I attended the April 16 public participation meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee and was unfortunately unable to present my opinion that evening, because the presentation by City Staff took up an inordinate amount of time. I am looking forward to hearing from the Committee Chair, Councillor Turner, about how this unfortunate circumstance will be remedied.

In the meantime, I would like to address the members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee who provided comments just after the City Staff completed their presentation.

As the bereaved parent of a child who, had she lived longer, would have been profoundly disabled, I sincerely appreciated your passion for ensuring that your children have the opportunity to experience all that life has to offer. However, I remain opposed to the construction of hardened paths and accessible bridges in the Medway ESA. This issue is not about ensuring that all Londoners have access to nature. We already have that in many, many other public parks and spaces.

The Medway Valley is a unique area that deserves protection from further development. At some point, we humans as a species have to recognize that not all spaces belong to us.

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