

The Corporation of the  
**MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED**

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Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
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Submitted by e-mail [suzy.shalla@ontario.ca](mailto:suzy.shalla@ontario.ca)

### **Proposal for Risk Mitigation and Tornado Cleanup Plan**

The July 24, 2022 EF2 tornado had significant impact on our municipality and had a direct path on over 2,200 hectares of land. Further secondary EF2 wind damage exceeded 20,000 hectares. The aftermath has left the Municipality with the following risks:

1. Flooding risks (severe damage to transportation infrastructure, including Provincial Highways 7 and 37; increased risks of widespread flooding)
2. Fire load risks (significant increase in forest fire loads and near residential homes and other structures)
3. Potential for erosion risks (natural 15 metre vegetation buffer on shorelines has been negatively impacted in some areas along the Skootamatta River and Black River areas)

The Municipality of Tweed is proposing the following Risk Mitigation and Tornado Cleanup Plan for the one-time funding for debris cleanup:

1. Focus on mitigating risks
  - a. Pulling largest debris out of rivers and dropping on shores to reduce flooding risks (typically, flood season starts end of March and can run until end of May/early June). Cutting debris off at the root balls and dragging onto shore can be done quicker than cutting and shredding the salvaged wood one at a time. The efficiency will allow for more of the higher risk areas to be addressed throughout the Skootamatta River and in the Black River areas. Total river length along impacted zones of 15 km with 9 km with higher risks. – **Cost Estimate \$400,000, Timeline April 2023 to May 2023**
  - b. Utilizing Ontario Fire Smart processes, working to clear storm debris from within 30 metre radius circles of all structures. For efficiency, suggest that the debris be chipped or taken to a central Municipal owned forested lot in the hamlet of Actinolite (in the affected area) to be shredded later. Fire season can start as early as April and runs until September/October,


based on the weather. Having this the second priority helps reduce threat to life and limb for the residents of the area. Total properties estimated to have been impacted 335. Of these 23 are owned by Municipality, Province of Ontario, Quinte Conservation Authority, or Bell Canada. Of the remaining 312 properties, 265 are unique property owners. – **Cost \$750,000, Timeline June 2023 to August 2023**

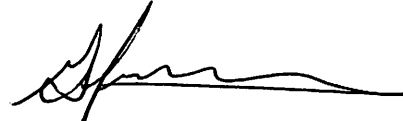
- c. Hire contractors to clear roadside ditching. In the immediate aftermath of the tornado, work crews pushed debris just barely off the road to ensure access for emergency purposes to all homes in the area. There are several roads that require clearing of debris still in ditches which if left unattended, could cause more localized flooding risks and potential road washouts. Will focus on clearing Bridgewater Road, Ekblad Road, Potter Settlement Road, Varty Road and Genereaux Road. Over 39 km of ditches to be cleared on 19.6 km of roads. – **Cost \$50,000, Timeline June 2023 to August 2023**
2. Removal of piled wood and salvaged wood from water systems
  - a. Arrange for a wood shredder to shred the wood pulled from river systems.
  - b. Arrange for wood shredder to shred the wood piled from Ontario Fire Smart 30 metre radius circles.
  - c. Arrange for disposal of shredded wood onto Municipal lot in Actinolite (Quarry Street).
  - d. Initial emergency work handled approximately 20,500 cubic yards. Estimate in excess of 430,000 cubic yards of wood to be shredded. – **Cost \$305,280, Timeline September 2023 to November 2023**
3. Offer reimbursement packages to local residents, including small local family-run businesses
  - a. Create sub-committee to review submissions and receipts from who completed flood risk mitigation work and provide equitable partial reimbursements. Aware of several residents already have spent between \$10,000 and \$200,000 per property. – **Cost \$300,000, Timeline April 2023 to March 2024, or until fully awarded**
  - b. Create sub-committee to review submissions and receipts from who completed fire risk mitigation work and provide equitable partial reimbursements. Aware of several residents already have spent between \$10,000 and \$250,000 per property. – **Cost \$300,000, Timeline April 2023 to March 2024, or until fully awarded**
4. Reforestation
  - a. Utilizing the sub-committee created in Step 3, award funds to local residents to complete reforestation planting subject to submitted requests and proposals and receipts upon completion of the work. . – **Cost \$300,000, Timeline April 2023 to March 2024, or until fully awarded**
  - b. Purchase and order trees to be planted in the shoreline 15 metre natural vegetation lines that were most impacted by storm. This will help reduce future erosion risks of the shorelines and help create the natural habitats and environment for wind breaks for major road systems and homes.


Estimate 100,000 trees or other plants needing to be replanted. – **Cost \$300,000, Timeline April 2023 to March 2024**

The total projected costs for the proposed plan total **\$2,705,280**.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Don DeGenova  
Mayor

  
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