

June 24, 2015 Public comments

- Laverne Kirkness – President of London Area Planning consultants – reviews the attached communication.
- Maggie Whalley, President, Architectural Conservancy Ontario, London Region – reviews the attached communication.
- Tom McClenaghan, 220 Baseline Road East – indicating that there was a celebration held last Friday morning regarding the Coves which was attended by the Honourable Ed Holder and Mayor Matt Brown; indicating that the Coves is recognized for its environmental significance and received \$200,000 in funding; indicating that at the celebration, the contributions of Friends of the Cove, volunteers and various schools in the area, were recognized; indicating that one month ago he attended an Ontario Municipal Board Hearing regarding the property known as 250 Springbank Drive; indicating that at the OMB Hearing, planning staff indicated that they had worked with the developer for almost a year to see whether or not they could get the site plan right; indicating that the site is unique from both a cultural and natural heritage perspective; indicating that the site is the single most prominent site in the entire environmental significant area; indicating that the Board Chair sought clarification if this was a heritage site; indicating that the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) indicated that they had no objection; questioning the role of UTRCA and what they focus on; indicating that there was no mention of conservation, of the coves sub-watershed plan; indicating that the site was compared to 27 other site, however the site is unique; indicating that the developer indicated that they had received everything they asked for; indicating that we need to protect the natural heritage and cultural heritage as it is important to the quality of life; indicating that he hopes the policies imbedded in the London Plan will protect sites like this.
- John Hogg, Victoria Street – outlined suggested safety improvements to the railway overpass at Talbot Street such as putting metal cut outs of slippery the seal, Blackfriars Bridge and other significant matters in London that could be placed in such a way to bring to the attention of the truck drivers that there is a low bridge ahead; indicating that the trucks would hit the metal cut outs before they hit the bridge; indicating that design contest could be held for the cut outs; indicating that the City should consider putting a small turbine in dam behind Labatts and add to a solar panel and an windmill that could be used as a tourist attraction; indicating that school children could see how electricity works; indicating that London Hydro could maintain these features; indicating that the School Boards could ask children in art class to create art having a theme about not putting trash out the night before and not throw trash on the street,
- Benjamin Vasquez, Architectural Conservancy Ontario, London Region – indicating that the London Plan is an excellent document; indicating that he was impressed by it and the, the public participation process that led up to the preparation of the document; acknowledging that changes will need to be made as result of the public input; indicating that some things may not work out in practice' indicating that they supported the original London Plan; indicating concern with the changes that have been made from the original document; indicating that the original Plan encouraged uniqueness of neighbourhoods, transit and stressed the need for building blocks' indicating that the original Plan was strong on heritage and natural heritage, arts and culture; indicating that most Londoners loved the Plan; indicating concern that as the Plan is finalized, attention will shift with amendments will be not lose track of big picture.
- B. Singh Dhinsa, 1989 Quarrier Road – indicating that we need to plan for and look after the elderly; indicating that the London Plan does not adequately provide for the planning and care of the elderly; indicating that in England, seniors are given free bus passed; indicating that the London Plan should be concerned about how senior will travel; indicating that the seniors will not be interested in going downtown

- Sean Quigley – indicating that he is speaking as a private citizen; indicating that we all should remember that the public engagement process undertaken for the London Plan was the single largest process ever carried out in Canadian history; indicating that the public engagement was broad and wise, providing for comments to be provided in person, in writing and on line; indicating that planning staff also went out to the neighbourhoods to receive comment; indicating that he heard comments about engagement fatigue; indicating that some have said that it is not representative of Londoners; indicated that the engagement included comments from 14,000 people received in a number of different ways; , indicating that the bones of the plan are solid; remember what has already been gone through as you move into the final phase of the process