

Dear Planning Environmental Committee,

I would like to start by saying thank you for your time during the August 22 meeting. I appreciate you giving me the chance to be heard as the voice of our subdivision. After leaving that meeting, I have a new appreciation for how much behind the scenes work you as a group do and I am hoping that if I can send you our main concerns over this walkway ahead of time, I will not have to use as much of your time that evening. I will always refer to this as a "walkway" in this letter, but as I have previously stated, it is slated to be gated and locked at the front and the back and really is only intended to be used if maintenance is ever needed.

As my last letter detailed, there are many reasons why we are opposed to this walkway. We are concerned about safety, vandalism, maintenance and its overall appearance. We have a signed petition from over 40 residents that live closest to this walkway in our subdivision asking for it to be eliminated from the plans. On top of all of those concerns though, it is easier to simply argue it is redundant and unnecessary.

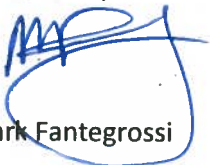
Block 24, the area south of Clayton Walk that this walkway is intended to lead to, is easily accessible from two other points of access: Colonial Talbot from the East and the eventual street to be built south of Clayton Walk (See the attached map taken from the zoning map on the City of London's website – exhibit A). As one of the councillors eloquently said during the August 22 meeting with respect to the Wharncliffe development, even the best plans aren't perfect and adjustments are frequently needed. The subdivision plan laid out for this area was done with the best of intentions, but we believe an adjustment is needed. With two other points of access already available, this gated walkway is simply never going to be used. During the August 22 meeting, there was also a significant portion of time devoted to the new tree by-law. All in all, this new by-law is basically intended to increase green space in the city of London. I realize this area is not tree covered yet, but why take away grass space from an area that is approximately 200'x10' and replace it with concrete. Given the opportunity, this area could easily be changed to an area full of trees. There are many ways that this green space could be better used instead of as a third access point to an area that will potentially never be visited by city workers or community members.

There is also the over-whelming concern of safety. Our community is very concerned from a safety perspective with respect to this walkway. As my previous letter has outlined, we are worried it will become a hangout area for older kids on the weekends where vandalism may occur. In other areas of the city, these walkways are always a mess a couple years after completion. With this area being gated, it is also going to be incredibly enticing for kids to go and explore. In addition to the obvious safety concerns, we are most concerned about where this walkway leads. After summer storms and during the entire spring season, the open space where the walkway leads (Block 24) is extremely flooded. The flooding gets so bad that in order for this walkway to be used by the public, I believe a bridge in excess of 40 feet long is going to have to be built (again, see exhibit A for the width of this tributary). This has never been mentioned in any plans and I am assuming the cost will be so high that it will never be done. I have a 7 month old daughter and a 29 month old son. If either of them were to ever get into this walkway and venture into flooding this substantial, the results would be terrifying. There are numerous children on this street in the same age range. Please see attached pictures (exhibit B and C) of the flooding this past May just beyond my fence in the Block 24 area. These pictures make it extremely evident that this is going to be a gated walkway to nowhere as a bridge will never be constructed.

The plans (see exhibit D) call for the walkway to be gated at our houses and then extend forward to the street as a sidewalk only 1.5 meters wide. We have been told the extension to the road is necessary for maintenance vehicles; however, this is also not true. If a maintenance vehicle is needed, it will be wider than 1.5 meters and will still need to drive on my grass to access the walkway. When access is needed, it will much easier for crews to drive 5 houses down the road to the street bordering the tributary.

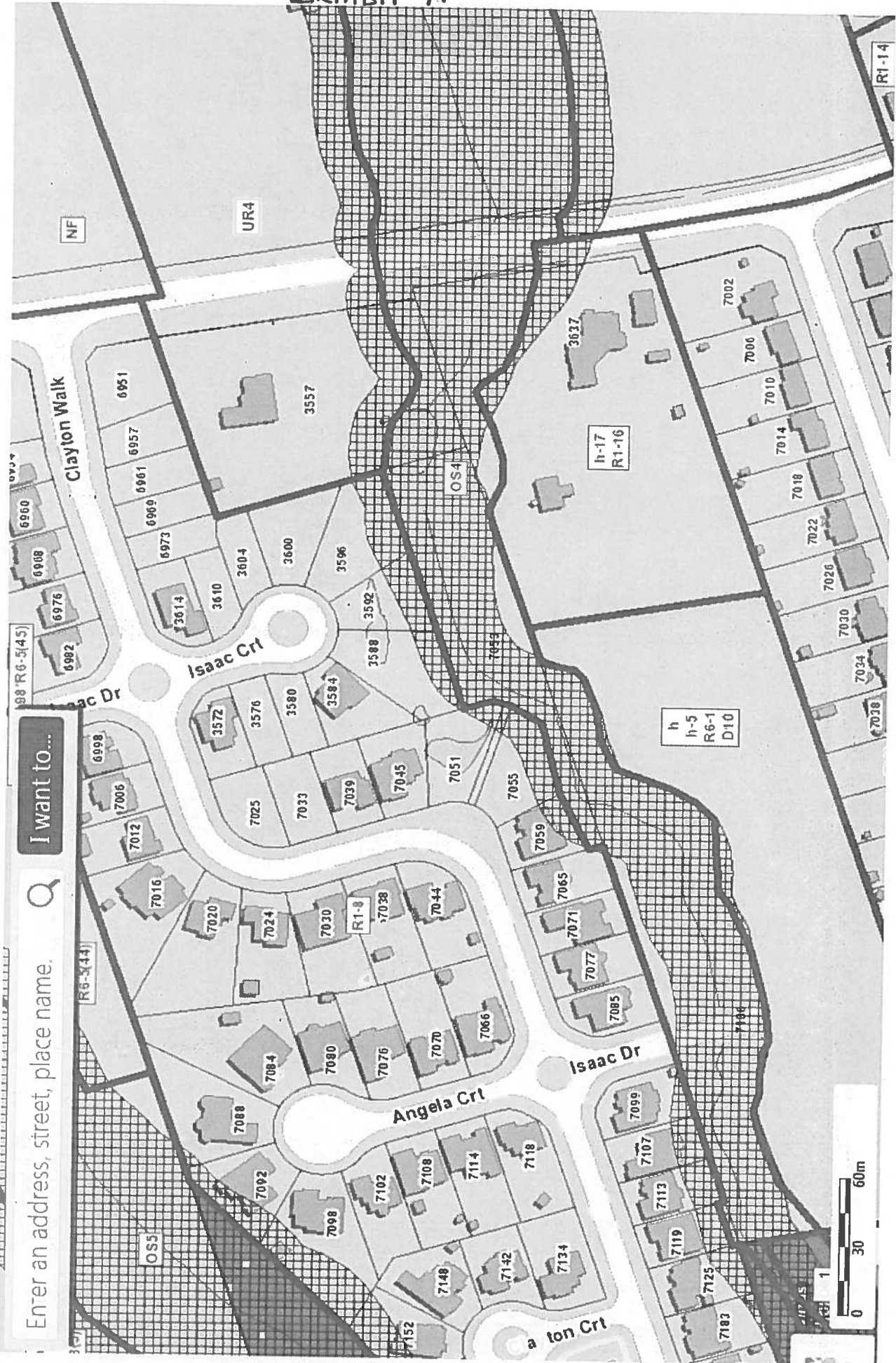
Once again I would like to thank you for your time and appreciate you hearing our concerns. We request that this walkway be eliminated to ensure safety in our neighbourhood.

Thank you,



Mark Fantegrossi

EXHIBIT A



Enter an address, street, place name.



I want to...

0 30 60m

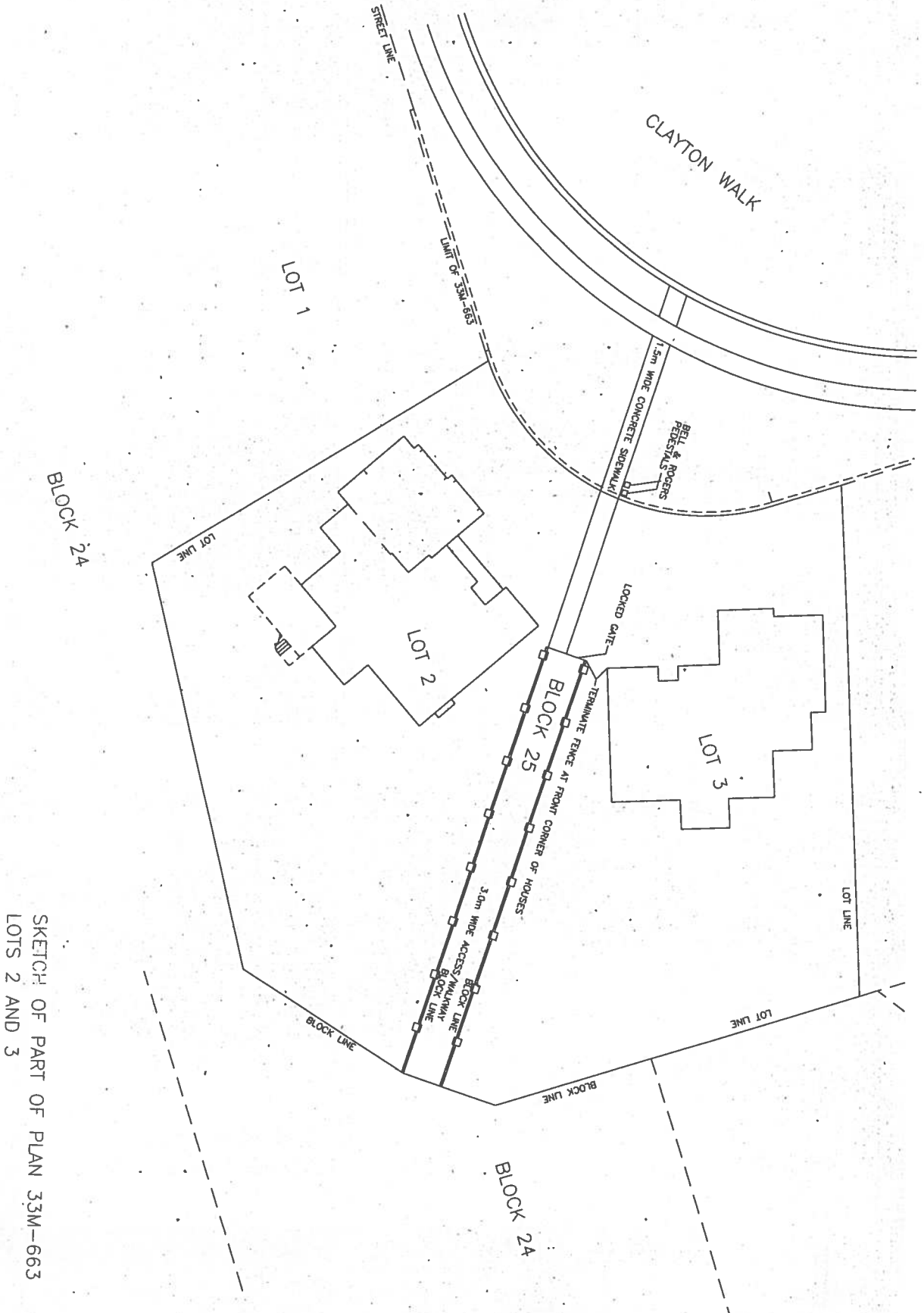
EXHIBIT B



EXHIBIT C



EXHIBIT D



SKETCH OF PART OF PLAN 33M-663
LOTS 2 AND 3