

# Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

## Report

The 12th Meeting of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee  
November 21, 2019  
Committee Rooms #1 and #2

Attendance                   PRESENT: S. Levin (Chair), L. Banks, A. Bilson Darko, C. Dyck, P. Ferguson, L. Grieves, S. Hall, S. Heuchan, B. Krichker, K. Moser, B. Samuels, R. Trudeau and I. Whiteside and H. Lysynski (Clerk)

ALSO PRESENT: G. Barrett, C. Creighton, M. Fabro, S. Hudson, J. MacKay and L. McDougall

ABSENT: I. Arturo, A. Boyer, A. Cleaver, R. Doyle, S. Esan, J. Khan, I. Mohamed, S. Sivakumar and M. Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 PM

### 1. Call to Order

#### 1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

### 2. Scheduled Items

#### 2.1 Gregg Barrett, Manager, Long Range Planning and Sustainability re City Owned and Privately Owned Environmentally Significant Areas

That it BE NOTED that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee heard the attached presentation from G. Barrett, Manager, Long Range Planning and Sustainability, with respect to the differences between city-owned and privately owned Environmentally Significant Areas.

### 3. Consent

#### 3.1 11th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 11th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on October 17, 2019, was received.

#### 3.2 Municipal Council Resolution - 10th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reviewed and received a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on October 15, 2019, with respect to the 10th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee.

3.3 Municipal Council Resolution - 8th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reviewed and received a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on October 15, 2019, with respect to the 8th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on September 5, 2019.

3.4 Municipal Council Resolution - 11th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reviewed and received a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on November 12, 2019, with respect to the 11th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on October 17, 2019.

3.5 Municipal Council Resolution - Environmental Considerations Relating to Studies and Reports

That a Working Group BE ESTABLISHED consisting of S. Levin and S. Hall with respect to environmental considerations relating to studies and reports; it being noted that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reviewed and received a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on November 12, 2019, with respect to these matters.

3.6 White Oak Dingman Secondary Plan - Response to EEPAC's Comments

That it BE NOTED that the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reviewed and received the Civic Administration's comments relating to the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee's comments on the White Oak Dingman Secondary Plan.

**4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups**

4.1 Byron Gravel Pit Subject Land Status Report

That, the following actions be taken with respect to the Byron Gravel Pit Subject Land Status Report:

a) the Working Group comments relating to the Byron Gravel Pit Subject Land Status Report BE FORWARDED to the Civic Administration for consideration; and,

b) the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to consider opportunities for retention of part or all unique landscapes, in particular, bank swallow habitat during the development of the Secondary Plan.

4.2 Environmental Management Guidelines

That the Working Group comments with respect to the Environmental Management Guidelines BE FORWARDED to the Civic Administration for consideration.

**5. Items for Discussion**

5.1 (ADDED) Bird Friendly Development Working Group

That B. Samuels and L. Grieves BE APPOINTED to the Bird Friendly Guidelines Working Group as the representative and alternate, respectively.

5.2 (ADDED) Subject Lands Status Report for Kilally South, East Basin Stormwater Servicing

That a Working Group BE ESTABLISHED consisting of I. Whiteside (lead), C. Dyck, P. Ferguson and B. Krichker, with respect to the Subject Lands Status Report for the Kilally South, East Basin Stormwater Servicing and to report back at the January 16, 2020 Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee meeting.

5.3 (ADDED) Wetland Conservation Strategy

That it BE NOTED that "A Wetland Conservation Strategy for London: A Discussion Paper on Best Practices" has been forwarded to the Civic Administration for their consideration.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM.

# Environmentally Significant Areas on Map 5 London Plan – Public and Private Ownership



21 November 2019  
EEPAC



## What is an Environmentally Significant Area?

1347\_ Environmentally significant areas (ESAs) are **large areas** that contain natural features and perform ecological functions that warrant their retention in a natural state. Environmentally significant areas are large features of the Natural Heritage System, often represented by a complex of wetlands, woodlands, significant wildlife habitat or valleylands.



## What is an Environmentally Significant Area?

1. The area contains **unusual landforms and/or rare to uncommon natural communities** within the country, province or London Subwatershed region.
2. The area contains **high-quality natural landform-vegetation communities** that are representative of **typical pre-settlement conditions** of the dominant physiographic units within the London sub-watershed region, and/or that have been classified as distinctive in the Province of Ontario.
3. The area, due to its **large size, generally more than 40 hectares, provides habitat** for species intolerant of disturbance or for species that require extensive blocks of suitable habitat.
4. The area, due to its **hydrologic characteristics**, contributes significantly to the healthy maintenance (quality or quantity) of a natural system beyond its boundaries.
5. The area has a **high biodiversity** of biological communities and/or associated plant and animal species within the context of the London sub-watershed region.
6. The area serves an **important wildlife habitat or linkage** function.
7. The area provides **significant habitat for rare, threatened or endangered indigenous species** of plants or animals that are rare within the country, province or county.



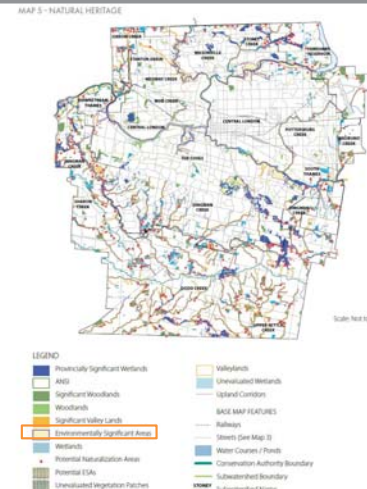
## ESAs on London Plan Map 5 Natural Heritage



# THE LONDON PLAN

EXCITING. EXCEPTIONAL. CONNECTED.

- Council Adopted and Minister Approved in 2016
- Subject to LPAT Appeal PL170100 - May 23, 2019
- Consolidated May 23, 2019
- **1,870 hectares of ESA lands on Map 5 Natural Heritage**



## City of London Publicly Owned ESAs

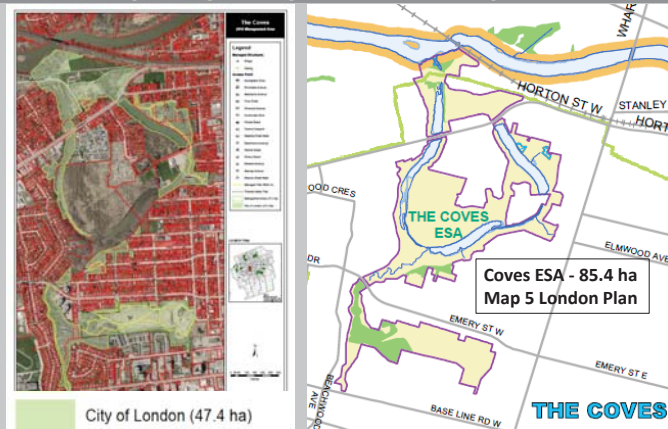
### Publicly Owned ESAs in London:

- Westminster Ponds
- Sifton Bog
- Warbler Woods
- Kains Woods
- Kilally Meadows
- Meadowlily Woods
- Medway VHF
- Coves
- Lower Dingman
- Pottersburg Valley
- Kelly Stanton



- ESA Team manages 11 publicly owned ESAs (735.5 ha) under City funded contract
- About 50% of the ESA lands on Map 5 of the London plan are publicly owned, including Komoka Provincial Park.

## Example of public/private ownership of an ESA



Coves ESA ecological boundary includes 85.4 hectares of public and private land on Map 5 London Plan. 47.4 hectares are publicly owned and 38 hectares are private.



## ESAs in London Plan

**1367\_ Environmentally significant areas (ESAs) are large areas that contain natural features and perform ecological functions that warrant their retention in a natural state...** While environmentally significant areas are protected by their inclusion in the Green Space Place Type, additional measures to provide for their protection, management and utilization are considered necessary, and may include the preparation of conservation master plans...

**1409\_ Some lands within environmentally significant areas are privately-owned,** and this categorization of the lands is not to be interpreted as permitting access or use by the general public. Permission for public access to privately-owned lands in environmentally significant areas shall be at the discretion of the property owner.



## Stewardship of Privately Owned ESAs

### STEWARDSHIP 1408\_

Where natural heritage areas are privately-owned, the City will encourage individual property owners to provide for their protection and conservation. In this regard, the City may use all of the following techniques:



## Stewardship of Privately Owned ESAs

1. Stewardship agreements.
2. Conservation easements.
3. Programs to inform property owners of stewardship options available to protect or rehabilitate natural features and ecological functions.
4. Encourage the establishment of land trusts and the utilization of existing land trusts, as well as other mechanisms to purchase land and to rehabilitate, create or conserve natural heritage areas.
5. Encourage property owners to make use of programs and services provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the conservation authorities for the management of forests and woodlots.
6. Modification of property tax assessment and/or facilitation of the Provincial Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program or the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program .
7. Where privately-owned lands abut public lands, the City will provide signage or property demarcation to indicate the limits of publicly-owned lands.
8. Any other suitable techniques.



## ESAs in London Questions?

