % or 91.98 km is on roads

20.3 % or 45.82 km is on unopened road allowances

51.5 % or 116.43 km of the main trail is located within the Optimum Trail Corridor.

75% of the trail on public lands is within the Optimum Trail Corridor.

85.4 % of the trail on private lands is within the Optimum Trail Corridor.

94.2 % of the trail on unopened road allowances is within the Optimum Trail Corridor

Trail on roads is not considered to be within the Optimum Trail Corridor.

Appendix 'I'

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