

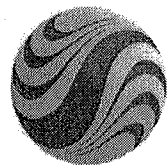
**MEDWAY VALLEY HERITAGE FOREST  
ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREA (ESA)**

North of Fanshawe Park Road

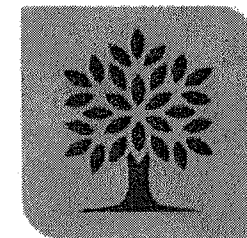
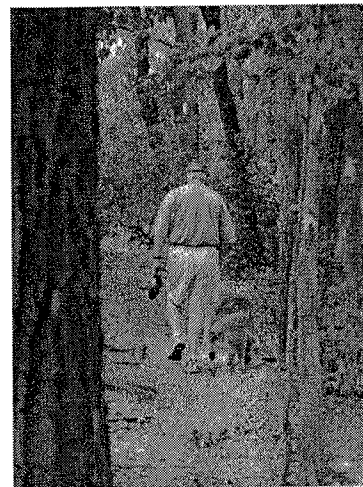
**Trail Planning**

**January 31, 2013**

**AACAC**



**Stantec**



**London**  
CANADA

# AGENDA

- **Project Status & Background**
- **New Rules about Accessibility**
- **New Rules about Trail Planning in ESAs**
- **Previous Input from AAC**
- **Trail Option Evaluation Process**
- **Preferred Trail Options**
- **Discussion**

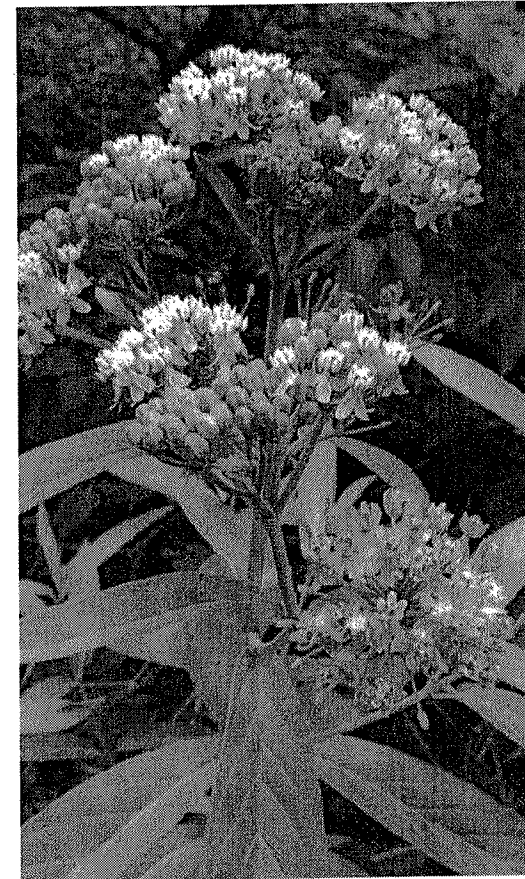


- **Wrap Up and Next Steps – Public Participation Meeting at PEC on April 9**



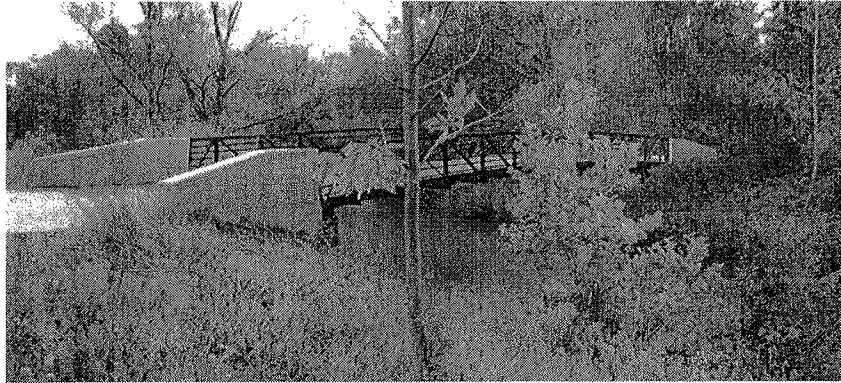
# BACKGROUND FOR PROJECT

- Sewer to support development in Sunningdale Area approved in Medway Valley in 2004
- As a result of community input, approval tied to providing social benefit with 'recreational pathway'
- Community participated in developing the 2005 Medway Valley North Master Plan – Continuous pathway/sewer access road & 5 bridges (community included ACCAC)
- Phase 1 sewer was installed with a fully accessible pathway access road & 2 bridges
- Phase 2 sewer design was changed, eliminating need for 3 bridges & paved pathway access road



# BACKGROUND FOR PROJECT

- Process to revisit Pathway Plan extended to allow time to address the 'asphalt moratorium' in all ESAs, City-wide.
- Trails Focus Group engaged to create *Planning & Design Standards for Trails in ESAs* - Completed in June 2012 with input from ACCAC (March 2011).
- 3 Public Meeting held to engage community
- Accessibility Advisory Committee and EEPAC to receive draft Master Planning Study for review and comments.
- Planning Advisory Group engaged to assist with developing trail options for Medway Valley ESA North and selecting preferred option.

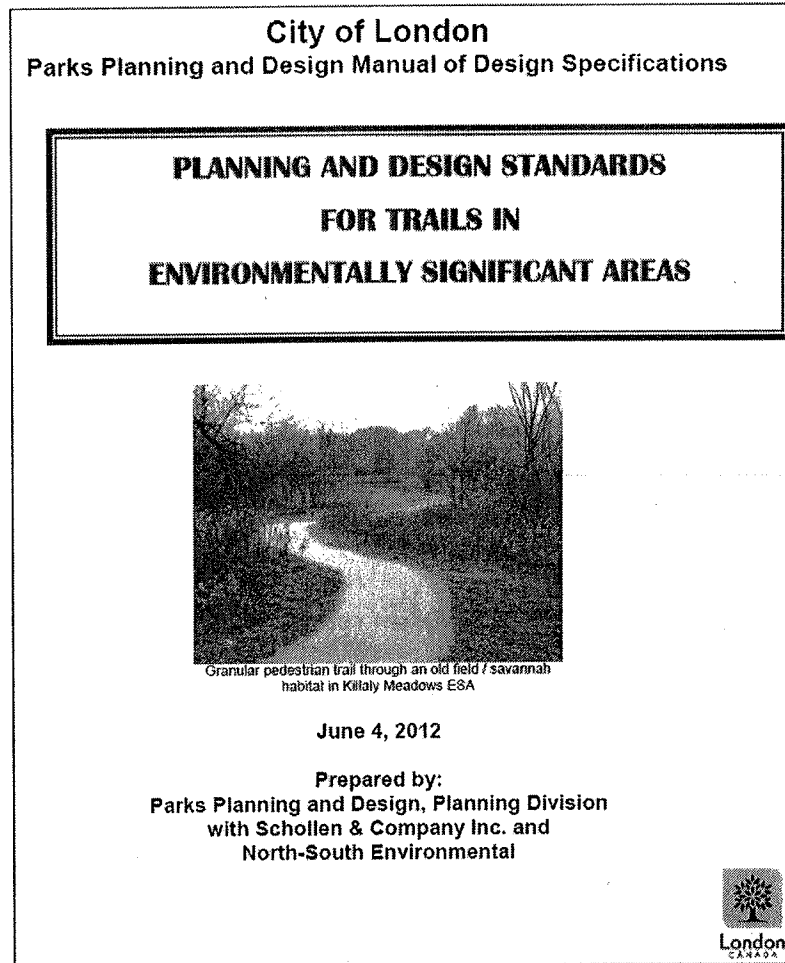


## **New Rules for the AODA**

***“Now, accessibility means inclusiveness, where all visible and invisible disabilities are automatically accounted for. This shifting awareness towards accessibility is due to the large segment of our population which is aging and to the fact that 1 out of 7 Ontarians currently have some form of disability.”***

“The elderly and the disabled have the least amount of access to natural areas in Ontario” (Dr. Faisal Moola, David Suzuki Foundation)

# CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT



- The broader Trails Standards for ESAs is complete and was used to assist this process
- May not be fully applicable as a result of the Sewer EA and Council direction to implement a pathway system in conjunction with the sewer construction



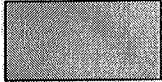
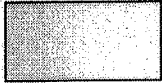



## **APPLYING the P & D STANDARDS FOR TRAILS in ESAs to MEDWAY VALLEY NORTH ESA**

- 1. ECOLOGICAL INVENTORY FOR ESA – Completed through Sewer EA**
- 2. DEVELOP MANAGEMENT ZONES BASED ON INVENTORY AND ESA CRITERIA MET BY THE MEDWAY VALLEY HERITAGE FOREST ESA**
- 3. EVALUATE TRAIL OPTIONS– with consideration for:**
  - Sewer EA construction and need for long-term maintenance access
  - Council direction for providing a recreational pathway system in the valley to satisfy EA recommendation
  - Ecological sensitivities of valley (based on ESA criteria)
  - Community input (Public Preference Surveys)
  - Input from EEPAC and AAC
- 4. DEVELOP OTHER MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESA**
- 5. IMPLEMENTATION**



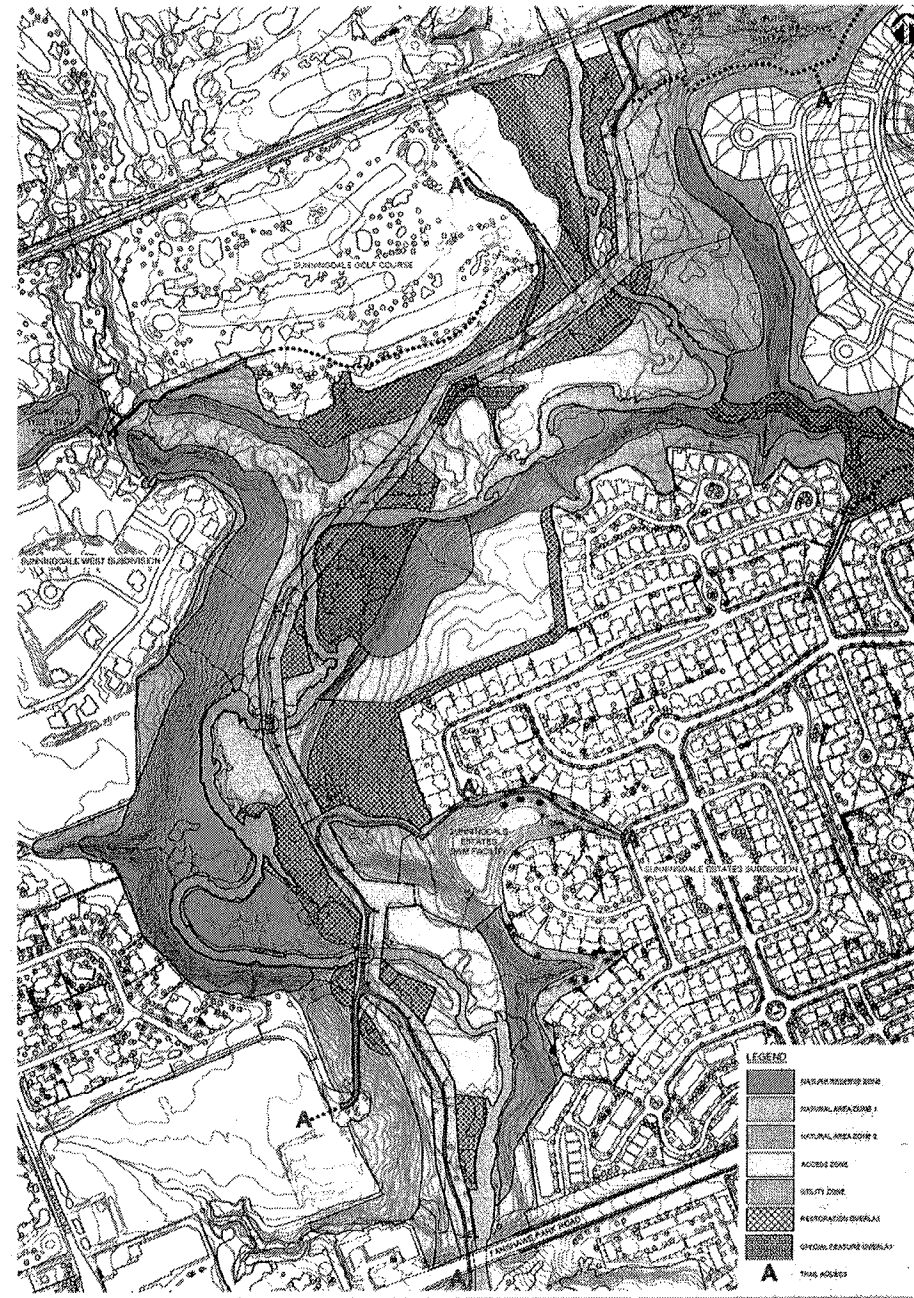
# Management Zones for the Medway Valley North ESA








## LEGEND

	NATURE RESERVE ZONE
	NATURAL AREA ZONE 1
	NATURAL AREA ZONE 2
	ACCESS ZONE
	UTILITY ZONE
	RESTORATION OVERLAY
	SPECIAL FEATURE OVERLAY

**A**

TRAIL ACCESS



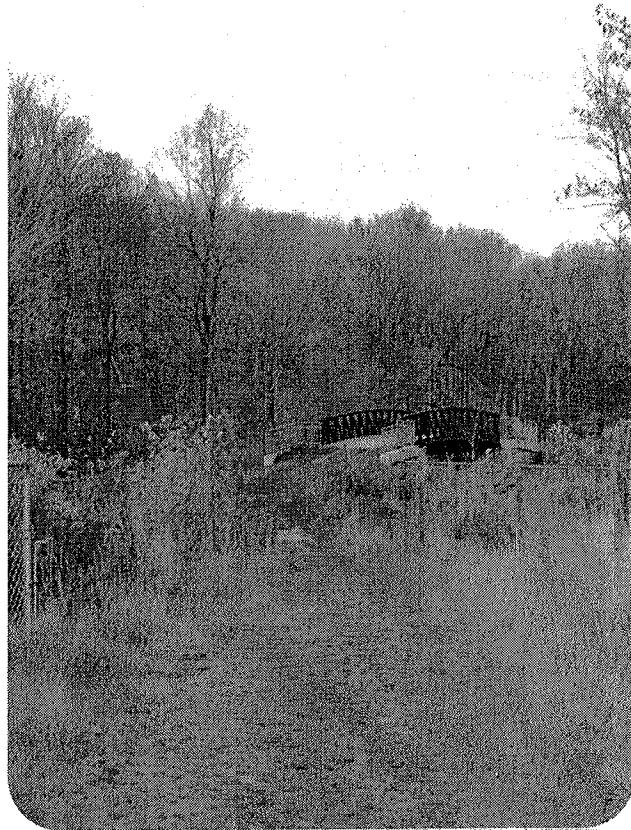
	NATURE RESERVE ZONE
	NATURAL AREA ZONE 1
	NATURAL AREA ZONE 2
	ACCESS ZONE
	UTILITY ZONE
	RESTORATION OVERLAY
	SPECIAL FEATURE OVERLAY
<b>A</b>	TRAIL ACCESS

Medway Valley Trail North of Fanshawe Park Road  
Management Zones For Trail Planning

Scale: 1:2000



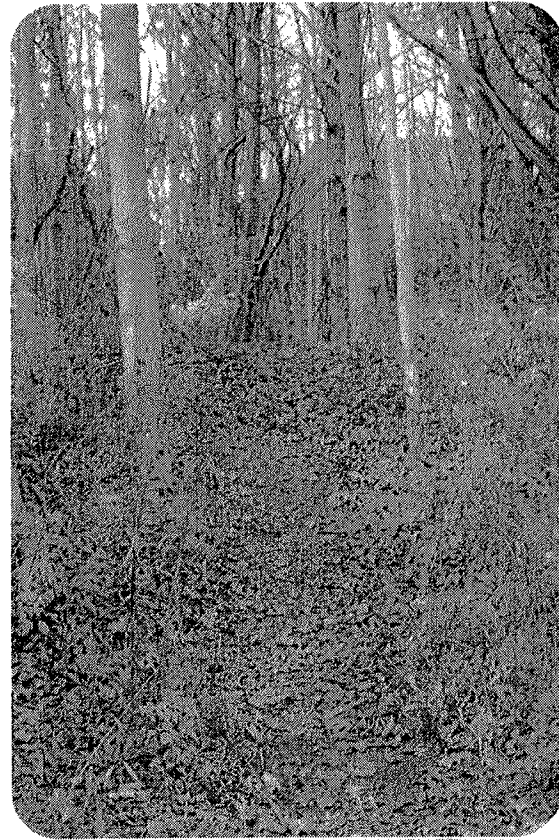
## **Current Conditions Post Sanitary Sewer Construction north of Phase I**



**Sections of 4.0 m wide granular base with 2" topsoil and grass.  
This is already showing signs of erosion and gullying – granular  
trails in floodplains are not sustainable.**

# Permitted Trail Types for an ESA

**LEVEL 1 Natural Surface TRAIL**



**LEVEL 2 Pedestrian TRAIL**

**< 2.5 m width / boardwalk**



# TRAIL OPTIONS EVALUATION PROCESS

## ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

ESA CRITERION	FEATURE	POTENTIAL IMPACT (negative)
3a	Area of Contiguous Forest Habitat	Long-term direct and indirect disruption to Area- Sensitive breeding birds
4a, 4b	Areas of Seepage and Aquatic Habitat at the bend in the river	boardwalk alternative will create minor short-term impact for all trail types
6a	Wildlife movement trails and corridors	Long-term direct and indirect disturbance
3b	Total area of Interior Habitat	Direct and indirect long-term through loss of area
4b	Floodplain Vegetation	Short-term direct site alteration
7	Habitat for SAR	Short-term indirect to mussels

# TRAIL OPTIONS EVALUATION PROCESS

## SOCIAL CRITERIA

C	VALUE	POTENTIAL IMPACT (positive scale of 0,1,2,3,5,8,13)
1	Creates least user conflicts	the widest range of user types will create the potential for greater user conflict
2	Provides accessible passive recreation with convenient connections between neighbourhoods	continuous, <b>accessible</b> trails will create the best opportunities for connecting communities and neighbourhoods
3	Provides best opportunity to increase health and fitness benefits	highest scores are achieved by the most connected trails and the <b>greatest types of users permitted</b>
4	Number of opportunities to highlight points of educational interest or vistas	Scores are based on whether trails of any type intersect with any one of five special features.
5	Provides quietude and 'wilderness' experience	Trails with the lowest potential user types will create the opportunity for most undisturbed experiences.
6	Meets public preference	results from the public preference survey

# TRAILS OPTIONS EVALUATION MATRIX

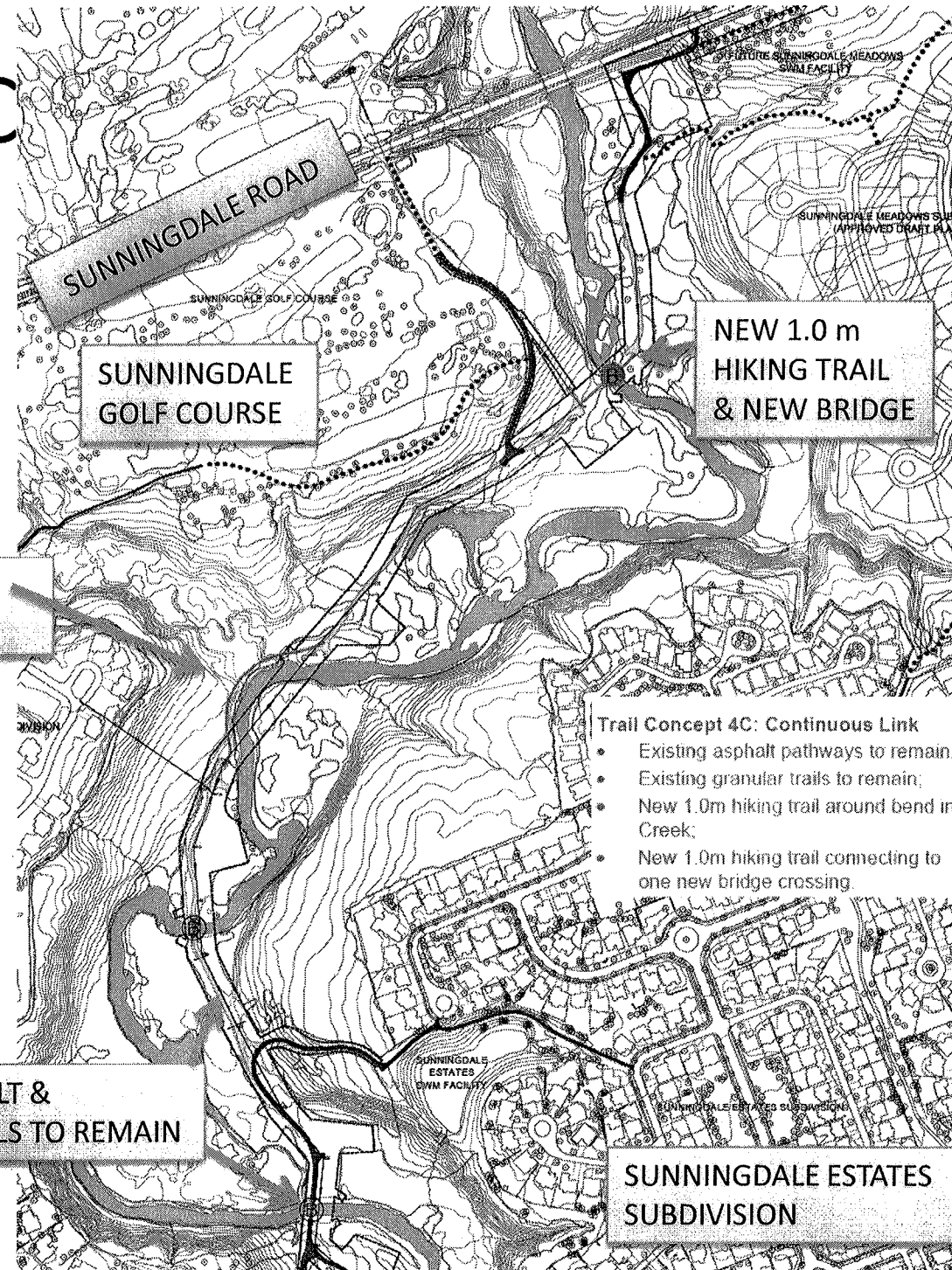
CRITERIA	TRAIL OPTIONS														
	1	2	3	4A	4B	4C	5A	5B	6A	6B	7A	7B	8		
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL (Potential to impact or create impact on)</b>															
Area of Contiguous Forest Habitat C3a	-5	-13	0	-13	-13	-8	0	-8	-13	-8	-13	-8	-5		
Areas of seepage and aquatic habitat at the bend in the river C4a, C4b	-8	0	0	-3	-3	-3	0	-3	0	0	0	0	-3		
Wildlife Movement Trails and Corridors C6a	-5	-8	0	-8	-8	-8	-3	-8	-8	-5	-8	-5	-5		
Total Area of Interior Habitat C3b (> 100m from Edge)	0	-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Floodplain Vegetation through site alteration C4b	0	-8	0	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	0	0		
Habitat for Species-at-Risk Mussels C7	0	-3	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0		
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SUBTOTAL</b>	-18	-45	0	-28	-25	-20	-7	-20	-25	-17	-21	-13	-18		
<b>SOCIAL / CULTURAL</b>															
Creates Least User Conflicts	0	1	0	1	2	8	3	3	1	8	1	5	8		
Provides Accessible Passive Recreation with convenient connections between Neighbourhoods	0	13	0	13	5	3	2	5	2	1	2	1	1		
Provides Best Opportunity to Increase Health and Fitness Benefits	0	8	0	8	5	3	1	3	5	1	5	1	1		
Number of Opportunities to Highlight Points of Educational Interest or Vistas	0	8	0	5	5	5	1	5	3	2	2	2	3		
Provides Quietude and 'Wilderness' Experience	0	1	0	1	3	5	1	3	1	8	1	8	8		
Meets Public Preference	Ranked per Survey Results	1	3	2	13	5	13	3	13	3	5	2	3		
<b>SOCIAL/CULTURAL SUBTOTAL</b>	1	34	2	41	25	37	11	32	15	25	13	19	28		
<b>COMBINED TOTAL</b>	-17	-11	2	13	0	17	4	12	-10	8	-8	6	10		
<b>RANK</b>	OMIT	OMIT	8	2	OMIT	1	7	3	OMIT	5	OMIT	6	4		
<b>ECONOMIC</b>															
Cost to Construct	Low	High+++	Low	High+	High+	Medium+	Medium+	Medium+	Medium	Low	Medium	Low	High+++		
Cost to Maintain	High	High	Medium	Medium	High	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Low		
Time to Practically Implement	None	High	None	High	High	High	Medium	High	Low	Medium	Low	Low	High+++		

**Notes:**

1. Probable construction costs are not to be used for budgeting purposes, but have been prepared to provide an order of magnitude related to the possible value of construction.
2. Cost to Construct does not include temporary Creek crossings or site restoration.
3. Cost to Construct assumes a bridge design similar to Stage 2A, that is not constructed to accommodate vehicular traffic.

# TRAIL OPTION 4C

CONTINUOUS LINK – HIKING ONLY & 1 NEW BRIDGE















NEW BOARDWALK AROUND BEND IN CREEK

NEW 1.0 m HIKING TRAIL & NEW BRIDGE

EXISTING ASPHALT & GRANULAR TRAILS TO REMAIN

SUNNINGDALE ESTATES SUBDIVISION

## LEGEND

-  LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE FOR MTSS PH1 AND 2
-  EXISTING ASPHALT PATHWAY
-  FUTURE ASPHALT PATHWAY (DRAFT PLAN APPROVED)
-  EXISTING MAINTENANCE ACCESS (GRANULAR BASE COVERED WITH TOPSOIL AND SEED)
-  EXISTING BRIDGE
-  EXISTING TRUNK SANITARY SEWER ALIGNMENT
-  EXISTING MANHOLE
-  BRIDGE REQUIRED
-  STRUCTURE REQUIRED
-  PROPOSED 3.0m ASPHALT MULTI-USE PATHWAY
-  PROPOSED 2.0m CHIPS AND DUST PATHWAY
-  PROPOSED 1.0m HIKING TRAIL

### Trail Concept 4C: Continuous Link

- Existing asphalt pathways to remain;
- Existing granular trails to remain;
- New 1.0m hiking trail around bend in Creek;
- New 1.0m hiking trail connecting to one new bridge crossing.

# TRAIL OPTION 5B

CONTINUOUS LINK – PATH LINK TO  
SUNNINGDALE ROAD &  
HIKING ONLY AROUND BEND &  
1 NEW BRIDGE



NEW BOARDWALK AROUND  
BEND IN CREEK













NEW 3.0 m  
ASPHALT PATH  
& NEW BRIDGE

EXISTING ASPHALT AND  
GRANULAR TRAILS TO REMAIN

- Trail Concept 5B: North and South Community Connections**
- South Community Connection: Existing asphalt pathways to remain
  - North Community Connection: New 3.0m multi-use pathway and bridge crossing
  - New 1.0m hiking trail around bend in Creek

SUNNINGDALE ESTATES  
SUBDIVISION

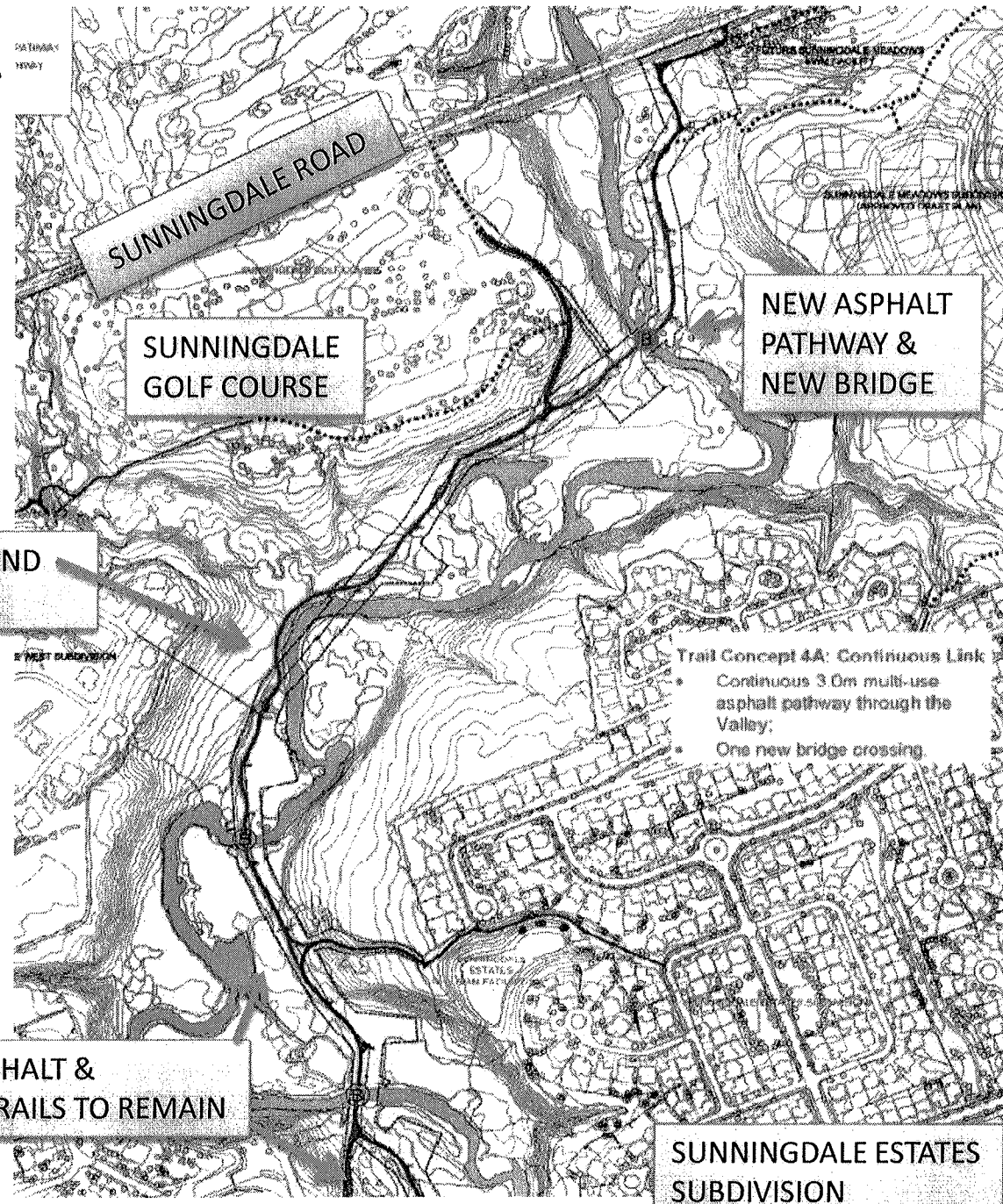
## LEGEND

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-  EXISTING ASPHALT PATHWAY
-  FUTURE ASPHALT PATHWAY (DRAFT PLAN APPROVED)
-  EXISTING MAINTENANCE ACCESS (GRANULAR BASE COVERED WITH TOPSOIL AND SEED)
-  EXISTING BRIDGE
-  EXISTING TRUNK SANITARY SEWER ALIGNMENT
-  EXISTING MANHOLE
-  BRIDGE REQUIRED
-  STRUCTURE REQUIRED
-  PROPOSED 3.0m ASPHALT MULTI-USE PATHWAY
-  PROPOSED 2.0m CHIPS AND DUST PATHWAY
-  PROPOSED 1.0m HIKING TRAIL



# TRAIL OPTION 4A

CONTINUOUS LINK –  
ASPHALT, BOARDWALK  
& 1 NEW BRIDGE



NEW BOARDWALK AROUND  
BEND IN CREEK

NEW ASPHALT  
PATHWAY &  
NEW BRIDGE













EXISTING ASPHALT &  
GRANULAR TRAILS TO REMAIN

SUNNINGDALE ESTATES  
SUBDIVISION

Trail Concept 4A: Continuous Link

- Continuous 3.0m multi-use asphalt pathway through the Valley;
- One new bridge crossing.

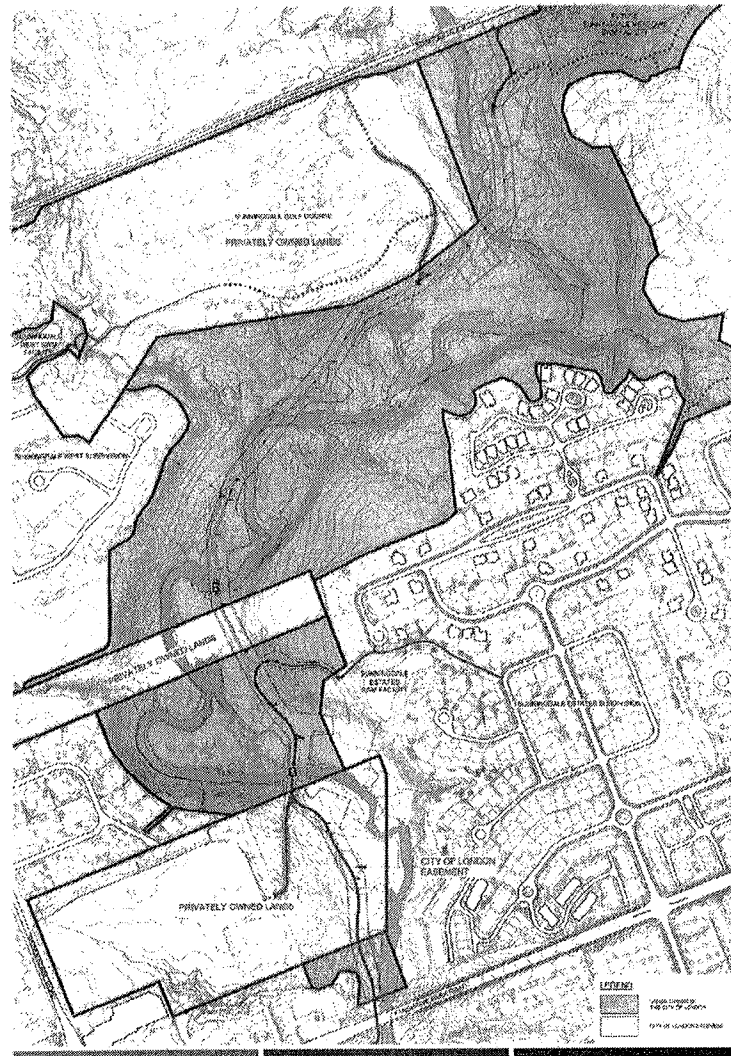
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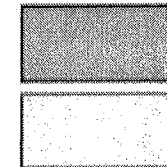
# OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- **BALANCING FINAL INPUT** – PAG meeting on February 11, 2013. Member of ACCAC to participate?
- **LAND OWNERSHIP** – Phasing?
- **CONSTRUCTION TIMING** – Environmental constraints
- **COST** - Council has supported the project with a capital budget of \$440,000 for implementation starting 2013. An additional \$300,000 is in the 2013 budget submission

# MEDWAY VALLEY NORTH – SITE and CURRENT LAND OWNERSHIP



## LEGEND



LANDS OWNED BY  
THE CITY OF LONDON

CITY OF LONDON EASEMENT

Medway Valley Trail North of Fanshawe Park Road  
Medway Valley Land Ownership

Scale 1:2000



# NEXT STEPS

- **January 17, 2013** – present to EEPAC for review
- **January 29, 2013** – City to post the draft Trail Master Plan on the website
- **January 31, 2013** – present to ACCAC for review
- **February 11, 2013** – Planning Advisory Group (PAG) to review and select preferred option
- **February 21, 2013** – deadline to receive comments from EEPAC, AAC, public and PAG for incorporation into final report
- **April 9, 2013** – Final Trail Master Plan to a public participation meeting at the Planning and Environment Committee