

OLD MASONVILLE RATEPAYERS ACCOCIATION

April 12, 2013

Delivered by Email: To be included in April 16, 2013 Council agenda package re: North Medway Valley Trail

Re Item 15 8th Report of Planning and Environment Committee

Dear Members of Council

I am writing on behalf of the Old Masonville Ratepayers Association (OMRA) a community association in the Richmond/Fanshawe area. Our west and south borders are formed by the Medway Valley. We are writing to provide input into the North Medway Valley Trail discussion. While the trail lies in the area north of our neighbourhood, the recommendations the Planning and Environment Committee make on this issue are of great interest to our association and neighbourhood.

Like many area residents we have been anxiously awaiting the completion of the North Medway Valley trail. Our association has had representation on the various planning committees most recently on the Planning Advisory Group (PAG).

We support the recommendation of the Planning & Environment Committee's from their 8th report, item 15: that Option 5B "Enhanced Accessibility" including its subsections be approved and urge Council to support the same recommendation.

Doing so will ensure that the trail connects the adjacent subdivisions but also provide for the maximum physical, social and emotional benefits. An asphalt trail will provide a well delineated, safe and stable surface that can be accessed year round by all residents – whether they are young children, seniors, or those with mobility issues.

We appreciate the environmental significance of the area and feel strongly that through well thought out pathway placement and construction, the social and environmental interests can be balanced. By employing public education information in the area, we have no doubt that the current and future residents of the area will be good stewards of this unique natural resource.

Sincerely,

Bill Davis

President OMRA