

From: Rich Duench

Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 3:21 PM

To: PEC <pec@london.ca>

Cc: Squire, Phil <psquire@london.ca>

Subject: The proposed bridges in the Medway Valley ESA Damage its ecological integrity

Hello,

I am writing to voice my serious concern about the 2 proposed bridges in the Medway Valley ESA in the area South of Fanshawe Park Road over Medway Creek and the damage that they will inflict on a pristine natural area. The rationale for installing these bridges does not coincide with existing City of London policies.

Section 2.1 (**Policy for Trail Planning and Design**) in the City of London's Guidelines for Management Zones & Trails in Environmentally Significant Areas clearly states on Pages 4&7 that the focus within ESA's is ecological function, ecological integrity and protecting the natural features and the use of pedestrian bridges should be 'for the purpose of protecting ecological features and functions.'

Further; the 'Policy Guidance on Harm and Harass under the Endangered Species Act' states that 'In specific cases where the anticipated effects of an activity on a member of a protected species cannot be predicted with reasonable confidence, determinations will generally err on the side of caution in favour of affording greater protection to the species'.

The London Plan section of 'Why is Natural Heritage Important to our Future' states that ESA's (including the Medway Valley) 'shall be protected and managed to improve their ecological integrity...'

Please consider the above and arrive at a different solution for trails within the Medway ESA that do not include bridges that will harm this environmentally sensitive area.

Best regards,

Richard Duench 121 Wychwood Park London, ONN6G 1R8