Municipal Agreements with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
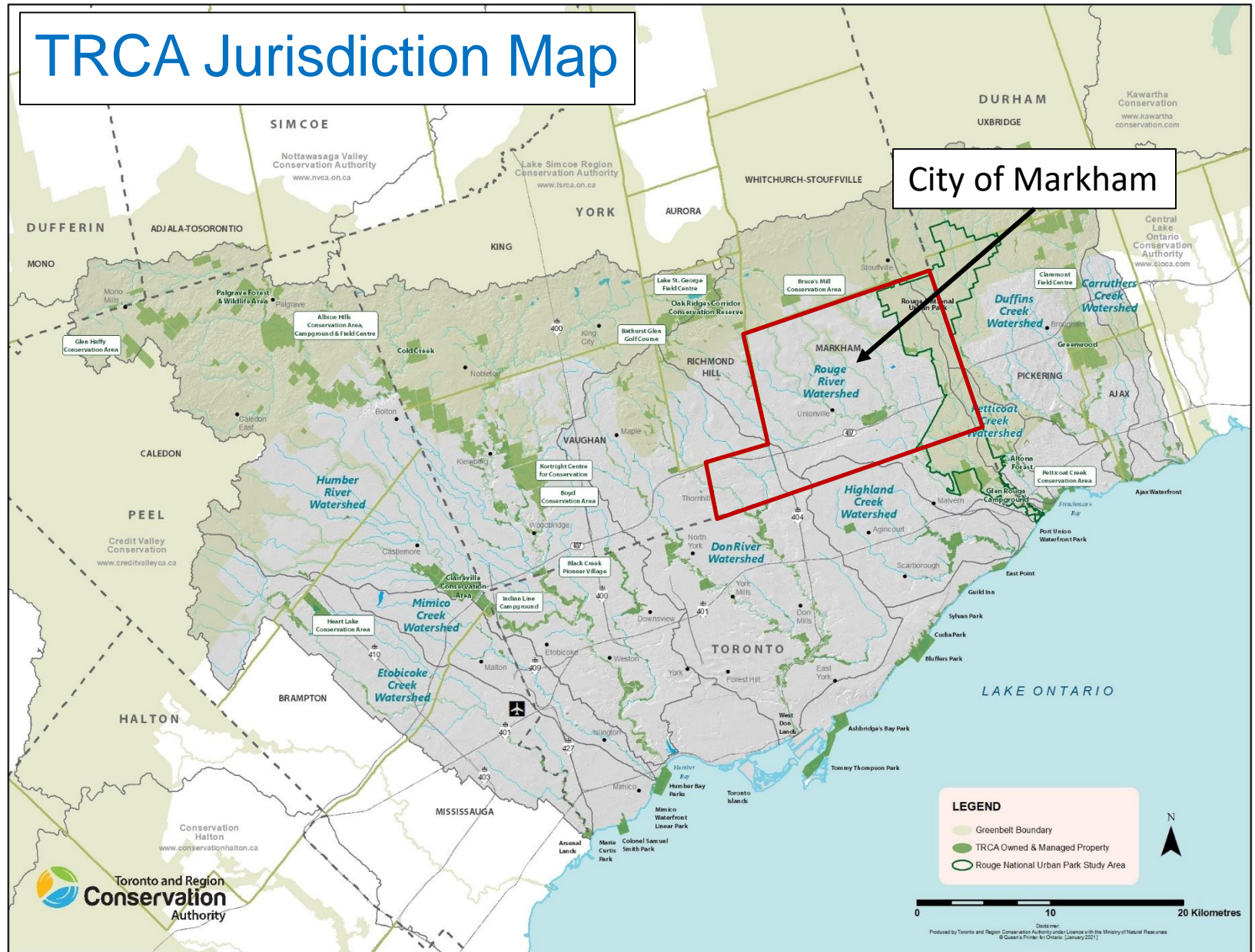
Development Services Committee
May 16, 2023

TRCA Jurisdiction Map

City of Markham

Memorandum of Understanding with the TRCA

- Recent changes to the CA Act require that municipalities enter into an agreement for the continued delivery of 'municipally-requested services and programs'

Memorandum of Understanding with the TRCA

The MOU will:

- meet the legislative changes made by the Province and meet the January 2024 deadline

- provide the City with the option to retain TRCA for environmental programs and services, at the City's discretion

- Not include any financial commitments

- Not require any changes to the City's Purchasing Bylaw

Recommendation: That Council authorize staff to execute the MOU for municipally-requested services and programs

TRCA's role in Planning and Development

- Due to Bill 23, TRCA can no longer provide technical comments outside of flood and erosion hazards and wetlands

- Technical review for certain natural heritage and engineering matters is now a City responsibility

- City and TRCA will ensure legislated approval timelines are met while respecting TRCA's reduced commenting role

Update of TRCA-Markham Plan Review Agreement

- Updates to this agreement are recommended to address:
  - New circulation processes and technology (ePlans)
  - Clarify roles and responsibilities in light of Bill 23 changes to the role of the TRCA
  - New City responsibilities related to source water protection
  - Anticipated regulations affecting TRCA's permitting responsibilities

Recommendation: That staff be directed to update and execute the plan review agreement

Staff Recommendation & Next Steps

- Direct staff to finalize and execute the Memorandum of Understanding with the TRCA for municipally-requested services and programs

- TRCA to post the final Memorandum of Understanding on their website

- Direct staff to update and execute the plan review agreement with TRCA for planning and development services