

Nov. 16, 2016

To: **City of London, Trails Advisory Group**  
**City of London, Environmental and Parks Planning**

Att'n: **Linda McDougall**, Project Coordinator – Trail Advisory Group (TAG)  
**Andrew Macpherson**, Manager – Environmental and Parks Planning

From: **Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC)**,  
**Built Environment and Facilities Sub-Committee (BESC)**

Re: **Position of Support for the completion of the Medway North Trail System**

Background is that, approx. 3 years ago the City implemented a public-use trail system within the Medway Valley. As part of that trail system it was agreed upon that the section of trail between Fanshawe Road and Sunningdale Road be considered as "built to Accessibility Standard's". Unfortunately, to-date this goal has not yet been achieved.

Note: it is our understanding that the only barrier-to-completion in this regard is a section of land that is privately owned, and of which the City does not have permission to use. (see attached map)

In an effort to resolve this matter, in a timely manner, our group (ACCAC – BESC) is submitting this letter of support towards this conclusion.

Signed,

**ACCAC, Built Environment and Facility Sub-Committee**

(this letter was reviewed and received at our meeting, Nov. 14, 2016)

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To: **Private Property Landowner**, Medway North Trail Corridor

On behalf of the City of London's Accessibility Advisory Committee, we are presenting this letter of support to you with regards to the proposed trail system through your property.

At the time this trail system was first proposed, the residents of London and in particular the accessibility community was incredibly excited by this opportunity. Within our City limits, accessible trails (and in particular hard-surface asphalt trails) such as The Thames Valley Parkway (Springbank) have been strongly received and welcomed by all residents. However, even that trail system lacks the natural environment features, benefits, and ecology that this Medway Valley trail system offers. As such, having an accessible pathway through such a unique and strong "environmentally sensitive area" such as the Medway Valley was seen as an incredible opportunity and advancement to our community.

For many years now, we (ACCAC) have been following the progress of this trail system with great anticipation. However, it has been brought to our attention that negotiated attempts to resolve the issue of property ownership/ development has become a significant barrier to the success of this trail system. As legal and proprietary discussions have not, and should not, be shared with our committee in this regard our hopes are that we may provide you with positive support towards this goal.

We welcome the opportunity to reach out and listen to your concerns in this regard, and our Committee may be contacted through the City Clerk's office, or by email at [accessibility@london.ca](mailto:accessibility@london.ca)

Our suggestions for the completion of this trail system, through this section of Private Property, include:

- A. The City purchasing of the tract of land (as a whole, and at fair market value), or
- B. The City purchasing a negotiated access corridor through the property, that includes (but is not limited to) the following features;
  - Appropriate signage at the property lines that clearly denote this section is private property and trespassing off the pathway corridor is unlawful
  - A side boundary fence along this section of pathway to further discourage users from straying off-course through this section
  - Appropriate signage at the property lines that clearly show the City's appreciation and support for the property owner's permission to use this section of pathway
  - A clear, strong, documented, and agreed-upon written protocol for use, with an emphasis of appropriate construction, maintenance, and management practices to minimize un-due damage to your property caused by this trail both during construction and with future use

*Note: presently we recognise that without an agreed-upon right of way through your property unlawful "trespassers" have caused notable damage as they continue to "cut-through" regardless*

Signed,

**ACCAC, Built Environment and Facility Sub-Committee**

Jim Sanders, Sub-Com. Chair

(this letter was received, reviewed, and agreed upon at our meeting, Nov. 14, 2016)

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LEGEND

PROPOSED 3.2m ASPHALT PATHWAY

PROPOSED ON-ROAD CYCLING PATH

PROPOSED 2.0m HIKING TRAIL WITH WOODCHIP SURFACE

POTENTIAL TRAIL LINKS

P

FUTURE PARKING LOT AND ESA ACCESS POINT

B

BRIDGE REQUIRED

S

STRUCTURE REQUIRED

EXISTING ASPHALT ACCESS ROAD/ PATHWAY

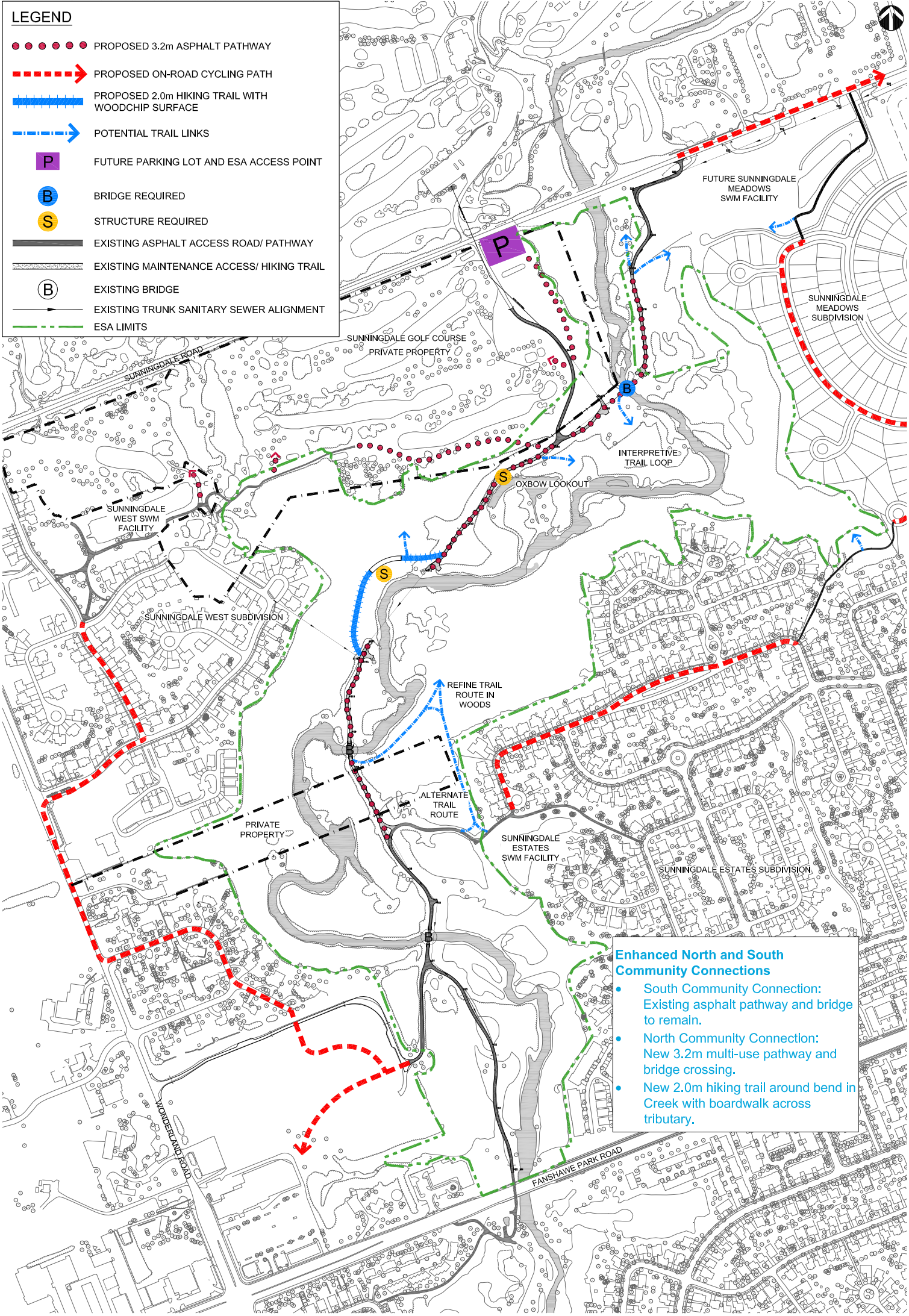
EXISTING MAINTENANCE ACCESS/ HIKING TRAIL

B

EXISTING BRIDGE

EXISTING TRUNK SANITARY SEWER ALIGNMENT

ESA LIMITS



# Medway Valley Trail North of Fanshawe Park Road 5B - Further Enhanced Accessibility & Community Connections