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TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING ON AUGUST 26, 2014
FROM:	JOHN M. FLEMING MANAGING DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND CITY PLANNER
SUBJECT:	STONEY CREEK OPEN SPACE PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT EAST OF TROSSACKS AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, this report **BE RECEIVED** for information regarding the planning and implementation associated with the Stoney Creek Open Space pathway system east of Trossacks Avenue.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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September 24, 2013. Stoney Creek Open Space System Land Disposition and Pathway Options.

BACKGROUND

Context

In 2013, City staff investigated various options for extending the Stoney Creek Pathway system east of Trossacks Avenue. This planned extension of the Stoney Creek Pathway system was identified in the City of London Bicycle Master Plan, Stoney Creek Area Plan and has been incorporated into approved subdivision development plans. The Stoney Creek Pathway Options Study was presented to the Planning and Environment Committee on September 24, 2013. Following this presentation and with respect to extending the Stoney Creek pathway system east of Trossacks Avenue, Committee and City Council recommended that the following actions be taken:

- a) the Pathway Options Study presented in the September 24, 2013 report BE RECEIVED;
- b) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to proceed with a 'consult' level public engagement process, as outlined in the City of London Community Engagement Policy, to present the path options study and seek input into the preferred option for extending the Stoney Creek pathway system east of Trossacks Avenue, ensuring that there is no pathway along the properties located at 25 to 57 Stoneycreek Crescent; and,
- c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back at a future meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee with options for a potential pathway on the north side of Stoney Creek.

Through spring and summer of 2014, City staff has worked closely with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and McTaggart Crescent residents to finalize a pathway alignment on the north side of Stoney Creek that will extend 500 meters east from Trossacks Avenue to the existing storm pond located south of Devos Drive. Appendix 'A' illustrates the agreed upon alignment of this pathway system.

A detailed ecological study and a tree inventory were completed during the planning process for this pathway extension. The resulting pathway alignment protects existing mature trees and includes a boardwalk to minimize grading impacts. The pathway alignment has also been designed to ensure an adequate landscape buffer can be maintained and enhanced between

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private property and the completed pathway. City staff has had productive on-site meetings, at the request of many McTaggart Crescent residents, to confirm the trail alignment with respect to rear property lines and limits of vegetation removal. These meetings have helped the City adjust and revise the design to better address the stated privacy concerns of some residents.

With the exception of one short section (60 meters), the entire pathway network will be constructed above the 1:250 year regulatory flood limit. The UTRCA have reviewed the drawings and support the proposed alignment.

Extension of the Stoney Creek pathway system between Trossacks Avenue and the storm water management pond located south of Devos Drive will commence in September 2014. Phase II of the project (from the storm pond east to Stackhouse Avenue) will be constructed in 2015/16.

Financial Impact

Funding associated with anticipated pathway development east of Trossacks Avenue has been approved by Council and is available in Planning Service’s New Major Open Space Capital Program (PD2042 and PD2043-11).

Acknowledgements

This report was prepared by Jeff Bruin, Landscape Architect and Parks Planner, Environmental & Parks Planning Section.

SUBMITTED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
ANDREW MACPHERSON MANAGER PARKS PLANNING AND DESIGN	JOHN M. FLEMING MANAGING DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND CITY PLANNER

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Appendix 'A'
 Pathway Plan East of Trossacks Avenue

