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Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 4:53 PM

To: Martin, Jackie <JMartin@London.ca>

Subject: OneRiver Stage 1 Environmental Report Comment

I have followed the OneRiver City process and participated in the discussion of proposals to reconstruct the Springbank Dam. I have read the most recent consultants' report and recommendation regarding the dam. I agree with their assessment – that the **Free Flowing River option is the best** and that dam reconstruction is the worst option at many levels. I urge Council to support the recommended option at the January 9th meeting.

Once the Free Flowing River is adopted, there are a number of positive things that the City and OneRiver can pursue. A free flowing river improves the poor water quality in the Thames. I hope that a good deal of attention and investment is directed to further improving that water quality by various means including reducing wastewater by-passing during storm events, separation of storm and sanitary sewers, and reduction of agricultural pollution. I believe that water quality is fundamental to our enjoyment of all aspects of the river and for our responsibility for downstream and Great Lakes water quality and enjoyment. We don't need another Toldedo. There will be advocates for cosmetic and recreational upgrades, but these projects should, in my opinion, have lower priority and investment than those that improve Thames river water quality.

Your truly

Lee Richardson Symmes