

Crumlin Sportsmen's Association

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CLUBHOUSE LOCATED AT: 3384 GORE ROAD, LONDON, ONTARIO N6M 1E9

City of London
Planning and Environment Committee
June 22, 2015

ATTENTION: Cathy Saunders, City Clerk Official Plan Amendment O-7938

Crumlin Sportsmen's Association supports the City's initiative to create open space and woodlands in principle, however we have issues with how lines were drawn and how it will impact our property.

Contrary to the statement at the meeting of Mr. Barrett, Manager-Long Range Planning and Research, our property has not been included in the 170 page 2009 Woodlot Assessment report.

Portions of our land are flood plain and regulated by the UTRCA and we respect that fact. However another portion has been identified as Environment Review (ER) until now. They may be just lines on a plan to you, but if adopted, they will be enshrined in the Official Plan and will, in effect, prohibit the area for our use for the benefit of the City by claiming it as your inventory of woodlands to meet your goal of a "greener" city.

The ER lines seem to be arbitrary as if done by simply viewing the aerial photography without any consideration to existing land use within the ER that is not visible from flying over and taking a picture. For instance, a close review of the "City Map" on your website clearly places our earth berms and bullet backstops within the ER lines. These earthworks have been in place for decades and we are obligated to maintain them to meet Federal Range Design Guidelines—all being inspected regularly by the Province. We have existing ranges within the woodland that we use and maintain.

We would like to work with staff to establish the lines so that we can maintain our ranges both inside and outside the ER lines that are proposed to become OS5.

We also point out that since the 2009 Woodland Report, we have suffered a major loss of ash trees in the ER and a couple windstorms have uprooted some larger "swamp maples" that were shallow-rooted. Other trees have been killed by flooding in the last two years. Major flooding like this year is repeated periodically over the decades depending on snow cover and rainfall. Any discrete woodlot study would not fully document the changes that can vary from 2 feet of water that devastates trees and brushes for a couple years followed by a couple years of drought.

We reserve the right to have our own environmental survey done to validate or dispute the designation arbitrarily assigned by the City of London.

We have been active on this site since 1947. We pre-date both major annexations in 1960's and 1990's. Over the decades we have planted over one hundred trees as we converted the former farmland to wooded areas for animal habitat and more pleasant surroundings for our members' enjoyment.

We want to continue to manage our lands and woodlot, including actively using the woodland for our membership sporting uses.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours truly

John Fitzgerald President

CC.

Sean Galloway, Manager, Urban Design and GIS Councillor Paul Hubert, Chair Planning and Environment Committee Ted Halwa, Monteith Brown Planning Consultants Barry R. Card, Barrister and Solicitor