August 17, 2017

Chair and Members of Planning and Environment Committee

Re: Enforcement Unassumed Subdivisions

As a Councillor representing one of the fastest growing areas of the City of London, I have significant concerns about our capacity to meet the reasonable expectations of residents and families living in developing areas. Over the past few years, the number of concerns has grown dramatically and residents are growing more frustrated with the City of London over what they perceive as an inability to act proactively on common and consistent neighbourhood issues. These include (but are not limited to) issues with significant dust, dirt & debris on roadways, clogged catch basins that lead to street flooding, consistent construction traffic on unapproved routes, and significant issues with litter and construction materials.

There are currently only two full-time staff members working to address the concerns/complaints of residents living in and near unassumed sub-divisions. This team is also tasked with all of the inspections related to the assumption process. Given this workload and the volume of issues, complaints/requests (even repetitive concerns) are dealt with only in a reactionary manner and at times there can be a significant backlog of work. In my view this is an unacceptable situation and we need to find better solutions for residents in and near developing areas.

Given this I respectively ask that the following motion be considered by Municipal Council:

“That the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to the Planning and Environment Committee with respect to recommended changes to our current subdivision and development agreements and enforcement processes to ensure compliance:

a) a plan to better meet the needs of residents living in and near unassumed sub-divisions with enhancements to the process for submitting development and property standards complaints/issues/concerns (including better communication with residents);

b) measures to move to a more proactive model of enforcement of common and reoccurring subdivision agreement and property standards concerns from residents in and near developing areas;

c) suggestions for any new wording in standard subdivision and development agreements that would support a) and b) above;

d) a strategy to address the significant increased demand for building permit processing and building/development inspections; and,

e) the costs related to a) b) c) and d) above, and suggested sources of financing.

Respectfully submitted

Josh Morgan,
Councillor, Ward 7