REPORT 08-001

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 24, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Ancaster Fairgrounds, Marritt Hall Board Room

Present:
Carl Loewith, Chair
Philip Krakar, Cathy McMaster, Paul Shaker, Councillor David
Mitchell, Kevin Laidley, Sarah Megens, Robert Saccomano,
Councillor Robert Pasuta

Absent/Regrets:
Roy Shuker, Nancy Mills, Dale Smith, Carol Pupo, Henry Swierenga,
Doug Cranston, Councillor Lloyd Ferguson, Mel Switzer, John
Mantel, Andrew Spoelstra

Also Present:
Susan Coverdale, Business Development Consultant,
Economic Development and Real Estate Division

THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS
REPORT 08-001 TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
AND RESPECTFULLY ADVISES:

1. Proposed Changes to the Provincial Framework to remove Certificate of
   Approvals for all Sludge Haulers pertaining to farm site applications

   (a) That the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee for the City of
       Hamilton supports the mandatory soil testing of farm sites and the
       continuation of the Certificate of Approval process for the spreading of
       sewer and paper mill sludge;

   (b) That a letter be forwarded to Kevin Webster, Senior Policy Coordinator for
       the Ministry of Environment asking that the Certificate of Approval policy not
       be amended and that the agricultural perspective be taken into
       consideration at all times as a priority for decision making process.

Economic Development and Planning Committee – April 15, 2008
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE

(a) Discussion Items

(i) Proposed Changes to the Provincial Framework to remove Certificate of Approvals for all Sludge Haulers pertaining to farm site applications (Item 5.5)

Councillor Mitchell received information that the Ontario Government is looking to change Certificate of Approval (COA) requirements for sludge haulers that allows the spreading of sewage sludge or paper mill sludge on farm sites. The committee discussed their concerns regarding any change to the requirements and agreed that we should send a letter to Kevin Webster, Senior Policy Coordinator for the Ministry of Environment asking them not to amend or change the COA policy and passed the following motion:

The Agricultural and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee for the City of Hamilton supports the mandatory soil testing of farm sites and the continuation of the Certificate of Approval process for the spreading of sewer and paper mill sludge and that the agricultural perspective be taken into consideration at all times as a priority for decision making process.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Loewith, Chair
Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

Susan Coverdale,
Business Development Consultant
Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee
January 24, 2008