

From: **Peter Pendl**

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Subject: Opposition to the MVHF ESA South proposal

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Dear Council
Members,

We, Allyson Vanstone and Peter Pendl, live at 74 Green Acres Drive. We are writing to you about our opposition to the Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA South development. In particular, we are opposed to the proposed new pathway down the center of the road and through the yards of 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive. This new path is recommended to continue along Gloucester Road through our neighbourhood to connect points #11 and #12 on the MVHF ESA South map.

We understand that the road (no name) is city property, but 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive were given permits to build these homes over 50 years ago with access to their respective garages from this road. We were in contact with Andrew Macpherson in 2016 after we purchased our home. We requested a meeting to discuss this space. Mr. Macpherson said he would set up a meeting with us in early 2017. Since he never contacted us again, we thought the space was not being considered for anything. The space has been fenced in and used as the personal property of 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive for 50 years.

Three weeks ago, a neighbour informed us about the MVHF ESA South proposal. We were shocked to learn that there has been a five-year planning process that included a new path between 74 and 84 Green Acres. Mr. Macpherson never contacted us about this plan or informed us about the process even though we had already be in contact specifically about this space.

We asked Mr. Macpherson for a meeting before the April 16 PEC public forum to learn more about our options to be involved in the planning process. Mr. Macpherson and Linda McDougal met with us on April 11. At this meeting, we learned that there was no opportunity to participate, that decisions were finished regarding the plans to implement the paths, and that we could speak at the April 16 PEC meeting if we liked. Mr. Macpherson was clear to point out the the space between 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive is city property and that he could move forward with anything in the space without talking with us. Needless to say, we were upset to experience this dismissive practice from the City of London.

If a new path goes through the center of the road, it will make for an unsafe entry and exit to our garages for people using the pathway. It will also lead to the removal of a 200 year old willow tree at the center of proposed area. We are also concerned that the path will have no lighting or winter maintenance based on Mr. Macpherson's description, and will bring crime, litter, noise and nuisance to our neighbourhood.

The roads through our neighbourhood are narrow. We have no sidewalks, curbs or gutters. We currently enjoy safe walks with traffic being at a very minimal because only residents use the roads. The proposed new path would increase pedestrian and cyclist traffic. People would possibly park on the street (and our yards) to use the path to get to the valley thus bringing cars, bikes, pedestrians and children playing all together on one narrow road. This is very dangerous!

We personally went door to door in our neighbourhood, including Green Acres Drive, Ryersie and Gloucester Roads. 59 of 88 houses signed a petition against the Medway

Valley Plan. Unfortunately we couldn't contact everyone with only two weeks to gather signatures. We spoke to all of these people and no one received any communication from the City regarding the planning process until recently when they were notified about the April 16 public PEC meeting. As a community, we were left out of the conversation completely even though our neighbourhood borders the Medway Valley and a new thoroughfare pathway is proposed for our neighbourhood. Andrew Macpherson stated in the April 16 meeting that there were earlier mailings to our neighbourhood, but there is no evidence this occurred.

We respectfully request that council reject the MVHF ESA South proposal. We would like to be part of the process to help develop successful communication and outcomes for any future plans regarding the MVHF, our neighbourhood and other surrounding neighbourhoods. In the mean time, The Elsie Perrin Williams Estate is right beside our neighbourhood. It has ample parking, a beautiful park and trails down to the Medway Valley that are accessible for all.

Peter Pendl and Allyson Vanstone