

3915 & 3916 Southwinds Drive,
London, Ontario
N6P 1E6

Planning and Environment Committee,
City of London,
300 Dufferin Avenue,
London, Ontario,
N6A 4L9

April 10, 2015

Attn: the Planning and Environment Committee for the meeting of April 20th:

Dear Civic Representatives of the City of London:

We are coming before you today to request that you make a motion that the Committee and Council reconsider its motion to approve the necessary Official Plan and by-law changes required to permit the development intended to be located at 3804 Southwinds Drive, in the former area of Lambeth.

Since 2009, as citizens of London residing on Southwinds Drive in Lambeth, we have been actively participating in the evolution of a development at 3804 Southwinds Drive in Lambeth. In Dec. 2013, the previous city council approved the development of this subdivision. What makes this unique is that, although it is within the City limits, 17 homes are going to be built on individual septic tanks and individual wells, despite the Provincial Policy Statement, which does not permit that. Provincial officials with whom we have spoken have expressed surprise that London would be proceeding in this fashion.

Hydrogeological studies have come and gone; various opinions have been expressed about the quantity and quality of water available for these new homes. Science has been used to provide an educated guess that says there is likely sufficient water and of reasonable quality. Yet we stand in the shadow of the "other Southwinds" development from the early 1990's when approvals occurred for septic beds along the same stretch of the Dingman Creek. The results from that development were very costly for the City and remain an ongoing obligation and concern to this day (please see attached media report of October, 2013).

As you will find in our previous correspondence throughout this process, (see Minutes of the meeting of the Committee when the matter was considered at:

<http://sire.london.ca/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=591&doctype=MINUTES>) we have asked that the City and the Developer commit in writing that the drinking water of 27 homes along Southwinds Drive and Southwinds Court will not be negatively impacted either in quantity or quality with the advancement of this project. An OMB hearing has been scheduled for May 20, 2015. We now ask that a bond of \$350,000 be set aside for 10 years at a cost equally split between the City and the Developer to cover all costs relating to a contamination or a well interference event which could result in us losing our safe and available water supply. If nothing occurs over that ten year period and all goes according to plan, then the City and developer reclaim their bond. Of course, the full details of this arrangement would need to be designed as to be legally binding for all parties concerned. We are quite prepared that with such a surety in place to reconsider our preparation for the planned Ontario Municipal Board hearing slated for May 2015.

We have met with City officials, spoken to the Developer, communicated with water experts, talked to Ministry of Environment and Health Unit personnel, along with many others. We have only one agenda. We want to know that if something unexpected occurs, that our water will not be compromised.

We ask that you either reconsider the approval of this development OR you meet with ourselves and the developer to work out a safety plan that protects us as well as you. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter. You can contact us at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED] or at our above listed addresses.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth MacKinnon,
3915 Southwinds Drive



Doug Dittmer,
3915 Southwinds Drive

Jim Waldie,
3916 Southwinds Drive



Ingrid Waldie
3916 Southwinds Drive



Cc. Councillor P. Hubert (chair), Councillor M. Cassidy, Councillor J. Helmer, Councillor P. Squire, Councillor S. Turner, Mayor M. Brown, Nicole Hall, Allan Patton