

From: **Graham**  
Subject: The Byron Trail Project  
Date: Yesterday at 9:38 PM  
To:  
Cc: etta etta e

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Hi Debbie,

As requested by Etta Washburn, here is the email I sent to Anna Hopkins expressing my concerns and views on this issue.

Kind Regards

Graham Smith

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**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2018 8:29 PM

**To:** '[ahopkins@london.ca](mailto:ahopkins@london.ca)'

**Subject:** The Byron Trail Project

Anna Hopkins, Councillor Ward 9

Dear Madam Councillor,

A meeting was arranged last March 8<sup>th</sup> by the Parks Department at Byron Public Library for the locally affected residents. The purpose, supposedly, was for the Parks Dept to outline their proposal for the Trail Project and to get feedback from those local residents. I attended that meeting, as did you Madam Councillor, and you will recall that after much discussion of the proposal and concern voiced by the residents, the Moderator of the meeting from Parks Dept himself suggested and offered to accept a vote from those present as to whether we approved or disapproved of the proposed project. You yourself will recall, I am sure, that the overwhelming majority (if not in fact unanimous) was a resounding rejection – a democratically recorded “No” vote.

Following that “No” vote the Moderator confirmed to us, after being pressed by us, that the “No” vote actually was recognized and that the proposed Trail Plan would be cancelled. I am sure you, too, will recall this development at the conclusion of the back and forth discussion. I myself spoke up and actually wanted it confirmed that this plan was cancelled in its entirety for now and in the future, and not just the design currently under consideration. In other words, any Trail Plan would not be resurrected in the future.

It now seems we were taken for a ride on all this as it appears the Plan is going ahead as proposed. Why did you waste taxpayers' money on a meeting that had no intention of listening to

nor abiding by the majority vote, in spite of what we were told? The worst of it is we were all lied to from the outset, including the reason for the meeting, the resulting vote and the confirmation that the project would now be scrapped. It seems that Parks had never had any intention of scrapping the project and we were just paid lip service. It was to go ahead all along. Whatever happened to integrity and democracy from the people that you have put in charge of various City Departments?

There is a meeting at City Hall on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October when the Byron Trail project will be on the agenda. Please advise your position on this now, bearing in mind the promises resulting from the previous meeting.

Attached is a circular I received advising all the local residents of the current situation. Your input and comments would be greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Graham Smith  
1331 Commissioners Rd West, London.