October 25, 2018

Planning and Environment Committee
City of London Council
c/o City Hall, 300 Dufferin Ave.
London, ON   N6A 4L9

Re: The Byron Valley Nature Trail

To the Planning and Environment Committee of London City Council,

I would like to submit this letter of support for the Byron Valley Nature Trail on behalf of the people we support who live in the Byron area.

Participation House Support Services is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting people with developmental disabilities and/or complex physical needs so they can live in their own homes, participate in the community, and enjoy life with family and friends. We support more than 200 people in over 50 locations throughout London and surrounding region.

The proposed nature trail would be extremely beneficial, as it would increase opportunities for the people we serve to be part of their community. Through a pathway which could be usable for all, people will be able to interact and build connections naturally with other residents in the Byron area.

Jamie, a gentleman we serve, and his staff member, Chrissy, were invited to give input in August 2018 regarding the accessibility requirements and usage of the potential trail by people with disabilities. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to be involved in the planning process and allow the people we serve, like Jamie, to give their opinion and contribute to the greater community in a valued way.

The Byron Valley Nature Trail will foster an inclusive and accessible community where everyone is welcome and able to enjoy the benefits of nature while making connections in their community. There are four homes within the Bryon area that Participation House provides service to people who will benefit from these accessible trails.

Thank you, once again, for considering us and the people we support during the planning process.

Sincerely,

Stacey Sutton
Senior Coordinator, Participation House Support Services
On behalf of the people supported by Participation House Support Services