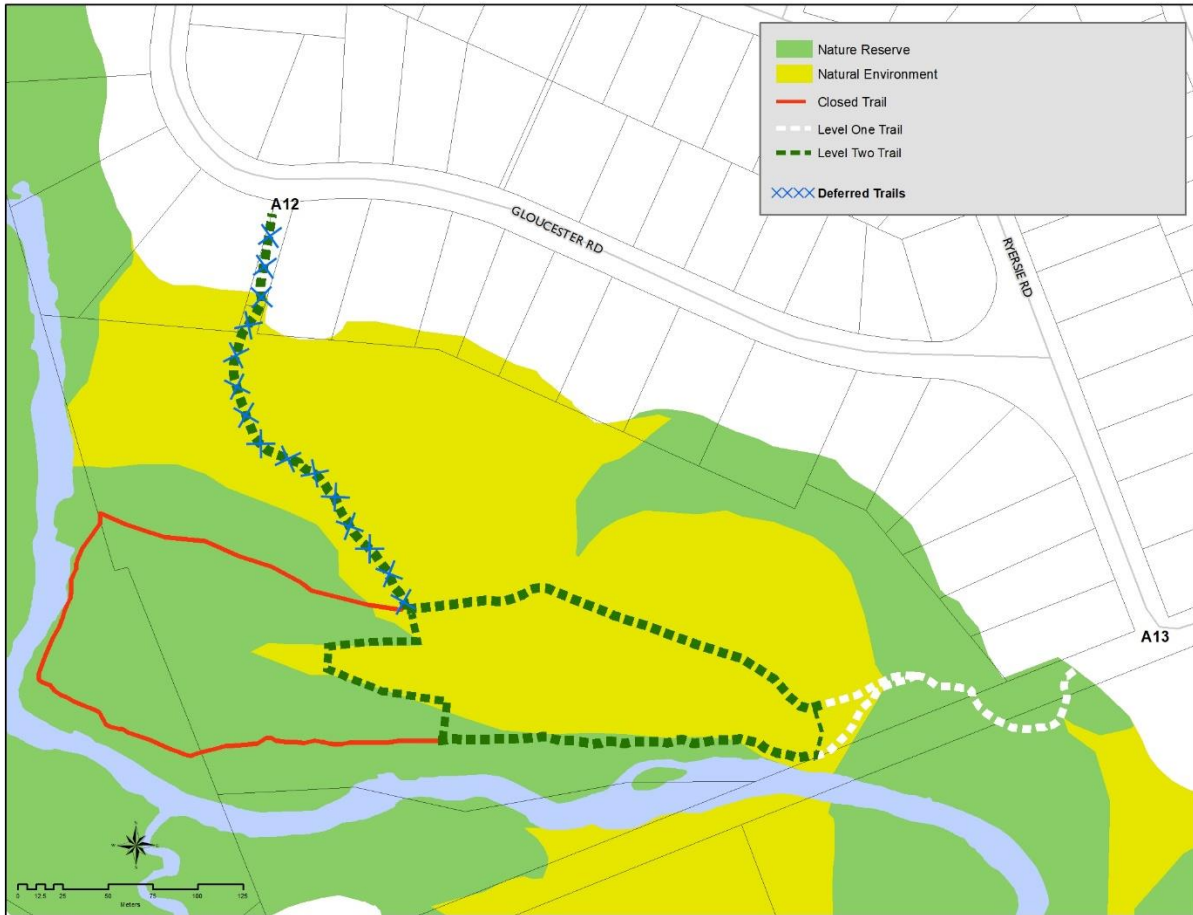


Appendix B – Deferred Trail Segment Figure





P.O. Box 5035
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON
N6A 4L9

April 25, 2018

J. Fleming
Managing Director, Planning and City Planner

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on April 24, 2018 resolved:

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Conservation Master Plan for the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (South):

- a) the Conservation Master Plan (CMP) for the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (South) (ESA), appended to the staff report dated April 16, 2018, **BE REFERRED** back to the Civic Administration to report back at a future meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee, after undertaking the following actions:
- i) deleting proposed bridge A from the CMP;
 - ii) deleting the proposed bridge D from the CMP;
 - iii) undertaking further public consultation with respect to those portions of the CMP that effect changes to the eastern boundary of the ESA, including the use of public streets;
 - iv) undertaking further consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC), the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC), the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and neighbouring First Nations Governments and Organizations with respect to improved trail access and conditions;
 - v) actions be taken to discourage crossings of the creek at sites A, B, C, D and E, as identified in the CMP;
 - vi) hardscaped surfaces on the level 2 trails be limited to the greatest extent possible;
- b) staff **BE DIRECTED** to work with our community partners in the implementation of the CMP with regard to external funding opportunities;
- c) the members of ACCAC, EEPAC and the Local Advisory Committee and the community **BE THANKED** for their work in the review and comments on the document;
- d) the Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to report back on the following matters with respect to the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (south) Conservation Master Plan:

- i) ways to improve the public consultation process for any Environmentally Significant Areas and Conservation Master Plans; and,
- ii) amending the Trails Systems Guidelines to incorporate consultation with neighbouring First Nations, Governments and Organizations at the beginning of the process;

it being noted that the Planning and Environment Committee reviewed and received the following communications with respect to this matter:

- a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on January 16, 2018;
- the Environmental and Ecological Advisory Committee's revised statement and recommendations;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from S. Dagnone, 675 Eagletrace Drive;
- a communication from S. and S. Pacifico, 1607 Gloucester Road;
- a communication from S. Levin, 59 Longbow Road;
- a communication dated April 9, 2018 from A. Cojocar, 2345 Humberside Common;
- a communication from L. Kari, 56 Doncaster Place;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from L. Robinson, 2120 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from C. Robinson, 2120 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from D. Wake, 597 Kildare Road;
- a communication dated April 6, 2018 from D. Lucas, Vice Principal, Finance and Administration, Huron University College;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from M. Trotter, 2408 Meadowlands Way;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from K. and L. Zerebecki, 205-240 Village Walk Boulevard;
- a communication from R. Croft, by e-mail;
- a communication from R. Agathos, by e-mail;
- a communication from P. Agathos, 2112 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication from C. Parvulescu, 397 Castlegrove Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from C. Sheculksi, Vice-President, Sunningdale West Residents Association;
- a communication from B. Morgan, 50 Doncaster Place;
- a communication from L. Symmes, 797 Haighton Road;

- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from R. and A. Menon, 2131 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from T. Thrasher, 2048 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from J. Peters, 2048 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 5, 2018 from E. Westeinde, 3645 Boswick Road North;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from D.R. Donnelly, Donnelly Law;
- a communication dated April 3, 2018 from G. Miller, Miller Environmental Services Inc.;
- a communication from W. and F. Fretz, 1984 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication from B. Adair, 675 Eagletrace Drive;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from L. Carriere, 73-825 Dundalk Drive;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from J. Robinson, 2156 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication from S. Russell, by e-mail;
- a communication from Dr. A. Guy Plint, Professor of Geology, Western University;
- a communication dated March, 2018 from C. Dyck, by e-mail;
- a communication from M. Does, 161 Bruce Street;
- a communication dated April 5, 2018 from Susan Hall, by e-mail;
- a communication from G. Neish, 1706 Ironwood Road;
- a communication dated April 4, 2018 from R. Duench, 121, Wychwood Park;
- a communication from W. Van Hemessen, Terrestrial Ecologist, Parsons Inc.;
- a communication dated April 5, 2018 from A. Caveney, 46 Kingspark Crescent;
- a communication from J. Bruce Morton, 11 Doncaster Avenue;
- a communication dated March 4, 2018 from G. Wood, by e-mail;
- a communication dated February 5, 2018 from C. Blake, 18 Braemar Crescent;
- a communication dated March 28, 2018 from J. Davies, 60 Longbow Road;
- a communication dated April 4, 2018 from G. McGinn-McTeer, Stoneybrook Heights-Uplands Residents Association;
- a communication dated March 29, 2018 from P. Pendl and A. Vanstone, 74 Green Acres Drive;
- a communication dated February 12, 2018 from J. Nesbitt, by e-mail;

- a communication from C. Boles, 455 Piccadilly Street;
- a communication dated January 30, 2018 from D. Bickford, 64 Doncaster Place;
- a communication dated January 24, 2018 from S. Levin, President, Orchard Park Sherwood Forest Ratepayers;
- a communication from J. Farquar, 383 St. George Street;
- a communication dated March 29, 2018 from G. and S. Sinker, 1597 Gloucester Road;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from P. Hayman, 77 Doncaster Avenue;
- a communication dated February 7, 2018 from D. Potten, 110 West Rivertrace Walk;
- a communication dated April 9, 2018 from D. Schmidt, Development Manager, Corlon Properties;
- a communication from I. Connidis, 38 Doncaster Avenue;
- a communication dated April 9, 2018 from S. Handler, 54 Doncaster Place; and,
- a communication dated April 4, 2018 from Professor J. Blocker, et. al;

it being pointed out that at the public participation meeting associated with these matters, the individuals indicated on the attached public participation meeting record made oral submissions regarding these matters. (AS AMENDED) (3.2/7/PEC)



C. Saunders
City Clerk
/lm

- cc. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning
L. McDougall, Ecologist Planner
D. Burns, Executive Assistant
Chair and Members, Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee
Chair and Members, Accessibility Advisory Committee
PEC Deferred
External cc list in the City Clerk's Office

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

3.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (South) – Conservation Master Plan

- Jennifer Petruniak, Dillon Consulting – see attached presentation.
- *(Councillor T. Park indicating that there is a lot of talk about AODA and she did not hear anything about the general exceptions that are available under the AODA; under Section 80.1.5(5), it says that the exceptions to the requirements that apply to recreational trails and beach access routes are permitted where obligated organizations can demonstrate one or more of the following and in subsection 5, it says if there is a significant risk that the requirements, or some of them, would adversely affect water, fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, species at risk, ecological integrity or natural heritage value, whether the adverse effects are direct or indirect; the report itself, from her perspective, felt fairly silent on that; wondering if staff could address that; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that through the Conservation Master Plan process, Phase 1 really dealt with identifying what needed that most amount of protection, what was the most ecologically sensitive within the Valley and that is where they defined the Nature Reserve zones; everything else that already had some indication of cultural disturbance, and this is through the Provincially recognized ecological land classification that these delineations are made to identify vegetation communities; these are areas that are already disturbed; where AODA compliant features, trails are proposed, that is only within the natural environment zone where it has already been determined that these features in here are not ecologically sensitive and are not prone to disturbance.*
- *Councillor A. Hopkins asking for clarification on the presentation; asking how many bridges are currently on there; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that there are currently two proposed on the southern part of the Medway Valley Environmentally Significant Area; Councillor Hopkins asking to have the latest trails identified on the map; asking if trails have been installed recently; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that the majority of trails in the plan are existing trails; there are some trails that have been identified for upgrade and these might be wet and muddy and as people use them, they go around so that causes the trail to widen; advising that those are existing trails that they have recommended improvements, a boardwalk may be more suitable; the only new trail is where they are proposing a Level 2 trail to direct users further away from the false rue anemone that loops in the northern part and to keep that Level 2 trail fully in the natural environment zone as well as the trail in the Attawandaron Park to delineate the naturalization zones in there as well as there is one trail that is currently temporarily closed that is proposed to be reopened on the top of the slope in the area that is currently mown grass as part of naturalization to help delineate where the naturalization begins; Mr. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning, adding that on the slide shown at the meeting you can see the natural area that is mown grass and that is the only new trail that is being proposed, which is through the lawn area of parkland; the other ones that you can see on the map from A5, an existing trail, but the proposal is to upgrade that from a Level 1 to a Level 2, A11 down the hill towards proposed Bridge D is an existing trail and to upgrade that from a Level 1 to a Level 2; Councillor Hopkins confirming that it is just those two trails being upgraded; Mr. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning responding yes, just those two trails.*
- *Councillor M. Salih enquiring about the \$2,100,000, in a ten year span, with maintenance and everything, does the \$2,100,000 include that long-term cost or what is the life expectancy costs of trail maintenance; Mr. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning, responding that the City has an ongoing Capital Budget that is carried out each year and that funding is only \$200,000 divided amongst the seven Environmentally Significant Areas but for 2018 and 2019 there is money identified for the Medway Valley; they will have to come back through the next budget process seeking additional funding for that capital program to implement this Master Plan; the ongoing maintenance, fortunately, is covered through the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority's contract so they will look after trail maintenance, tree hazards, by-law enforcement,*

restoration of small boardwalks and structures through the Operating Budget as they do yearly; *Councillor M. Salih asking if they know, roughly, how much staff will be asking for when they come back asking for those additional funds*; Mr. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning, responding that they will put it through a Business Case for a four year budget but it would be in the nature of approximately \$1,900,000 to implement this Master Plan over time and that will be stretched out beyond the four year budget ask because it is a ten year Master Plan.

- *Mayor M. Brown enquiring about the multi-use pathway that is being recommended; confirming that that is just outside of the Environmentally Significant Area to the west*; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that it is right on the edge of the Environmentally Significant Area, currently it is mown grass; the idea is that they would be working with a local Trail Advisory Group to sight exactly where that trail is but to put that trail in and then to basically naturalize the area to continue to improve the ecological integrity in that area; *Mayor M. Brown asking about the reference to the independent ecologist and the credentials that person carries, asking why that was important to be part of this presentation and expand a bit on the credentials*; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, asking for confirmation that the Mayor is referring to Appendix "D" of the staff report; responding that the reason that they felt that it was important to include that in there is that Dillon Consulting has been working on this file since 2013 and the City of London has been working on it since it started and this is someone who came to them and asked them what they are doing in the Medway, they know there are historic populations of false rue anemone there and what are they seeing as they have the most current data; indicating that they worked with Holly and they worked with the Federal government and their mapping experts to really explain what past information the City of London had, what current information Dillon had collected and what, under the *Endangered Species Act*, Provincially, what they were doing to recover the species and what they had seen over the course of 2014, 2015 and 2016 and through that you will see references to the conversations that she had with them and to the documents the City provided, as well as Dillon Consulting, that helped inform the recovery strategy that was reviewed by Environment Canada scientists, has gone through their public consultation process as well; felt that her opinion would help the Planning and Environment Committee understand that what is being proposed here, they are already doing some great work to help recover the species and some of the things that are actually shown on this slide are completely aligned with the recovery strategy and what they are suggesting to help further recover and help protect the species and they have recognized that the population in Medway is healthy, it is thriving, they are seeing that the population, with any population of species it is going to fluctuate year over year and they are going to see those things, as the weather, it does crazy things and this is a floodplain plant that you can actually only see it for very few weeks of the year, it is something we call an ephemeral plant; working through all those things, it can be a very abstract concept to this so they thought it was important to somebody who is recognized who identifies species in decline, who works with the Ministry of Natural Resources, an independent body as part of COSSARO, to identify what kinds of things a species needs for recovery and what causes its decline and threats as well as working with the Federal government and she was the lead author on the recovery strategy; *Mayor M. Brown asking for an expansion on COSSARO*; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that under the Provincial *Endangered Species Act*, they recognize an independent committee, much like the Advisory Committees that we have formed in the City of London, that acts as a scientific arm and what COSSARO's job is, is it is made up of twelve members and twice a year they assess species; they are given a list of species and they decide, is this species threatened, is this species endangered, is it of special concern, does the government need to sit up and pay attention as to what is going on with the species and create a plan for its recovery so that they do not lose it; COSSARO is different than the Federal government, COSEWICK might be something else that you have heard; COSEWICK is an Advisory Committee to the Minister for Environment Canada and for Fisheries and Oceans and they provide their recommendations; COSSARO, on the other hand, is independent and what

they say goes, the government must adopt their recommendations when it comes to species protection.

- *Councillor H.L. Usher wondering how much of this work is going to be new asphalt paving; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, confirming that the Councillor is asking what percentage of the trails are going to be AODA compliant; there have not been any determinations yet as to what the actual covering of the trail is going to be, Level 1 is dirt, Level 2 is firm and stable AODA compliant but that can take many forms, it can be limestone screenings or wood chips in some cases; this is a Valley, it is prone to flooding so those kinds of surfaces may not be appropriate so a more granular asphalt surface could be implemented but it is the specific details that are site specific that will happen once they get past the consultation planning; Councillor Usher indicating that he is glad that Mrs. Petruniak switched his question because what he wanted to know was pavement but AODA compliant is good enough for him; enquiring that all the asphalt is within the Environmentally Significant Area; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that yes, any of the Level 2 AODA compliant trails are within the Environmentally Significant Area; Councillor Usher asking about the increased use of trails and any possible negative impacts on the species in the area; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that that is one of the concerns that they have heard from the community, saying that if you build accessible, easy to use trails, that more people are going to use them; that part, you cannot predict the future; they are proposing no new parking, there is no parking for this Environmentally Significant Area, it is mostly used by the people in the community; will use go up, we hope so, it is a great Valley, there is going to be a lot of educational opportunities for people to go and explore and really learn about what they are looking at, will that increase use affect ecological integrity, it is her professional opinion that it will not; well-designed trails are known to keep and direct and manage the use of natural areas by people and is probably the best way for people in an urban environment, such as the City of London, to manage the use of a natural area within the urban limits; Councillor Usher asking about the \$500,000 for the annual contract with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA), wondering if that will be increased or will it stay the same; Mr. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning responding that this is an annual contract that they currently have and it is due for renewal as of January 1, 2019 so it is already built into the Operating budget for the City and they will be back to Council later this year with a report about renewing the contract with the UTRCA and it is already in the approved budget as a pre-approved expenditure, it is a five year contract; Councillor Usher asking if it is likely to increase as a result of this; Mr. A. Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning, responding that the budget only goes up if they add additional land area but what you find, however, and take it or leave it, hardened trails are actually easier to look after than wood chip trails, sometimes dirt trails, once they go in they are stable and firm for a long time, sometimes you would even look at the bridge that they showed you there that has a longer life span than any boardwalk that they are building, it is actually less maintenance than a lot of the lower key boardwalk infrastructure; there is not any proposed increase as a result of this Master Plan.*
- *Councillor M. van Holst wondering what would happen if either one of the proposed bridges were not included, to the trail system, what would you expect would happen to the patterns of use; Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that if they were to leave the system as it is, the current 5.4 kilometers of informal trails going through public property and habitats and features such as seepage areas would probably continue and would possibly even increase as the population increases or more people start to use this, if they were specifically not to put bridges in here, you would limit the amount of accessible trails that are in the Valley there would be a small loop that is accessible, currently there is an existing trail; there is evidence of people traversing the Creek, as well as D, not so much the A, so you end up with people in the Creek because people want to get from one side to the other; Councillor van Holst indicating that right now he notices that there are three loops almost being tied in the middle but they do not touch; wondering if, in the informal trails, do they expect that people are going to want to move across those or are we expecting people to take the larger loop; it looks like you can work your way around the whole trail system if you go through the subdivisions as well;*

Mrs. J. Petruniak, Dillon Consulting, responding that they felt that it was important to show this kind of neighbourhood connection; currently there is an informal trail that is going through these private properties and with the private property going right to the Creek, it is not possible to create a connection within the Environmentally Significant Area here plus they have the bigger colony of false rue anemone as well as some seepage areas and some slopes that are not safe for people to travel on; it is going to take a lot of work, that is part of the Plan, is to do an even better job of working to close these trails, not just to close them through landscape features but also to close them through signage, telling people why it is important that they not continue past this point to access here.

- Jacqueline Madden, Chair and M. Dawthorne, Member, Accessibility Advisory Committee – expressing support for the staff recommendation; believing the bridges are probably the biggest point of contention; pointing out that the two bridges connect the valley with the north, the trails to the west, the University, and adds a great deal of connectivity of an accessible pathway; an AODA compliant trail does not mean asphalt, it does not mean that plants and trees are being leveled or paved; the Accessibility Advisory Committee has never asked for this; believing this Plan works for everyone; accessibility and the environment are not in competition.
- Dr. Katrina Moser, on behalf of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee – see attached presentation.
- Tom Tillman, 1663 Gloucester Road, representing Gloucester Road, Green Acres and Ryersie Road – advising that this is a neighbourhood of approximately 89 properties; expressing opposition to the proposed staff recommendation; indicating that this was only brought to their attention three weeks ago as they are outside of the 200 metre circulation; stating that they have had no meaningful consultation; and requesting the removal of Access 11 and 12 from their neighbourhoods.
- Christian Therrien, Member, Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee – expressing opposition to the proposed staff recommendation; speaking to the aquatic environment at Medway Creek and species at risk; advising that the bridges A and D have been flagged for species at risk; indicating that he has observed species at risk at both locations; expressing concern that the footings would be in the flood plain and would flood in the Spring and possibly the Fall and would cause siltation which is a danger to species at risk; advising that the Conservation Master Plan does not have any aquatic habitat information.
- Roslyn Moorhead, 7 Hastings Gate – discussing the need to protect species at risk as well as other species that have the Medway Valley as their home; London is fortunate to have a niche for species that are rare.
- George Sinker, 1597 Gloucester Road – advising that trail A11 abuts their property to the west; indicating that the trail that is there now is a Level 1 trail; indicating that between 2017 and 2018 the Plan was completely changed; believing that trail A11 should remain a Level 1 trail; believing that the environment should be the first priority; this should not be ecology versus accessibility; stating that we only have on Carolinian forest in London; requesting deferral of decision until Councillors have a chance to walk the A11 trail.
- Kinan Tien, 1125 Western Road, Perth Hall, on behalf of Western's Wildlife Conservation Society – wondering how many of the over seven hundred comments that staff received were in support and how many were against this proposal; stating that the largest threat to false rue anemone is habitat destruction due to recreational activities; expressing concern if the pathways are to be asphalt; reading from the City of London Official Plan, indicating that it states that it should be retained in its natural state; indicating that this is one of the last remaining locations for false rue anemone.
- Professor Lila Kari – reading her letter included in the Planning and Environment Committee Agenda.
- Sal Pacifico, 1607 Gloucester Road – expressing opposition to the staff recommendation; advising that they do not have sidewalks or curbs on their street and the proposal would dump all the traffic coming out of the Environmentally Significant Area onto their street; advising that there is no accountability; stating that they asked for signs twenty years ago and they still do not have signs posted;

not sure how By-law Enforcement can enforce dogs off leash and the dumping of trash; we will not be able to bring the Valley back once the pathways are built.

- Lynn Schmidt, 420 Lawson Road – indicating that it comes down to valuing what we have; feeling the presence of the Natives that were here before us; stating that it is a beautiful, peaceful spot; advising of the presentations held by City staff and Carolinian Canada at the Home and Garden Show on how beneficial it is to get out in nature; advising that at all the meetings they attended they were told that there would not be any bridges, now there are two; stating that this is an Environmentally Significant Area not a park; and, indicating that nature cannot survive us if we do not treasure it.
- Holden Rhodes, 1633 Gloucester Road – expressing opposition to the staff recommendation; understanding that the two access points, A11 and A12 were inserted there and kept as municipally owned allowances to access the Valley because there was no other access from the neighbourhood to the Valley; stating that the neighbourhood does not need access as there is better access through the Elsie Perrin Estate property; indicating that Gloucester Road is twenty-three feet wide, with no sidewalks, curbs or gutters; opening a trail between A11 and A12 will allow parking on a narrow street; advising that one person received notice in their neighbourhood; indicating that no one was asked to sit on the Local Advisory Committee; asking Council to defer this due to lack of notice.
- Alison Vanstone, 74 Green Acres Drive – advising that her property is situated directly beside where the pathway is proposed to go through their backyard and connect to A12; advising that she contacted staff approximately three years ago to ask about any proposed development; noting that she found out about this plan two weeks ago, she was very upset; thinking it is important for community consultation; advising that this feels too late and not enough.
- Dale Belucci, 1586 Gloucester Road – expressing concern with the potential increased crime in their neighbourhood and surrounding neighbourhoods; advising that there is little crime in their neighbourhood because they have limited access; advising that crime is committed when there is accessibility, connectivity and attractiveness; indicating that they do not have sidewalks and lighting; indicating that they were not consulted on these issues; indicating that she is willing to share her research; requesting deferral of the process.
- Mike Landers, 141 Ridgewood Place – advising that this Committee is in a unique position and can make the right decision and save two million dollars.
- Chris Sheculski, 2025 Wallingford Avenue – agreeing that the Valley is amazingly unique; advising that the environment and trails do not have to be at odds; people stay on the trail, help when asked to bust goutweed; understanding the fear of the unknown; advising that he would like to see it extended.
- Jim Davies, 60 Longbow Road – expressing disappointment that the bridges have come up again; relating to Bridge D, there is an interesting area at the bend in the River, the area called the beach, which is a magnet for people in the summer but there is an area behind it with endangered plants; stating that if you remove Bridge D, the area is accessible.
- Dr. Bill Maddeford – believing a lot of this goes back to the guideline for an Environmentally Significant Area, that is to protect it; seeing nothing in the Plan that protects this; believing access should be given to people in the neighbourhood; advising that this Valley is narrow and deep and has a very special value to the City; expressing concern with dogs off leash; advising that he has not seen anything about monitoring; indicating that there is a significant increase in birds in the south area; thinking if this is passed, this will be done in other Environmentally Significant Areas.
- Maddie Hymowitz, 59 Longbow Road – expressing opposition to the staff recommendation; commenting on the Local Advisory Committee process as it has been adversarial and unproductive; indicating that there was not site visit scheduled for the Local Advisory Committee members; public information sessions did not include information on species at risk; expressing that she feels managed and does not like it; requesting the Plan be referred back to staff.
- Aashish Goela, 1587 Ryersie Road – indicating that the key things here are process, what process gaps may have been there; wondering why, after the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee made comments an independent consultant was hired; changing trails A11 and A12 from Level 1 to

Level 2 may seem reasonable but the neighbourhood nearby was not engaged; wondering why the neighbourhood was not consulted; wondering how the process works as a lot of people have found out about this in the last month.

- Lisa Bildy, 1370 Corley Drive – believing this is similar to the tragedy of the Commons; stating that when people have a sense of entitlement to an area it becomes something that people can take as much as they want to from and this could become a running or cycling event as it is no longer a significant area; requesting that bridges not be built in this area; requesting that this area be kept natural as there are several parks in the city that can be used for bicycling and walking; indicating that pretty soon there will be nothing left to protect.
- Dave Potten, 110 West Rivertrace Walk – expressing support for the staff recommendation; advising that he supports recreation in the city and improving the habitat; indicating that the community has taken ownership of the northern portion of the Medway Valley Heritage Forest; providing the history of the Valley; indicating that when you close trails, people make their own; Hiking for Happiness is held for people who are disabled, not necessarily wheelchair bound, who enjoy hiking.
- Vicki Van Linden, 431 Ridgewood Crescent – expressing opposition to the staff recommendation; urging the Planning and Environment Committee to accept the concerns expressed by the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee; believing that Environmentally Significant Areas should not be treated as parks or recreational areas; indicating that all species of wildlife are declining; asking that the wildlife be considered; asking for increased by-law enforcement in all Environmentally Significant Areas.
- Bruce Morton, Doncaster Avenue – advising that his property abuts an existing Level 2 trail that goes into the Environmentally Significant Area; observing people using the trail all times of the year; expressing concern about the protection of the Environmentally Significant Area; indicating that people dump gardening debris into the Environmentally Significant Area; contacting By-law Enforcement and they do not have the resources to deal with matters of dumping in Environmentally Significant Area; asking Council to invest in mechanisms of oversight in the interest of protecting the Environmentally Significant Area.
- Gil Warren, 16-624 William Street – expressing support for the staff recommendation; using the Kilally Environmentally Significant Area on a regular basis; pointing out that the proposed bridges are not in environmentally sensitive area; believing that the position put forward by the Planning Services area is a compromise; believing that it is time to make a decision on this matter; indicating that there has been consultation on this issue and there will never be consensus; advising that trails are temporary and there are other places that would be happy to have the bridges.
- Sandy Levin, 59 Longbow Road – see [attached](#) presentation.
- David Donnelly, Environmental Lawyer, Toronto, representing the Lower Medway Valley Rate Payers Group (LMVRG) - expressing opposition to the proposed staff recommendation; expressing concern with the traffic and species at risk; indicating that the bridges should not be built; requesting a deferral of the Planning and Environment Committee's decision so a more accommodating discussion can be had; pointing out a lack of First Nations consultation is a serious legal liability; outlining that the issue is not more access but better access; bring people to nature, do not build more bridges; building bridges is not a legal obligation of the City under the AODA.
- John Bestard, 1526 Ryersie Road – expressing opposition to the proposed staff recommendation; expressing concern about crime where currently they are backed against a river but once bridges are built they will be into Whitehills and further; expressing concern about the First Nations not being mentioned; expressing concern about adding more people to the BRT zone; advising that citizens have not had any proper knowledge or consultation.
- Jack Blocker, 367 Grosvenor Street – indicating that there are a variety of species are at risk; advising that the Medway is under severe threat from the Conservation Master Plan (CMP); pointing out that the AODA does not require the City to build a bridge where none exists; expressing opposition to the proposed staff recommendation; connecting neighbourhoods is not the job of an ESA; advising that increased through traffic will threaten sensitive species; identifying that access can be provided in nature friendly ways; stating that the bridges will invite more

foot and bicycle traffic; ESA's are not parks, if adopted they will become really nice parks; and delete the bridge building proposal.

- Charlie Shore, 6th Grade Student – advising that he loves the outdoors and the wildlife; indicating that this plan may not help the preservation of wildlife; believing that if a new path is constructed, lots of animals will leave or die during construction or because of increase of human traffic; everything needs to be considered when we disturb an area.
- Gary Brown, 35A - 59 Ridout Street South – indicating that he requires more information about the path that is being installed; putting in a bridge will protect nature from people stepping on the protected species; believing that the case for building a bridge has not been made but a case for not building a bridge has been made; pointing out that there has been no indigenous consultation; advising that they fought for no pavement in The Coves and it was done and was also made accessible; stating that, if a pathway is constructed, although not permitted, bikes will use this.
- Rene Agathos – advising that she has lived in the Sunningdale area for 18 years and has been asking questions since 2011 about the trails in the area; indicating that she was advised in 2011 that when the sewer trunk was put through or around the Medway Valley so would a multi-use pathway system; pointing out that there are lots of trails in the City but nothing is connected; indicating that people are staying on the trails and causing less damage in the trails in her area; outlining that wildlife and plant life has adapted and flourished; believing they need to come to some sort of a compromise; pointing out that damage has already been done; and the City has done their due diligence in the consulting process.
- Gary Smith, 141 Meadowlily Road South – indicating that these decisions do establish a precedent; advising that green space needs to be protected and appreciated; pointing out that he is not sure how hard paths improve the green quality; asking that Council give consideration to “less is more”; leaving our natural areas alone is a wise philosophy.
- Mike Blewett, 73 Green Acres Drive – advising that he was not notified about the public participation meeting and does not read The Londoner; expressing opposition to the proposed staff recommendation; indicating that the City is trying to put a square peg into a round hole; indicating that if the area is developed then the wildlife will disappear.
- Sarah Jones – advising that, first we must address the issue of safety; expressing concern with increased traffic; pointing out that these are fast flowing waters; expressing concern about people jumping from the bridge into fast flowing water and children drowning; expressing concern about the increased amount of unsupervised young people; expressing concern about drugs and alcohol being used in the area; asking people to consider the risk Council is taking by allowing increased traffic.
- Janet Peters, 2048 Valleyrun Boulevard – advising that she is a hiker, nature lover, adventurer and gardener; indicating that she currently uses the local trails such as Fanshawe, Elgin, and Thames Valley; looking for the continuity for a natural route through the valley floor; stating that the valley's and creeks are not private lands; indicating that she does not want to walk along the property line which is close to people's homes; believing that the City should be enhancing London's trail system.
- John Levstik, 206 St. Bees Close – advising that he served on the Local Advisory Committee that helped put this together; indicating that there are ways to protect the environment and have greater access; believing that enhanced trails and bridges may help lessen the impact on the deterioration of the park.
- Bernie VanDenBelt, 9987 Longwoods Road, President of Nature London – advising that the proposals to create more pathways and bridges has more to do with recreational than conservation; indicating that it is hard to see how more bridges and greater trails will help conservation and the plants of Medway; stating that if you want to preserve habitat you need to delete the bridges from the Master Plan; believing the needs of native and flora fauna should be coming first; pointing out that species are at risk of being trampled on; indicating that Nature London requests that the plan be sent back to staff for revision including the deletion of proposed bridges.

- Judy Ponti-Scargi, Valleyrun Boulevard – advising that she would like to photograph the Medway Valley pre-implementation and post-implementation and offering her services to photograph the Medway Valley.
- K. Zarebecki 205 - 240 Villagewalk Boulevard Unit, representing the Sunningdale Ratepayers Association – advising that he served on the Local Advisory Committee (LAC); advising that the experience at the LAC was much what you have felt and seen tonight; looking at a map of the north section, you would see a continuous path from the north to the south with a couple connection points; pointing out that the utility overlay that the pathway runs over is maybe four or five percent at the most of the whole valley and the pathway system is maybe about three percent of the whole valley system so we have not turned this into a park; advising that Council has made major decisions around pathways up in the north and connection to the Thames Valley Pathway system, he thinks you can do that at here and you'll complete that section of the pathway.
- Mohamed Moussa, 155 Thornton Avenue - requesting that the Plan not be approved in this fashion; expressing agreement with former Councillor Levin and Mr. Donnelly's submissions; adding that crafters of AODA have included exceptions; advising that his property adjoins pathway and in his experience, signage does nothing to keep people on the trail and dogs on-leash without expensive proper enforcement; further stating that bridges and connectivity are not needed.
- Tammy Hogan, 1540 Gloucester - advising that she walks the pathway every day and cannot figure out how a bridge could be built without severe impact to environment and animals.
- Maria Howshell, 1526 Ryersie Road - raising a question about A13 path beside Elsie Perrin; wondering why work has already begun, clear cutting large trees that canopied the path.

Planning and Environment Committee

Report

7th Meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee
April 16, 2018

PRESENT: Councillors S. Turner (Chair), A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, Mayor M. Brown

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors J. Morgan, M. Salih, P. Squire, H.L. Usher and M. van Holst; I. Abushehada, A. Anderson, G. Barrett, C. Da Silva, K. Dawtrey, J.M. Fleming, T. Gaffney, K. Gonyou, P. Kokkoros, H. Lysynski, J. MacKay, A. Macpherson, L. McDougall, H. McNeely, D. O'Brien, B. O'Hagan, L. Pompilii, C. Saunders, S. Spring and M. Tomazincic.

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 PM.

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that Councillor S. Turner disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 4.2 of this Report, having to do with the request for delegation status by Dr. C. Mackie, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, Middlesex-London Health Unit, with respect to the proposed supervised consumption facilities, by indicating that the Middlesex-London Health Unit is his employer.

2. Consent

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That Items 2.1 to 2.4, inclusive, BE APPROVED.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

2.1 5th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That the following actions be taken with respect to the 5th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment from its meeting held on April 4, 2018:

a) the Manager, Urban Forestry and the Manager, Forestry Operations, BE REQUESTED to attend a future meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) to provide information with respect to the practices relating to the watering of trees, the cutting down of trees and the planting of trees near hydro lines; it being noted that the 2nd Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on February 28, 2018 was received;

b) the Municipal Council and the Agricultural Advisory Committee BE ADVISED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment expressed its support for contacting The Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, with respect to the consultations relating to the

Bees Act; it being noted that the 2nd Report of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on March 21, 2018 was received;

c) the following actions be taken with respect to the 2018 Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) Work Plan and proposed Budget:

i) the proposed Budget items identified on the approved 2018 ACE Work Plan BE APPROVED; it being noted that the ACE has sufficient funds in its 2018 Budget and,

ii) it BE NOTED that a general discussion was held with respect to the 2018 ACE Work Plan;

d) clauses 1.1, 3.1, 5.1 and 5.3 BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

2.2 Application - Ontario Municipal Board Final Decision Draft Plan of Subdivision Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That, on the recommendation of the Senior Planner, Development Services, the staff report dated April 16, 2018, entitled "Applicant/Appellant: Sunningdale Golf & Country Ltd. OMB Final Decision Draft Plan of Subdivision, Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment" for the lands located at 379 Sunningdale Road West BE RECEIVED for information. (2018-D09/L01)

Motion Passed

2.3 City Services Reserve Fund (CSRF) Claimable Works - 2150 Oxford Street East

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Corporate Services and City Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, the Source of Financing Report appended to the staff report dated April 16, 2018 BE APPROVED with respect to the site plan development agreement between The Corporation of the City of London and Dancor Oxford Inc., for the development charge claimable work located at 2150 Oxford Street East. (2018-F01)

Motion Passed

2.4 Building Division Monthly Report for February 2018

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That the Building Division Monthly Report for the month of February, 2018 BE RECEIVED for information. (2018-D04)

Motion Passed

3. Scheduled Items

- 3.1 Public Participation Meeting - Demolition Request of Heritage Designated Property at 660 Sunningdale Road East

Moved by: J. Helmer
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, with the advice of the Heritage Planner, the request for the demolition of the heritage designated property located at 660 Sunningdale Road East BE REFUSED;

it being noted that the Planning and Environment Committee received and reviewed a communication dated April 8, 2018, from M. Bloxam, President, London Region Branch, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, with respect to this matter;

it being pointed out that at the public participation meeting associated with these matters, the individual indicated on the attached public participation meeting record made an oral submission regarding this matter.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

Additional votes:

Moved by: T. Park
Seconded by: J. Helmer

Motion to open the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown
Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to close the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

- 3.2 Public Participation Meeting - Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (South) - Conservation Master Plan

Moved by: J. Helmer
Seconded by: Mayor M. Brown

That, the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back on the following matters with respect to the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (south) Conservation Master Plan:

- a) ways to improve the public consultation process for any Environmentally Significant Areas and Conservation Master Plans; and,

b) amending the Trails Systems Guidelines to incorporate consultation with neighbouring First Nations, Governments and Organizations at the beginning of the process;

it being noted that the Planning and Environment Committee was unable to reach a majority decision with respect to the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (south) Conservation Master Plan and pursuant to Section 19.3 of the Council Procedure By-law, the matter is hereby submitted to the Municipal Council for its disposition; and,

it being further noted that the Planning and Environment Committee reviewed and received the following communications with respect to this matter:

- a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on January 16, 2018;
- the Environmental and Ecological Advisory Committee's revised statement and recommendations;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from S. Dagnone, 675 Eagletrace Drive;
- a communication from S. and S. Pacifico, 1607 Gloucester Road;
- a communication from S. Levin, 59 Longbow Road;
- a communication dated April 9, 2018 from A. Cojocar, 2345 Humberside Common;
- a communication from L. Kari, 56 Doncaster Place;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from L. Robinson, 2120 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from C. Robinson, 2120 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from D. Wake, 597 Kildare Road;
- a communication dated April 6, 2018 from D. Lucas, Vice Principal, Finance and Administration, Huron University College;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from M. Trotter, 2408 Meadowlands Way;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from K. and L. Zerebecki, 205-240 Village Walk Boulevard;
- a communication from R. Croft, by e-mail;
- a communication from R. Agathos, by e-mail;
- a communication from P. Agathos, 2112 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication from C. Parvulescu, 397 Castlegrove Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from C. Sheculksi, Vice-President, Sunningdale West Residents Association;
- a communication from B. Morgan, 50 Doncaster Place;
- a communication from L. Symmes, 797 Haighton Road;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from R. and A. Menon, 2131 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from T. Thrasher, 2048 Valleyrun Boulevard;

- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from J. Peters, 2048 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication dated April 5, 2018 from E. Westeinde, 3645 Boswick Road North;
- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from D.R. Donnelly, Donnelly Law;
- a communication dated April 3, 2018 from G. Miller, Miller Environmental Services Inc.;
- a communication from W. and F. Fretz, 1984 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication from B. Adair, 675 Eagletrace Drive;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from L. Carriere, 73-825 Dundalk Drive;
- a communication dated April 7, 2018 from J. Robinson, 2156 Valleyrun Boulevard;
- a communication from S. Russell, by e-mail;
- a communication from Dr. A. Guy Plint, Professor of Geology, Western University;
- a communication dated March, 2018 from C. Dyck, by e-mail;
- a communication from M. Does, 161 Bruce Street;
- a communication dated April 5, 2018 from Susan Hall, by e-mail;
- a communication from G. Neish, 1706 Ironwood Road;
- a communication dated April 4, 2018 from R. Duench, 121, Wychwood Park;
- a communication from W. Van Hemessen, Terrestrial Ecologist, Parsons Inc.;
- a communication dated April 5, 2018 from A. Caveney, 46 Kingspark Crescent;
- a communication from J. Bruce Morton, 11 Doncaster Avenue;
- a communication dated March 4, 2018 from G. Wood, by e-mail;
- a communication dated February 5, 2018 from C. Blake, 18 Braemar Crescent;
- a communication dated March 28, 2018 from J. Davies, 60 Longbow Road;
- a communication dated April 4, 2018 from G. McGinn-McTeer, Stoneybrook Heights-Uplands Residents Association;
- a communication dated March 29, 2018 from P. Pendl and A. Vanstone, 74 Green Acres Drive;
- a communication dated February 12, 2018 from J. Nesbitt, by e-mail;
- a communication from C. Boles, 455 Piccadilly Street;
- a communication dated January 30, 2018 from D. Bickford, 64 Doncaster Place;
- a communication dated January 24, 2018 from S. Levin, President, Orchard Park Sherwood Forest Ratepayers;
- a communication from J. Farquar, 383 St. George Street;
- a communication dated March 29, 2018 from G. and S. Sinker, 1597 Gloucester Road;

- a communication dated April 8, 2018 from P. Hayman, 77 Doncaster Avenue;
- a communication dated February 7, 2018 from D. Potten, 110 West Rivertrace Walk;
- a communication dated April 9, 2018 from D. Schmidt, Development Manager, Corlon Properties;
- a communication from I. Connidis, 38 Doncaster Avenue;
- a communication dated April 9, 2018 from S. Handler, 54 Doncaster Place; and,
- a communication dated April 4, 2018 from Professor J. Blocker, et. al;

it being pointed out that at the public participation meeting associated with these matters, the individuals indicated on the attached public participation meeting record made oral submissions regarding these matters.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

Additional Votes:

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown
 Seconded by: J. Helmer

Motion to open the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

Moved by: A. Hopkins
 Seconded by: M. Cassidy

Motion to close the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (5): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, and T. Park

Absent (1): Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

Moved by: T. Park
 Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to consult with the following agencies:

- a) Upper Thames River Conservation Authority;
 - b) the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry;
 - c) other stakeholder agencies as to the environmental impacts of trail implementation in the ESA;
 - d) neighbouring First Nations Governments and Organizations;
- and,

e) the Gloucester Neighbourhood around access points and the other matters raised at the public participation meeting.

Yeas: (3): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, and T. Park

Nays: (3): M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Failed (3 to 3)

Moved by: Mayor M. Brown

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to go past 11:00 PM.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

Moved by: T. Park

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to remove the proposed Bridge D from the Conservation Master Plan.

Yeas: (3): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, and T. Park

Nays: (3): M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Failed (3 to 3)

Moved by: T. Park

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

Motion to refer the matter back for staff to undertake further consultation with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, about the presence of Species at Risk and about the probability of approvals for permits necessary to construct the bridge.

Yeas: (3): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, and T. Park

Nays: (3): M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Failed (3 to 3)

4. Items for Direction

4.1 3rd Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

Moved by: A. Hopkins

Seconded by: M. Cassidy

That the following actions be taken with respect to the 3rd Report on the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee from its meeting held on March 28, 2018:

a) the revised 2018 Work Plan appended to the 3rd Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee BE APPROVED; and,

b) clauses 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, and 5.1 BE RECEIVED.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

4.2 Request for Delegation Status - Dr. C. Mackie, Middlesex London Health Unit - Supervised Consumption Facility Location

Moved by: T. Park

Seconded by: Mayor M. Brown

That Dr. C. Mackie BE GRANTED delegation status at a future Planning and Environment Committee meeting;

it being noted that the Planning and Environment Committee reviewed and received the following communications with respect to this matter:

· a communication dated April 12, 2018 from S. Courtice, Executive Director, London InterCommunity Health Centre;

· a communication dated April 10, 2018 from L. Sibley, Executive Director, Addiction Services;

· a communication dated April 11, 2018 from B. Dokis, Chief Executive Officer, Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre;

· a communication dated April 10, 2018 from M. Walker, Executive Director, London Abused Women's Centre.

Yeas: (5): A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Recuse: (1): S. Turner

Motion Passed (5 to 0)

5. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

5.1 (ADDED) 5th Report of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage

Moved by: M. Cassidy

Seconded by: T. Park

That, the following actions be taken with respect to the 5th Report of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage, from its meeting held on April 11, 2018:

a) the Heritage Planners BE REQUESTED to prepare a Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for the Fugitive Slave Chapel at its new location at 432 Grey Street pursuant to direction from the Municipal Council during the repeal of the heritage designating by-law for 275 Thames Street; it being noted that the presentation appended to the 5th Report of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage (LACH) from G. Hodder and a verbal delegation from H. Neary, with respect to this matter, were received;

b) on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, with the advice of the Heritage Planner, the application by Stantec Consulting Ltd., under Section 4.2 of the Ontario Heritage Act to

alter The Green located at 165 Elmwood Avenue East, individually designated by By-law No. L.S.P.-2854-377 and within the Wortley Village-Old South Heritage Conservation District, BE PERMITTED; it being noted that the presentation from K. Gonyou, Heritage Planner, appended to the 5th Report of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage (LACH), was received with respect to this matter;

c) C. Parker, Senior Planner, BE REQUESTED to attend the May 9, 2018 London Advisory Committee on Heritage meeting in order to discuss the proposed Old East Village Dundas Street Corridor Secondary Plan outlined in the Notice of Application dated March 12, 2018;

d) the following actions be taken with respect to the Stewardship Sub-Committee report from the meeting held on March 28, 2018:

i) the following properties BE LISTED on the Register (Inventory of Heritage Resources) based on the research and evaluation undertaken by the Western University Public History Program, on file with the Heritage Planners:

- 306 Simcoe Street;
- 397 Wortley Road; and,
- 399 Wortley Road; and,

ii) it BE NOTED that the remainder of the Stewardship Sub-Committee report was received;

e) on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, with the advice of the Heritage Planner, the request by P. Sergautis for the demolition of the heritage designated property located at 660 Sunningdale Road East BE REFUSED; it being noted that the presentation from K. Gonyou, Heritage Planner, appended to the 5th Report of the LACH was received with respect to this matter; it being further noted that a communication dated April 8, 2018, from M. Bloxam, ACO London, was received with respect to this matter;

f) clauses 1.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1 to 3.3, 3.5 to 3.7, 5.2, 6.1, 6.2 BE RECEIVED;

it being noted that the Planning and Environment Committee reviewed and received a communication from the British Methodist Episcopal Church, with respect to the Fugitive Slave Chapel.

Yeas: (6): S. Turner, A. Hopkins, M. Cassidy, J. Helmer, T. Park, and Mayor M. Brown

Motion Passed (6 to 0)

6. Confidential

The Planning and Environment Committee convened in Committee, In Closed Session, from 4:19 PM to 4:33 PM and from 11:37 PM to 11:57 PM, with respect to the following matters:

6.1 A matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; the subject matter pertains to litigation or potential litigation with respect to an appeal at the Conservation

Review Board, and for the purpose of providing instructions and directions to officers and employees of the Corporation.

6.2 A matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; the subject matter pertains to litigation or potential litigation with respect to an appeal at the Ontario Municipal Board, and for the purpose of providing instructions and directions to officers and employees of the Corporation.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 PM.



VIRTUAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING

Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South): Eastern Boundary and Roads

YOU ARE INVITED!

The City of London is holding an online Community Information Meeting for the Eastern Boundary and related Sustainable Trail Plan for the *Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area Conservation Master Plan (CMP) (South)*.

This meeting will include a staff presentation on the draft Sustainable Trail Plan associated with the Eastern Boundary and roads and time for questions.

Your participation in this meeting will help to inform potential revisions to the mapping for those portions of the CMP that effect changes to the Eastern Boundary of the ESA, including the use of public streets in the trail plan. Feedback will help to inform the Conservation Master Plan which will be considered by City Council at a future time.

Meeting Location: This is a virtual meeting being held online through the Zoom platform. Zoom can be accessed for free from any computer with an Internet connection. The link to this meeting will be available at <https://getinvolved.london.ca/medway-valley-cmp>. After clicking the link, first-time Zoom users will be asked to register.

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, April 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

Emily Williamson
ewilliamson@london.ca
519-661-CITY (2489) ext. 7602
City Planning, City of London,
206 Dundas St., London ON N6A 1G7
getinvolved.london.ca/medway-valley-cmp

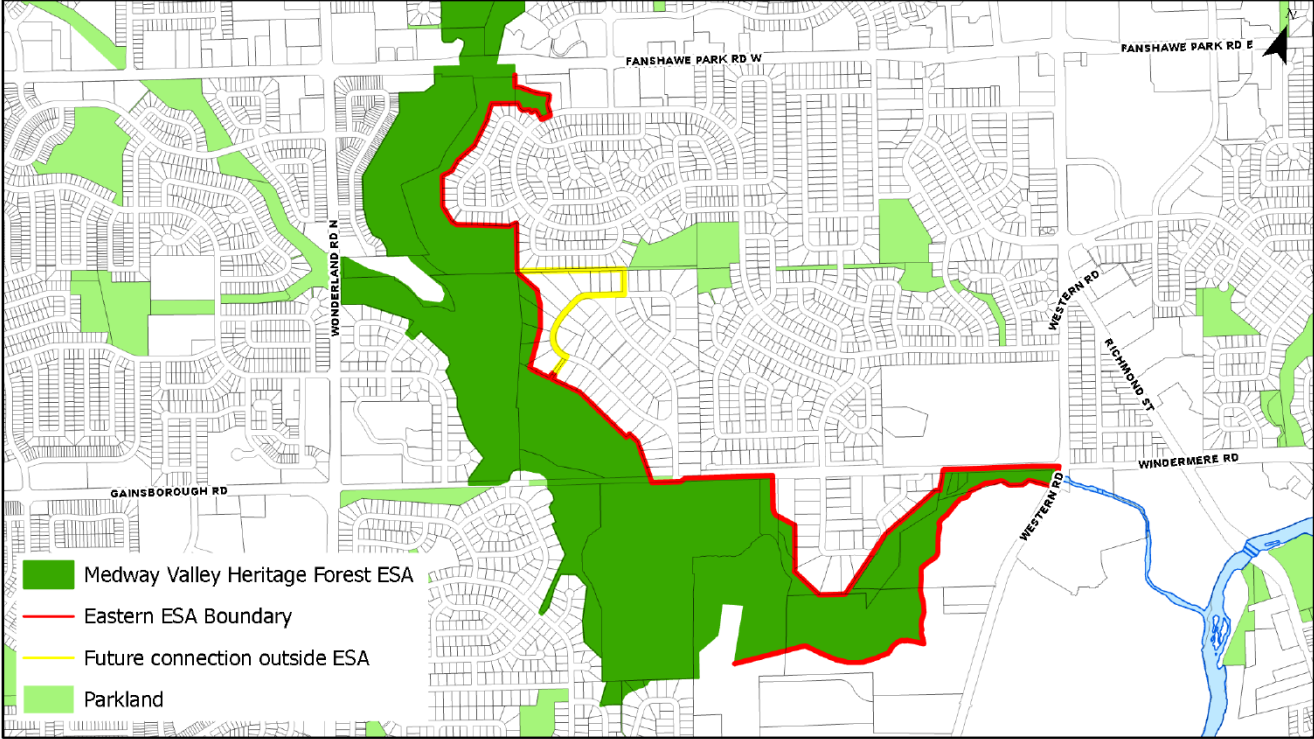
To speak to your Ward Councillor:

Councillor Josh Morgan
joshmorgan@london.ca
519-661-CITY (2489) ext. 4007

Please Note: This meeting is a non-statutory public information meeting which the City's Planning Department at times convenes when, in the opinion of the Director, Planning and City Planner, the community should have a further opportunity to obtain information regarding a planning application.

There will be a future statutory public participation meeting required under the *Planning Act*, held at the Planning and Environment Committee, which will provide the public with another opportunity to comment on the planning application.

Medway Valley CMP: Eastern Boundary and Road Connection Study Area



Appendix D.6 – Public Liaison: Eastern Boundary

Public liaison: On June 21, 2021, Notice of Application and Public Meeting was sent to 926 property owners in the surrounding area. Notice of Application and Public Meeting was also published in the *Public Notices and Bidding Opportunities* section of *The Londoner* on Thursday, June 24, 2021. Notice of this application was also published on the City of London’s planning applications webpage and on the Get Involved Site for the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area CMP.

21 replies were received.

Nature of Liaison: Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) – The purpose and effect of this public meeting is for City Council to consider adoption of the Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA (South) Conservation Master Plan, including updates to the Eastern Boundary, Sustainable Trail Concept Plan and environmental management strategy. Possible amendment to include this Conservation Master Plan as a guideline document to The London Plan. Also possible amendments to align the following with delineation of the ESA, as previously approved by City Council: London Plan Map 1 – Place Types, London Plan Map 5 – Natural Heritage, 1989 Official Plan Schedule “A” – Land Use, 1989 Official Plan Schedule “B1” – Natural Heritage Features, and the Zoning By-law. File: OZ-9367.

Responses:

Public comments included concerns regarding safety and crime rates, parking and access concerns and construction feasibility. Other concerns including environmental protection, enforcement and inappropriate uses within the ESA and public nuisance/ no public demand for increased connectivity were noted by respondents.

Safety and Crime Rates in the Neighbourhood:

The community noted concerns that establishing the connection between Accesses 11 and 12 via the currently inaccessible City road allowance on the north side of Green Acres Drive will greatly increase crime in the area.

Parking:

The community noted concern regarding a potential increase in on-street parking being a nuisance and potentially dangerous if emergency vehicles were unable to pass.

Access Concerns and Construction Feasibility:

Concerns regarding the opening of the Green Acres Drive connection and certainty regarding the detailed design of both the Gloucester Road access and the Green Acres Drive connection were noted. Impacts to access-adjacent landowners’ driveways and potential use challenges were included.

Other issues identified through the consultation included enforcement, inappropriate ESA use, past reports and general discontent with the eastern boundary consultation. Inquiries were received from residential property owners to clarify what the OPA updates would mean for their properties. Discussion regarding past project stages and previous reports on the Medway Valley were identified. General commentary from the Medway Heights community identified frustration that the community was not part of the internal trail planning discussions and that the project was proceeding through the Phase 2 process.

Responses to Public Liaison April 8th Community Meeting Notice and Publication in “The Londoner”

Written	Telephone
Holden Rhodes 1633 Gloucester Rd.	George Sinker and Sydney Sinker 1597 Gloucester Rd.
Bill Maddeford	Silvana Pacifico 1607 Gloucester Rd.
Tom Tillman 1663 Gloucester Rd.	
George and Sydney Sinker 1597 Gloucester Rd.	
Chester Pawlowski 178 St Bees Close	
Tanya and Jonathan Izawa 77 Green Acres Drive	
Samantha Pacifico	
Brennan Vogel 1642 Attawandaron Rd	
Allyson Vanstone and Peter Pendl 74 Green Acres Drive	
Wendy Fretz 1984 Valleyrun Ave.	
Sal Pacifico 1607 Gloucester Rd.	

Silvana Pacifico 1607 Gloucester Rd.	
Margaret Jones 1650 Gloucester Rd	

From: Holden Rhodes
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Emily Williamson; George Sinker
Cc: Tom Tillman; Carey Rhodes; Josh Morgan
Subject: Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads/ Virtual Community Information meeting- April 8th 7 to 8pm

Dear Ms. Williamson,

There has been some communication with other neighbours in our neighbourhood that I have been copied on as well as this one.

The last time this issue arose was three years ago. Without any notice to the neighbourhood a couple of neighbours found out about the meeting to be held on April 24, 2018. We mobilized within days and a number of neighbours wrote letters and attended the meeting on April 24, 2018 opposing the development in the valley and the access points to it on Gloucester and Green Acres. We prepared and provided a petition signed by 2/3 of the residents of our neighbourhood that specifically objected to the access points on Gloucester and Green Acres for the reasons set out in Schedule B of the petition (copy attached). It wasn't that the other 1/3 was opposed to the petition, it was just that we couldn't reach everyone in such short order due to the lack of notice.

I agree it would be helpful to have a copy of the Sustainable Trail Plan. If it is calling for access to the valley from the access points on Gloucester and Green Acres, then we can update the petition as there was an overwhelming opposition to that 3 years ago.

Best,
Holden Rhodes

From: George Sinker
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:19 PM
To: Emily Williamson
Cc: Holden Rhodes; Tom Tillman;
Subject: Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads/ Virtual Community Information meeting- April 8th 7 to 8pm

Att: Emily Williamson:

Dear Ms. Williamson;

My wife Sydney and I live at 1597 Gloucester Road in Medway Heights . Our property is. immediately adjacent to the East of an unopened lane owned by the City which leads to the lands owned by UTRCA. To the South There is as you know a footpath leading from the North limit of the UTRCA lands to the valley which may be used currently by 10 or 12 local neighbours a week to walk their dog/access the valley .

Would you kindly contact me/ us by telephone prior to the April 8th meeting to discuss specifically how the draft Sustainable Trail Plan may affect us were it to be approved in it's present form. We may be reached at # or #.

Please also advise us where we can access the" Draft Sustainable Trail Plan so that we will be better prepared for the Virtual Community Information meeting.

Thanks

George and Sydney

From: Bill Maddeford

Date: April 3, 2021 at 5:09 PM

I understand that previously proposed bridges in this area have been taken out of the trail plan. Thank you very much for that.

I think that will allow less human effect in these sensitive areas.

Environmentally sensitive areas and city ESAs seem to be usually to have the least priority of protection when other city projects need more room.

Medway South is (in many places) very narrow and its sides very steep so trails are mainly on the narrow floodplain,unlike most other ESAs.

So trails and protection may be in more conflict. Paved wide trails mean increased traffic and hence more human pollution in these narrow floodplain areas.

To protect better ,loop trails of a lesser width that lead up to but not into may give this.(as I think you are doing) For very threatened and endangered species likely no trails should go into or near such species. This may work better for flora, birds and reptiles will need more space. If a species such an Acadian flycatcher thinks of trying to nest there (I believe they have been seen around Snake creek outlet) then the area around the observations could be closed until the kids are out of the nest Covid has caused an increase in human traffic on outdoor trails, which is great, and hopefully will continue Which will necessitate more trail care and hopefully more care to protect what we have. So ESAs will have to provide for accessibility and Good protection Signs help at entrances but I think trail interior reminders , dog on leash ,stay on trail, are useful.

Accessibility: if an area is closed then you there's no access to anyone, except ESA staff of course. I think this region does need special treatment because of its uniqueness of many species, and many threatened species being in it.

Thanks for all your efforts.

Bill Maddeford

From: Tom Tillmann

Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:09 PM

To: Williamson, Emily

Cc: Carey Rhodes; Morgan, Josh; Fabro, Michael; Holden Rhodes; George Sinker;

Allyson Vanstone; Sal Pacifico

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads/ Virtual Community Information meeting- April 8th 7 to 8pm

Good Morning Ms. Williamson,

I am contacting you directly to express my position, concern and opinion of the 2 pedestrian access points being considered for the Medway Valley Trail. For the last 26 years, I and my family have lived at 1663 Gloucester Road and intend to do so for the foreseeable future.

- I and my family members are not supportive of the 2 access points being proposed. This is a position that remains unchanged when it was first brought to our attention in 2018. I am familiar with the background information made available through the City website.

- I find that there is no tangible benefit to my neighbourhood, Medway Heights, by creating these formal pedestrian connections. Why would a "trail" require one to leave the existing trail, walk nearly 400m on the city streets and then get back on the existing trail?

- As it currently exists, access to the existing trail is quite satisfactory for the residents of Medway Heights.

- Of great concern is the potential for a rise in crime in our neighbourhood. Can the City staff confirm that these access points will not provide easier access to the criminal element and that there will not be a rise in property theft in the Medway Heights neighbourhood as a result of these added access points?

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Regards,
Tom

From: Emily Williamson

Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 12:28 PM

To: George Sinker

Cc: Michael Fabro

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: *EXT*-RE: Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads/ Virtual Community Information meeting- April 8th 7 to 8pm

Hello Mr. Sinker,

Thank you for your phone call and follow-up email. We are sorry to hear about the incident on Easter Sunday.

Given your property's location adjacent to the existing access, I'm happy to set up a brief virtual meeting with you, your wife and my manager Michael (cc:ed here) to discuss your concerns today from 3:30 – 4:00. Unfortunately, I am not available to

gather on site this afternoon due to schedule conflicts, but there is a 30 minute window of availability to connect virtually. Please advise if the Microsoft Teams platform will work for you.

We hope that during this meeting we can alleviate some of your concerns in advance of Thursday's meeting. We also note that the intent of the meeting is to provide a first opportunity to share information and answer questions and that this will not be the only opportunity to provide input. As this is a conceptual plan, we will not have any detailed design information.

Please advise if Teams will work for you and I'll forward along a meeting invite.

Best Regards,

Emily Williamson

From: George Sinker
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:33 PM
To: Williamson, Emily
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: *EXT*-RE: Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads/ Virtual Community Information meeting- April 8th 7 to 8pm

Emily;

Further to my voicemail you are invited to a socially distanced meeting at the Lane beside 1597 Gloucester later this afternoon or any time between 3 and 4:30 Wednesday. Please advise whether you can make it.

We had to come to the aid of a lady who collapsed on the trail adjacent to our property on Easter Sunday due to exhaustion.

George

From: George Sinker
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 2:07 PM
To: Williamson, Emily; Tom Tillman; Holden Rhodes; Morgan, Josh
Cc: George Sinker
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan & Sustainable Trail Plan

City Planning
City of London
206 Dundas Street
London, ON

Dear Ms. Williamson:

This is further to our recent telephone conversation re: the Virtual Community Information Meeting to be conducted Thursday, April 8, 2021, 7pm to 8pm re: the proposed Sustainable Trail Concept Plan for the Medway Valley Heritage Forest Environmentally Significant Area Conservation Master Plan (CMP) South.

As you have suggested, we are now submitting several questions which we believe must be answered prior to this matter proceeding any further.

The questions are as follows:

1. This draft plan, in our opinion, is not in conformity with Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the Natural Heritage provisions of Provincial Policy (2020) the City of London Official Plan (1989) S. 15.4.1.4, or the London Plan adopted December 16, 2016 (subject to appeals) re: Natural Heritage Environmental Policies found at paragraphs 1301 and 1304.

Question: Has the City sought and received a legal opinion on this issue?

2. Why is the Managed Level #1 trail with an access point between 1597 Gloucester and 1607 Gloucester being converted to a Level #2 trail contrary to the memo to the Accessibility Advisory Committee from E&PP and Dillon Consulting Ltd. of November 14, 2017 which is contrary to your consultant Dillon's advice at the time?

3. Why has the City failed to follow the conservation priorities established in its "Guidelines for Management Zone and Trails in ESA's" adopted in 2016 which state that protection is a first priority and that the policies do not require or state that a balance must be achieved between protection and access?

4. Why at the proposed Level #2 trail access between 1597 and 1607 Gloucester Road due to the unsafe conditions and steep grade down to the valley floor, has the City not invoked the Exception to "The Design of Public Spaces Standard" (Ont. Reg. 191/11) adopted pursuant to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act as the majority of this trail is clearly not on a utility overlay? The Exceptions read as follows:

80.15 Exceptions to making the trail accessible are permitted if "There is a significant risk that the requirements or some of them would adversely affect water, fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, species at risk, ecological integrity or natural heritage values whether the adverse effects are direct or indirect."

5. Has the City consulted as required under the provisions of S.80.8(1)(2) of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 Ontario Regulation 191/11 with respect to and in the manner specified by these sections of the Regulation?

6. What is the legal authority for the City to change a trail from a managed (Level #1 trail), to a Level #2 trail and has that review been completed to determine 2021 compatibility with significant ecological features? Would this not require ground-level micro-siting and a completely updated review?

7. Do the Design and Trail construction protocols in the "Guidelines for Management Zones and Trails in Environmentally Significant Areas" indicate that the location of trails adjacent to steep slopes shall be minimized (i.e. 1597 and 1607 Gloucester trail)?

8. How would the City ensure that "hardscaped surfaces" on the Level #2 trails be limited to the greatest extent possible as per the Resolution of Council for the City of London adopted at its meeting held on April 24, 2018? (ie between 1597 and 1607 Gloucester Road)

9. How is the proposal to adjust the managed trail to a Level #2 between 1597 & 1607 Gloucester consistent with the safety of the public given the steepness of the slope and the signs posted at this location by the City/UTRCA warning the public of the presence of Coyotes and Ticks in the forest and the valley?

10. I have attached a copy of our initial letter of objection to this proposal dated April 19, 2018 for your reference.

We hereby request a written response as well as a verbal response to the above questions 1-10 inclusive and we further request that we be notified of the date and time of any future meetings and/or the required Statutory Public Participation meeting which is to be subsequently held at the Planning and Environment Committee and that we be registered to make a presentation at that meeting.

George E. Sinker and Sydney Sinker

From: Chester Pawlowski
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:37 AM
To: Williamson, Emily
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hi Emily,
I was able to find the attached Council resolution on 1996 IMC report on Medway Valley.
Why are we not able to use stepping stones to complete the 4 crossings along Medway Creek based on this report ?
It was determined that stones were an acceptable solution to bridges for hiking in the Medway Creek
Also when will the other questions be answered below ?
Thanks for all your assistance.

From: Chester Pawlowski
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 9:54 AM
To: 'Williamson, Emily'
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hi Emily,

Were you able to get the proposed pedestrian bridge designed by Stantec or the previous Master plans prepared by Stantec and 1996 IMC Consulting Group recommendations for stepping stone crossings for Medway Creek ?

These studies are important background information for the meeting.

Thanks

Chester Pawlowski

From: Williamson, Emily

Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 9:01 AM

To: Chester Pawlowski

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hello Mr. Pawlowski,

Thank you for your email and questions. That Council Resolution and the associated project history predates my time with the project and the City. I have reached out to colleagues but have not been able to track down the Council Resolution. Based on the 2018 Council Resolution we are not proceeding with any crossings of Medway Creek as part of this plan.

The purpose of the meeting today is to listen to people's comments, answer questions, and identify what we need to follow up on regarding potential revisions to the mapping for those portions of the CMP that effect changes to the Eastern ESA Boundary, including the use of public streets in the trail plan. No decisions will be made at this meeting.

If you want background information, please go to the get involved site (<https://getinvolved.london.ca/medway-valley-cmp>). The site includes a copy of the Proposed Sustainable Trail Concept Plan.

If you have questions about how to access the meeting, please contact Glynis Tucker.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting, and if there is additional information that you require, please let me know and I'll direct you to the correct City resource.

Best Regards,

Emily Williamson

From: Chester Pawlowski

Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:12 AM

To: Williamson, Emily

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hi Emily,

I checked the Get Involved site and I was not able to find out when the proposed bridge designed by Stantec from Elsie Perrin to Sherwood Forest was defunded by Council and funds used for new Dillon CMP. Can you provide me with that information and a copy of Council resolution. Thanks for all your help.
Chester Pawlowski

From: Williamson, Emily
Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Chester Pawlowski
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hello Mr. Pawlowski,

Thank you for your email.

All documents are available on the [Get Involved site](#). I've also attached the resolution here.

Best Regards,

Emily Williamson

From: Chester Pawlowski
Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Williamson, Emily
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hi Emily,
Thanks for the quick response and attached maps. I however was not able to access the link to the 2018 Council resolution. Can you send this to me as an attachment ?
Thanks
Chester Pawlowski

From: Williamson, Emily
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 1:45 PM
To: Chester Pawlowski
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hello Mr. Pawlowski,

Thank you for your email.

The April 8 presentation on the revised trail plan will not include any pedestrian bridges. The [2018 Council Resolution](#) directed staff to delete proposed bridges A and D from the

mapping and find ways to discourage crossings of the creek at proposed locations A,B,C,D and E.

More information and these documents are available on the [Get Involved site](#), including the proposed Sustainable Trail Plan (also attached here for your convenience).

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Best Regards,

Emily Williamson

From: Chester Pawlowski
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 10:09 AM
To: Williamson, Emily
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan

Hi Emily,
Thanks for the email on Medway Valley.
Does the presentation include the proposed pedestrian bridge linking Elsie Perrin with Sherwood Forest that was cancelled by the previous council ?
Please confirm receipt of this email.

Thanks
Chester Pawlowski
178 St Bees Close

From: Tanya Izawa
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2021 12:39 PM
To: Williamson, Emily, City of London, Mayor; van Holst, Michael; Lewis, Shawn; Salih, Mo Mohamed; Helmer, Jesse; Cassidy, Maureen; Squire, Phil; Morgan, Josh; Lehman, Steve; Hopkins, Anna; Van Meerbergen, Paul; Turner, Stephen; Pelosa, Elizabeth; Kayabaga, Arielle; Hillier, Steven
Cc: tanya Izawa

Dear Emily,

Firstly, thank you so much for your patience as I navigated through my very first 'get involved' moment with the City of London. Your consistent and prompt responses have been greatly appreciated by myself and my husband. You rock!!

Secondly, thank you for reading and considering our letter(s).

Lastly, I will keep updated about the process and I will look forward to learning of what you and the council decides.

With much thanks, please keep safe and well.

Tanya Izawa (for Jon and Tanya Izawa)

April 10, 2021

We are writing this letter to voice our strong objection to creating a connection between Access #11 and Access #12 on Gloucester Road and Green Acres Drive respectively.

My wife and I live in Medway Heights at 77 Green Acres Drive.

Our concerns are many. They include safety (no lighting, cars parked on already narrow roads); increased crim (easy access and escape for criminals into and out of our neighbourhood); inconvenient/annoyance/nuisance; more than adequate access from elsewhere; liability (lighting, no signage; steep, dangerous terrain); no public demand.

We have signed a petition and we hope that you and the City Council will listen to all the families in our neighbourhood. We all feel strongly that these connection are unwanted and unnecessary.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please contact us if you need any additional information.

Regards,

Jonathan and Tanya Izawa
77 Green Acres Drive

From: Samantha Pacifico

Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:12 AM

To: Morgan, Josh; City of London, Mayor; van Holst, Michael; Lewis, Shawn; Salih, Mo Mohamed; Helmer, Jesse; Cassidy, Maureen; Squire, Phil; Lehman, Steve; Hopkins, Anna; Van Meerbergen, Paul; Turner, Stephen; Peloza, Elizabeth; Kayabaga, Arielle; Hillier, Steven; Williamson, Emily

Cc: Holden Rhodes; Tom Tillmann; Allyson Vanstone; Michael Crowley; Michael Smith; George Sinker; Sal Pacifico; Silvana Pacifico

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA: Conservation Master Plan

To Ms. Williamson and members of City Council,

I am writing to you to express my position following the Medway Valley Community Information Meeting. I am familiar with the project information on the City of London's website and was present at last Thursday's meeting and past community meetings in 2018. My letter falls into two categories: concern for the wildlife and vegetation in Medway Valley, and concern over changes proposed to the Medway Heights

neighbourhood. Thank you for your time and attention in listening to the voices of the community who surround the project.

It has been so disheartening to see this Conservation Master Plan once again turn into a battle between environmentalists and accessibility advocates, as both are causes so worthy of attention. I fully understand and appreciate the desire for people of all abilities to go into Medway Valley, however not every place can be accessible to all people without consequence. As an ecologist, I know you are aware of how much more biodiverse and densely populated by flora and fauna the South end of Medway Valley is in comparison to other areas. Beavers, wild turkeys, coyotes, deer, and many other animals inhabit the valley and live on the Eastern border. Bringing heavy machinery to expand and engineer a compact path, specifically and especially at the access point between 1607 and 1597 Gloucester Road, would without a doubt push wildlife out of the area. That trail entrance is narrow, steep, and sometimes eroded, meaning considerable work is needed to change the land in the way you propose. That location is a natural path on which coyotes and deer cross multiple times daily, and mere metres away is a large deer bedding area. Areas like these are not common in London; certainly not common in cities in general. Add to that the fact that it is located in the heart of the Carolinian life zone, and it becomes even more rare and precious on a national scale. In fact, many Londoners and Canadians in general have no idea that the Carolinian life zone is home to more species of flora and fauna than any other ecosystem in Canada, despite its tiny size. We are at a crossroads where the decision you make will permanently affect this critical ecosystem.

London's commitment to preserving these areas is what continues to set it apart from other cities, where the profits of frantic sprawl and construction have overtaken and changed the landscape forever. For years I lived down the street from the Cedarvale Ravine in Toronto, where a firm and stable gravel path runs through the valley and connects neighbourhoods. Rush hour on the streets above is echoed in the ravine. Many people use it to commute to and from work (some on smaller motorized vehicles) despite its intended purpose being otherwise, and the noise level of so many people becomes significant. It is devoid of wildlife aside from occasional birds during its quieter hours. When we cross that threshold and higher volumes of human traffic are encouraged into these areas, the needs of humans begin to be met over the needs of the local ecosystem— not out of any conscious evil— because it is human nature to demand more and more from our surroundings. People can be given space and signage, but they can not be forced to respect rules or understand the consequences of their actions. We should be putting our efforts and resources towards educating Londoners about the significance of Medway Valley and keeping bikes, garbage and other destructive activities out of the area. Litter and inappropriate activity have already increased greatly, and will only grow exponentially with higher traffic.

As an environmental educator, I have experience teaching in a range of settings- at OceanWise on Vancouver's coast, conservation areas in Kingston and its surrounding communities, and here in TVDSB's Environmental Education centres. These settings all serve an educational purpose, but still differ greatly in their levels of infrastructure and

accessibility. In some of these settings, it was not possible to create equal accessibility without compromising the ecosystem. This plan for conservation must be kept at the forefront of this project as important decisions and changes are made. As evidenced by the struggle to protect the false rue-anemone along the valley's Eastern border from trail users who refuse to stop using a closed path— once people form habits, they feel entitled to continue as they see fit. It is not a stretch to imagine that even more people will continue to use trails inappropriately, including those at the 2018 community meeting who spoke of using motorized personal vehicles in the valley and those that continue to rip through vegetation on bicycles.

The paths connecting the Thames Valley Parkway through the Huron Street/The Parkway neighbourhood are often referenced as a success story and model for the proposed path through Medway Heights. However, these neighbourhoods and locations can not reasonably be compared to one another and treated with the same solution. The Parkway is located directly between downtown and the University. It is a high-traffic area, and the amount of parking lots and facilities nearby can not be overstated. The dynamic of the neighbourhood and how it is used is completely different. These two neighbourhoods are both beautiful and beloved by its residents- but their personalities could not be more opposite and the residents of each live there for a reason. The Parkway neighbourhood is a vibrant part of downtown, with schools, shops, restaurants and the University campus nearby. Medway Heights is a dead-end neighbourhood that has been largely unchanged since its inception— it is very quiet, and there is very little within walking distance. Bringing new and increased traffic into Medway Heights would open the door for parking lots, bathroom facilities and other major changes to the area. This area is simply not built to support the kind of facilities needed for higher traffic. There have been car accidents of varying intensity over the years due to overcrowded parking at the trail entrance beside the Elsie Perrin-Williams estate. As I drove that road this weekend, cars were sprawled out past the entrance onto the road, blocking drivers' visibility and space needed to travel around that corner safely. In the winter months, the road becomes ice-covered and hazardous around the bend. I don't point this out to be overdramatic- the area is truly not built for this type of use and these situations cause real danger. A practical solution may instead be to expand trail accessibility from the Elsie Perrin-Williams Estate, where safe and proper parking already exists.

Safety and crime are also key concerns of the community, and this topic was brought up many times during the community meeting in 2018. A resident of Medway Heights with a background in criminology cited specific increases in crime where access points connect separate neighbourhoods. It is disheartening to see that after so much genuine concern from the community at past meetings, safety and crime were not considered at all in the revised plan— especially when we continue to be assured that our concerns matter to City staff. I was actually quite shocked at the way you laughed and belittled the concerns of community members at the April 8th meeting, citing a 'special little folder' you created for residents' emails. The role of a public servant is not to judge and label community members by their neighbourhood, race, socioeconomic status, or any other facet of their identity. I sincerely hope that this Conservation Master Plan will be

revised and discussed in a holistic way to create harmony within the community, rather than hostility.

Once again, we have arrived at the chance to make decisions that will affect future generations of Londoners, and the natural areas held delicately in the balance of our ever-growing city. What a loss it would be for London, for Ontario, and for Canada the day we begin to lose ourselves and disturb one of the precious few pieces of Carolinian forest left in Canada. It is the duty of London to keep this land as natural as possible, to protect its species and inhabitants. Our city is filled with such a wide variety of outdoor spaces, many of them fully accessible and multi-use. These spaces enrich our lives and make the Forest City what it is. It would be devastating to shift our values and develop within a rare ESA- even to a small degree- to meet human needs. My position is not to silence anyone advocating for accessibility— it is to protect those who have no voice at all. Is our true ambition as Londoners to bring machinery into Medway Valley to change the land in the name of semi-accessibility? I ask you, why is it not to protect one of the last pieces of rare, sacred land that not nearly enough know the significance of? That Londoners of the future may never know the significance of? In the moment, changes such as those proposed can feel so small. To have such opposition to them can seem extreme. But the small doors they open could prove to overwhelm this ecosystem in the future. Every change we make, no matter how small, can not be taken back. The critical time to protect Medway Valley is now.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter. I look forward to our next community meeting together.

Samantha Pacifico

From: Brennan Vogel
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 3:08 PM
To: Williamson, Emily
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Medway Valley Conservation Master Plan - Your feedback is needed!

Emily -

A level 3 (paved?) trail running through Attawandaron Park is inappropriate for several reasons, the predominant reason being the narrowing of the accessible area for trail construction at the North end of the park which abuts affordable row housing in a mixed density neighborhood.

Paving a trail through this area would either: A. require the City's appropriation of land from homeowner's backyards or B. cutting into the ESA on a steeply sloped area, which is at odds with the intent of the ESA (e.g. the conservation of natural space, in its original form). Furthermore, Attawandaron Park is the only accessible and open green space in this neighborhood and running a paved trail through this park is ill-advised as it will deter from the enjoyment of this natural open space area for existing residents while

minimizing the buffer between adjoining backyards, a predictable increase in traffic in the area compromising the ESA, while increased traffic and pavement runoff into the already sensitive ESA areas adjacent to the Medway.

Please confirm receipt,

Brennan Vogel, PhD
1642 Attawandaron Rd

From: Allyson Vanstone

Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 4:31 PM

To: Williamson, Emily; City of London, Mayor; Morgan, Josh; van Holst, Michael; Lewis, Shawn; Salih, Mo Mohamed; Helmer, Jesse; Cassidy, Maureen; Squire, Phil; Lehman, Steve; Hopkins, Anna; Van Meerbergen, Paul; Turner, Stephen; Peloza, Elizabeth; Kayabaga, Arielle; Hillier, Steven; Info Line Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
Cc: Holden Rhodes; Tom Tillmann; Sal Pacifico; George Sinkler

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerns regarding the 2021 Medway Valley Heritage Forest
ESA: Conservation Master Plan

Please find our letter of concern attached.

April 19, 2021

Dear Ms. Williamson and City Council members,

My husband, Peter Pendl and I, Allyson Vanstone, reside at 74 Green Acres Drive. We are writing in regards to the "Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads" that Ms. Williamson presented at a one-hour zoom meeting on April 8.

We have many concerns with the proposal.

Our first concern is that the proposed access points and roadway use in the Medway Heights Neighbourhood, specifically Green Acres Drive and Gloucester Road, constitute the same path that was presented in the Medway Valley plan in 2018. At that time, almost 75% of our neighbourhood signed a quickly circulated petition and spoke passionately against this plan. The current 2021 plan shows there has been no consideration of our neighbourhood concerns and that alternative ideas have not been examined or presented. In fact, when asked about these concerns in the zoom call, Ms. Williamson told us that it isn't her problem that we would need to speak with the next planners after this proposal is passed.

Our neighbourhood concerns listed in 2018 still hold true. Please see the update petition that has been submitted from our neighbourhood detailing the following concerns;

1. Safety
2. Inconvenient/Annoyance/Nuisance
3. More than Adequate Nearby Existing Access Elsewhere
4. Liability
5. No Public Demand

Our second concern is the poor plan of the proposed path itself. Based on how people currently use the Medway Valley, people will not follow the newly proposed path. In order to use this path, people would need to walk out of the valley and through our neighbourhood, which would look like the following:

1. Up a 65 foot incline,
2. Along a path behind 11 homes (approximately 500m),
3. Exiting the nature path onto Green Acres Drive through the newly proposed path between 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive,
4. Along Green Acres Drive and Gloucester Road, in front of the same 11 homes, and
5. Back down into the valley through a reentry point between 1607 and 1597 Gloucester Road.

This detour of approximately one kilometer moves people around an area that would be approximately 250 meters if they walked straight through. Like water, people will make their way through the area and will not use the detour as intended. People accessing the two entry point rom our neighbourhood will not follow the intended path either, rather these openings will just become additional access points bringing more traffic to the ESA and our neighbourhood.

Our third concern is environmental degradation of the Medway Valley, including animal habitat, with construction of new ramps into the valley and increased usage by opening up a new access point. All new access points will increase the amount of people going into the valley, stepping off the paths, creating their own paths, cycling in the valley, partying in the valley, living in the valley and leaving garbage When the number of people and garbage increases, this will lead to more planning and development to combat the new problems. The Medway Valley will be turned into another park and will stop being an Environmentally Sensitive Area with thriving plant and animal habitat.

Our final concern, specifically related to our home, is the road/driveway that currently exists between 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive. This road/driveway has been there since the neighbourhood was developed in the 1950s and is the only access to the garages of both homes. Placing a trail down the middle of this road will impede access to our laneways and garages. This will lead to safety concerns for people and vehicles using the same path. In addition, there are

many trees, hedges and a 200+ year-old willow tree in the middle of the lane that would need to be destroyed to implement the new path plan.

Thank you for your consideration of all these issues. We would like to see the planners develop alternative possibilities for saving both the Medway Valley ESA and the Medway Heights neighbourhood.

Sincerely,

Allyson Vanstone and Peter Pendl
74 Green Acres Drive

From: Wendy Fretz
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 2:25 PM
To: Williamson, Emily
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan

Good afternoon Emily,

This is a note that I sent to Josh Morgan earlier this week which he responded to today. He asked that I submit it to the Get Involved site because he considered my comments to be thoughtful and evidence based. Because I was only addressing the concerns re: crime and your team was focusing on the conservation matters I had only contacted Josh. I have checked out the site but only saw an area to become part of the discussion. Perhaps that is what he was referring...not sure...so I decided to just send a copy of my email to you.

Thanks for your time and effort on this big project,
Wendy Fretz

From: Wendy Fretz
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 1:41 PM
To: Morgan, Josh
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan meeting...
Sent: April 14, 2021 1:41 PM

Good afternoon Josh,

I attended the virtual meeting last Thursday evening. First of all I would like to say that your comments re: the timeline and background process undertaken by committee and City Council over the last couple of years was well-stated. You were concise and very honest about the discussions and voting procedure.

I was also at an in-person public meeting in City Hall a couple of years ago when a criminology professor at Western who lives in the Windermere neighbourhood stood up with her pile of documents offering to share them with council members. In short, she

was contending that the more an area is exposed to more people, the more crime there will be. So...I was not surprised when the comments/questions around the possible uptick in crime for that neighbourhood came up again Thursday evening.

I live on Valleyrun Boulevard, a street that is now part of the link to the Medway Valley on the north side of Fanshawe Park Rd. The walkway that is part of the loop is located two houses away from us. And yes, since that has opened and the connecting trail completed in the valley, the walking traffic past our home has surged. And then the pandemic happened and more and more people were looking for an outside activity to partake in. I love seeing the activity. There are whole families strolling past, people with walkers, hiking poles, strollers, toboggans, children on tricycles and scooters. What a wonderful way for families to spend quality time together safely outdoors getting exercise and fresh air!

I am the Valleyrun Neighbourhood Watch coordinator and I can tell you that we have had no uptick in crime. In fact, there have been fewer incident reports the last couple of years compared to when I started the Watch in 2012.

In closing, one last comment I would like to make and probably the most salient one. We live on a public street as do the homeowners on Gloucester, Green Acres and Ryersie. Why would we think that it shouldn't be shared with the public?

Thank you for giving your constituents the opportunity for feedback,

Sincerely,

Wendy Fretz
1984 Valleyrun Blvd

From: Tom Tillmann
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 2:41 PM
To: Williamson, Emily
Cc: Morgan, Josh; Holden Rhodes; George Sinker; Sal Pacifico; Allyson Vanstone
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Response to the Master Plan of Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA(south)- Access points #11 and #12

Good afternoon Emily,
Over the last 10 plus days the residents of Medway Heights undertook a grass roots campaign within the neighbourhood to investigate more formally where there was, and was not support for the Conservation Master Plan II - Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA (South) access points #11 and #12. Overwhelmingly, the residents of this neighbourhood reacted negatively to the inclusion of the access points #11 and #12, as part of the trail system. This is a stronger, yet similar result to the petition we presented to the City in the spring of 2018 when we were first made aware of these two connections within the master plan. There are 90 homes that make up the neighbourhood of Medway Heights.

The following summarizes the results of our neighbourhood petition (a copy of the petition is attached):

1. 74 of 77 (96%) households where contact was made, the home owner(s) signed the petition (one signature was provided digitally as they are currently out of the country);
2. 3 of the households contacted declined to sign the petition;
3. There was no answer at 9 homes (at least 2 attempts were made to meet with the home owner);
4. 1 household wanted to learn more about the issue as they are relatively new to the neighbourhood;
5. 1 home is under reconstruction and no one is presently occupying;
6. 1 home has not been occupied for over 25 years;
7. In total, 91 signatures were received, a larger result due to the fact that both the husband and wife wanted to sign the petition.

We formally request that this petition be presented and entered into the record at the next Planning and Environmental Committee meeting where the Medway Valley Master Plan is on the agenda.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any clarifications regarding this matter. I look forward to your response.

Regards,
Tom

From: Sal Pacifico

Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2021 3:11 PM

To: Williamson, Emily; Info Line Upper Thames River Conservation Authority; Morgan, Josh

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA: Conservation Master Plan

Dear Ms. Williamson, City council, special committees

I am contacting you directly to further express my position, concern and opinion of the 2 pedestrian access points being considered for the Medway Valley ESA. For the past 31 years, my family and I have lived in the Medway Heights neighbourhood -- 26 years at 1649 Gloucester Road and for the past 5 years at 1607 Gloucester Road, and we intend to continue living in this neighbourhood for the foreseeable future. My understanding is that the mandate is to open up all the trails and make them continuous for the sake of the mandate, or perhaps to satisfy a few vocal groups. In my opinion, this has not been considered from all angles and seems more ideological than practical, as the city has not fully considered the implications of parking requirements, safety and environmental concerns.

Many people drive to these access points and need to park. The city needs to take these factors into account, and direct people towards access points in locations already owned by the city that have adequate parking facilities and do not block existing roads. An insignificant number of people walk the entire trail continuously, I feel it is not

practical to succumb to the wishes of a few to disrupt the natural dynamic of an entire neighbourhood.

My family and I, as well as an overwhelming majority of our neighbours are not supportive of changes to the existing access point or opening up the second access point. This is a position that remains unchanged when it was first brought to our attention in 2018. We are familiar with the background information made available through the City website.

These formal pedestrian connections may be a quick solution in order to avoid going through delicate areas of the ESA, however, while they solve one issue they will cause even more in the Medway Heights neighbourhood. Once changes like these are made, they are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to reverse. The dynamics of each of London's diverse neighbourhoods are unique and can not all be treated with the same solution. Our streets are narrow, have no curbs or sidewalks, and the extra traffic would be detrimental to these streets that connect only to themselves. I was frankly shocked that the staff did not take crime, parking, and rule enforcement into account in order to formulate a proposal. Incredibly, we heard that compliance is at user discretion. Our neighbourhood sees first hand what compliance looks like when people take bicycles down into the valley, have their animals off leash, allowing them to trample vegetation, littering, parking on narrow streets and even parking on private property. City staff is hoping that people will comply, but this is not realistic and it is irresponsible to come up with a plan without considering all the consequences. There seems to be a lack of accountability. Who do we turn to when people use their "own discretion" to the detriment of an ESA?

The ideal access to the trail is from the City owned parking lot at the end of Windermere Road West. While some people walk to these access points, many drive and need parking. Our streets are not designed to accommodate many parked cars. As stated before, they are very narrow and, with no sidewalks or curbs, it becomes dangerous for pedestrians and encourages trail users to walk on residents' lawns. As a property owner living next to one access point, I can attest to having had cars park 5 feet onto my grass and even in my driveway, blocking my garage doors. After calling parking enforcement and being told there was nothing they could do about people parking in the driveway, I had to wait for trail users to finish their hike in order to get out of my own garage. I had to install a fence along the east side of 1607 Gloucester as I had constant onlookers and trespassers on my property. Anyone walking on the path stopped to look at our back yard--whatever gardening projects we were working on that day, our bicycles and outdoor equipment, friends who were visiting, etc. We became part of the tour. I currently don't have a fence along the south side of my property as it is a natural migration path for many animals to come and go on their daily walks -- deer, coyotes, and wild turkeys among others. Trail users walk across our yard on a constant basis, as they have failed to stop at the "no trespassing" signs erected by the city and vandalized my personal signs and backyard furniture. These walkers are generally lost and have no idea where they are or how to get back to where they came from. Oddly enough, we also have people who park on the road after dark and proceed into the ESA, knapsacks slung over their shoulders with whatever they might need while in the valley. Is this what you mean when you say "appropriate recreational opportunities"? This happens at the small parking lot at the end of Windermere Road as well. At that small parking lot, when

it is full, instead of parking at the city owned Elsie Perrin Williams estate lot, people will park on the bend of the road at the corner of Windermere and Ryersie Roads, creating a hazardous situation for traffic and pedestrians. The current new path under the Fanshawe Park Road bridge gives residents north of Fanshawe ample access to both sides of the Medway Valley. Is this not sufficient access?

Ms. Williamson you stated at the meeting you are an ecologist not a criminologist. Are you not concerned about the devastation that these industrial strength paths will do to the valley. I have first hand witnessed the slow deterioration of this once pristine forest. It started with the construction of the sewers' along the river in the Medway valley back a few decades. While a half hearted attempt was made to plant a few small trees to replace the mature ones that had to be cut down, most died with no follow up from the city or the contractor that put the sewers in. After the work, the valley became contaminated with invasive species that have since taken over most of the valley. It is now filled with buckthorn trees, and broadleaf grass that carpets most of the valley instead of the annual other species that were there before. As you know the buckthorn trees have very thick root systems that choke out all other species of annuals, trees or shrubs. Making the valley more accessible, "hardening" the paths for walkers, and making them accessible by large maintenance vehicles and emergency vehicles will destroy the little that is left of what was once a beautiful forest and turn it into yet another city park full of buckthorn trees. I cannot imagine that the upper Thames valley authority is not horrified by what is being proposed by so called ecologists in order to appease a few people that need to walk everywhere in comfort.

I urge you to reconsider these ideologies of the day, and leave the forest as it is for the next generation, and provide funding for its saving rather than its demise. Fund the upper Thames to maintain the forest and to restore its original vegetation by removing the buckthorn and other invasive species. It was only a few years ago that council made a decision to plant thousands of trees, and to declare a climate state of emergency. What I hear today is that we pave every road with concrete, and cut down mature trees to do this. Concrete is made of cement and cement is one of the products that produces the most amount of co2 in order to make it. We are going in opposite direction at warp speed, while spending as much money as we can doing it. I urge council and the special committees to consider all consequences when making any decision that will change what we already have.

At the April 8, 2021 meeting, the city representatives stated that their mandate did not include studying the effects these access points would have on parking, crime, trash, bicycles and motorized vehicles, further destruction of the valleys ecology, and people going off the trails. Why are these items being ignored? At this information meeting, Ms. Williamson you stated that you are not a criminologist however, one of the residents of the Medway Heights neighbourhoods is. She spoke specifically about an increase in criminal behavior where connections and access points existed, at the community meeting in 2018, a meeting that continued past midnight because of the high volume of concerns from the community. These access points provide easy getaway paths that cannot easily be followed by law enforcement in cars. You can go to the minutes or the recording of that meeting to hear all that was said 3 years ago in opposition of the plan. Those arguments still apply. I recognize the intention of living in a society where

anyone can go anywhere in peace, but in reality, the consequences of doing this will never meet the needs of every person and this must be factored into planning and development before forever changing heritage neighbourhoods and ESAs in an ever-expanding city. As the late economist Thomas Sowell stated, there are no solutions, only trade offs. Your decision to open up the ESA to more traffic is to the detriment of the ESA itself, the safety of our neighbourhood, and the peace and tranquility that we work hard to maintain.

I look forward to discussing this matter further with you. Please forward this letter to the appropriate parties.

Thank you.
Sal Pacifico
1607 Gloucester road.

From: George Sinker
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Williamson, Emily
Cc: Holden Rhodes; 'Tom Tillmann'
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads

Hi Emily;
In the interests of complete transparency and full disclosure would you kindly provide me with the following:

Names and contact information for the following together with copies of minutes of all meetings with these groups and all emails/letters and correspondence between the City and these groups in connection with the above referenced matter :

1. Environmental Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC)
2. Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC)
3. Upper Thames Region Conservation Authority (UTRCA)
4. First Nations Communities – presumably Chippewas of the Thames and Onieda Muncey first Nations

It is imperative that we receive this information well before the non binding date of April 30th for comments on the above

Thanks
George

From: Emily Williamson
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Allyson Vanstone; Samantha Pacifico; Sal Pacifico; George Sinker; Tom Tillman; Holden Rhodes
Cc: Fabro, Michael
Subject: Medway Valley ESA CMP Eastern Boundary - Response

Hello,

Thank you for your emails and attached documents. We have reviewed and will add them to the consultation record for consideration along with other input sources as we complete the 2021 Conservation Master Plan (CMP) Addendum and forthcoming Planning and Environment Committee (PEC) Report. As there were similar question and comment themes in the emails that I've received from this group, I have compiled a list below with responses so that I can respond to the entire group simultaneously.

I would also like to clarify any confusion regarding the April 30 comment deadline. April 30 is the last date where input and comments can be received to be incorporated into the preparation of the final staff report for the Conservation Master Plan Addendum. It is not the last date for comments to be received on the Conservation Master Plan project, which will be accepted up to and until Council makes a decision on the matter.

Questions and Comment Themes

1. **Trail through Medway Heights neighbourhood contextualized as a multiuse trail. Questions regarding the surface material**

No trails are proposed on the road or within the City owned right of way on Gloucester or Green Acres Drive.

Paved surfaces will be limited to the greatest extent possible as per the Council resolution. Level 2 trails can consist of any firm and stable material. If approved, Staff would initiate the detailed design phase of the Medway Valley CMP and determine what applications were appropriate in each area, in line with Table 2 in the Trail Management Guideline.

Level 2 trails are 1.5 m - 2 m wide, a maximum of .5 m larger than the current Level 1 Trails (1.0 m - 1.5 m). Construction activities for these trail improvements will be conducted in an appropriate manner to limit impacts to vegetation, consistent with similar efforts in London's other Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs).

2. **What does 'Accessible' mean and is accessibility appropriate in this setting? Comments on slope 'steepness'**

Based on the Trail Guideline, a firm and stable surface includes asphalt or granular material in a Natural Environment Management Overlay, depending on the site specific conditions. Accessibility is appropriate in all settings, and accessible trails are appropriate in natural environment areas. They have been included them on both the west and east side of the creek in the Sustainable Trail Concept Plan. Accessibility means different things in different places and for different abilities. In this case, any opportunity to provide a surface that is more firm and stable will improve access for a greater portion of the public based on discussions with Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC) during the internal

concept plan meetings. Signage within the ESA will provide users with an understanding of slopes and trail surfaces. Improving the trail surface will both enable a safer trail experience for all but also expand the potential user group.

3. Environmental Concerns and Conformity to the Provincial Policy Statement, London Plan, 1989 Official Plan

The CMP's primary goal is to protect the natural environment. The secondary aspect of the plan is to establish appropriate trail uses based on the City's Trail Management Guidelines in ESAs. Generally, people stay on paths, and establishing a formal pathway system is the best way to avoid informal trail creation and other inappropriate uses. Given that the CMP was initiated in 2013, the greater threat to sensitive species communities may be to delay implementing a sustainable trail management plan.

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), The London Plan and the 1989 Official Plan all provide for the long term conservation and protection of natural heritage features and areas. The City's policies conform to the PPS, and are grounded in ecological and environmental protection. Similarly, provincial and municipal policies support the provision of a full range and equitable distribution of publicly-accessible parks facilities, open space and natural areas and trails and linkages.

4. Enforcement of Inappropriate Uses, Garbage and Bikes

The City funds a \$500K management contract with Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) to manage and maintain the ESAs. The Friends of the Medway Valley Adopt-An-ESA group complete garbage collection hikes (temporarily shut down due to Covid restrictions). The 2018 CMP includes education recommendations that will be carried forward as part of the 2021 version recommended to Council. We are open to any other suggestions that you may have to improve compliance and inspire stewardship among ESA users.

5. Safety and Crime Rates in the Neighbourhood

We have heard the community's concerns that establishing an additional access will greatly increase crime in the area. Parks and open spaces are located in all areas of the City, as are access points and trail heads. The presence of these facilities has not been demonstrated to correlate to any increase in crime.

6. Inconvenient/Annoyance/Nuisance to the Neighbourhood

Inconvenience, annoyance and nuisance are subjective terms, and are difficult to assess. While some increase in pedestrians walking on the street between the access points can be expected, the degree to which this would cause inconvenience, annoyance or nuisance cannot be determined.

7. Parking and use of Public Streets

The anticipated users of the trails would be trail users who are already on the trail system and continuing their journey, or neighbours who would enter the trail system from these access points. It is not likely that people would drive to this

area to access the pathway system. The existing parking at the Windermere access is not proposed for expansion. Gloucester Road, Green Acres Drive and Ryersie Road are all public streets, and any on-street parking would comply with any existing on-street parking restrictions.

8. Questions Regarding Access Development and Maintaining Access to Private Driveways and Garages

Using the city-owned road allowance to provide access to the trail system will require further consultation with the abutting neighbours. Use of the road allowance and access to the driveways by the neighbours would be maintained. A 'trail surface' is not proposed between the shared drive within the 20 m road allowance. The City's heritage willow tree would be preserved as part of this work, as part of a landscape plan for the access.

Formalization of the Gloucester Road ESA Access is intended to clearly distinguish public versus private property (thus reducing the likelihood of ESA users blocking access to private property). Signage would inform users of permitted activities within the ESA, including the permitted hours of access (6 am to 10 pm daily).

9. Questions Regarding the Decision Making Process, Opportunities for Appeal and Staff's Role

Conservation Master Plans are guideline documents, and are adopted by Municipal Council. Municipal Council is the decision-making authority. Staff provide professional and technical advice to Council, and recommend actions for Council's consideration. Conservation Master Plans provide direction on the management of ESAs and other natural heritage areas. CMPs are generally prepared by staff and Consultants retained by the City. Conservation Master Plans are not appealable to a Tribunal such as the Local Appeals Planning Tribunal (LPAT), however, CMPs often provide recommendations for amendments to the City's Official plan, such as amendments to the boundaries of the ESA. These amendments could be subject to an appeal to the LPAT. It is anticipated that there will be an Official Plan amendment (OPA) to revise the eastern boundary delineation approved by Council in 2015.

10. Framing the CMP as a dispute between Environmentalists and Accessibility Advocates

The Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan was referred back to staff on April 24, 2018. The resolution regarding that referral is attached. Staff were directed to work with the ACCAC, the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC), UTRCA and local First Nations Communities to establish a trail plan that prioritizes environmental protection and provides accessible trail options. In consultation with these groups, Staff completed a revised trail plan. Both EEPAC and ACCAC have confirmed their support for the plan in Meeting Minutes from March 18 and March 25 respectively. The UTRCA

has also provided support of the plan while also noting that Section 28 Permits will be required. -

For the trail system along the western bank of the Creek, the intent was to provide as much access to the pathway system and to areas within the Valley as was appropriate in accordance with the trail design standards, and to provide users with a trail system that would divert them away from sensitive species and private property, and mitigate risk and hazard concerns.

11. Rationale for trail level revisions and data validity

As part of the referral back, Staff were directed by Council to revise the internal ESA trail system with ACCAC/EEPAC/UTRCA and local First Nations Communities. The trail level revisions are based on a multi-year natural heritage study completed by Dillon to establish this conceptual plan. Site conditions will be confirmed by City Staff during the detailed design phase.

I hope that this answers some of your questions or provides context for some of your concerns.

As many of you are already aware, if you would like more information, project updates or alternate ways to provide input, please go to the City's engagement website "Get Involved" (<https://getinvolved.london.ca/medway-valley-cmp>).

Sincerely,
Emily Williamson

From: George Sinker
Sent: April 27, 2021 10:43 AM
To: Emily Williamson
Subject: *EXT*-RE: Medway Valley CMP

Hi Emily;
For the public consultation record here is the response to the email I sent last evening to Councillor Morgan encouraging me to make my comments on alternatives part of the consultation record.
George

From: Morgan, Josh
Sent: April 27, 2021 10:10 AM
To: George Sinker
Cc: 'Tom Tillmann'; Holden Rhodes; Morgan, Josh
Subject: *EXT*-RE: Medway Valley CMP

Hi George,

Thanks for this, these are really comments that need to be given as formal feedback to our staff. You are proposing a number of new things that were not in either of the draft plans and a few that have some capital costs and significant permissions/processes associated with them (esp in the cases property acquisition and expropriation). Some of these are big ideas that would need to be considered within the wider context and in light of any restrictions that the ESA / UTRCA might have on them.

I think it would be best to stick with the structure suggested on April 25th in Tom's e-mail for the upcoming meeting.

I appreciate the recently circulated petition that includes completely closing access points A11 & A12. I would like to take some time to explore that possibility at the meeting as that is what the community has clearly communicated.

If you would like to talk before the meeting, I would be happy to do that. Let me know and perhaps we can set something up for around mid-day tomorrow. I could set up a zoom if all of you would like to talk.

Josh

From: George Sinker
Sent: April 26, 2021 7:58 PM
To: Morgan, Josh
Cc: Tom Tillmann; Holden Rhodes
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley CMP

Good Evening Josh,

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the residents of Medway Heights via Zoom this coming Wednesday. We appreciate your attention to the issues at hand. Prior to the meeting, Tom, Holden and I thought it would be best to provide you with my thoughts and those of numerous neighbours relating to what we believe are reasonable and viable alternatives to the City proposals as they relate to the A11 and A12 access points, use of Gloucester Road and Green Acres Drive for trail connectivity and trail connectivity itself, as a concept, as it relates to the ecology of the valley. We have consulted with Dave Hayman, Manager, Biological Services, MTE Consultants Inc. Mr. Hayman is a resident of Sherwood Forrest and is accordingly well acquainted with the topography and ecological balance of the valley.

Should you agree with and wish to raise all or any of the following alternatives, please call me at # or # prior to the meeting to discuss. If you do not wish to raise these issues, please let me know and I will bring them forward.

1. Alternatives to Use of A11, A12, Gloucester Road and Green Acres Dr. as Level 2 Trails and Connectors Respectively

One of the issues relating to trail and connector road usage proposed by the CMP relates to parking and the safety issues arising therefrom. Currently many cars are parked at the intersection of Windermere Road and Ryersie Road by persons using the access point at the west end of Windermere and along Gloucester Road at access A11. As you know our roads are narrow and an abundance of parked vehicles pose significant safety issues for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. We propose that additional parking areas with appropriately placed signage on Windermere Road be constructed on the Elsie Perrin Williams (EPW) grounds. There is more than sufficient land available there to do so. The existing parking area at the end of Windermere Road should then be blocked to vehicles as it would be redundant. The Windermere access to the valley is heavily used but steep. We suggest that stairs be constructed at this point providing safe access to the valley floor for abled persons. This would provide the north/south access to the valley that City Planning staff requires. Additionally, we suggest that several steps be taken to encourage and facilitate the safe, environmentally friendly use of the valley by other abled persons. There is a location on the trail head at the rear of the EPW house which provides a stunning lookout down the valley. Appropriate access to this area could be constructed together with a safe and secure barrier at the precipice, benches installed etc. For those other abled persons who wish to use the valley floor, we propose that appropriate access and trails be created on the meadow lands which at one time was used as a 9 hole golf course. It is relatively flat and has lovely vistas.

2. Is Connectivity Desirable?

In conversation with Mr. Hayman, he has indicated, in his expert opinion, that the A11 and A12 access points would be best left as locally used, level 1 trails. Mr. Hayman also indicated that by including A11, A12 and the related connector roads as part of a larger network, the City would be encouraging a detrimental level of access at these access points. We presume this is due to nearby environmentally sensitive areas. The City appears to be attempting to create a loop system within the valley which is contrary to the sustainability of the valley as a natural heritage forest. Connectivity may be acceptable in some areas (Thames Valley Trail) but it is contrary to the primary priority in this instance which is the sustainability of the ecology of the Medway Valley. It would appear that the proposal by the City to use Green Acres and Gloucester as connectors to the trail system has arisen due to private property issues. Has the City considered negotiating the acquisition, or if unsuccessful, the expropriation of sufficient land on the valley floor to allow the old trail along the river behind 1615 and 1619 Gloucester Road to be used for trail purposes? Barriers could be erected to protect the false rue-anemone. These areas are neither seen nor used by the owners. It seems unreasonable to burden many owners who are negatively impacted by the draft plan for the dubious benefit of two owners. This would allow local use of A11 on a level 1 basis.

3. Lack of Holistic Approach by City of London and UTRCA

As owners of property bordering the ESA, Medway Heights residents have raised a multitude of issues of concern with Planning staff which have not been satisfactorily

answered. The Planner has indicated that she is constrained by the April 25th, 2018 resolution of council and that decisions relating to City matters such as parking enforcement, bylaw enforcement, police services, implementation of the CMP and construction of trail surfaces, stairs etc. as approved by UTRCA will be dealt with in future. We deserve to know what the end result will be before anything is put in place by council. The entirety of the process and the physical results must be disclosed, discussed and considered in a collaborative manner before the City proceeds.

We appreciate your consideration and efforts on our behalf.

Sincerely,

George Sinker

From: George Sinker
Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 10:22 AM
To: Williamson, Emily
Cc: Holden Rhodes; Tom Tillman; Morgan, Josh
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley CMP and Draft Sustainable Trail Plan

Hi Emily;

This is in reply to your email to me dated April 26th. I do not believe that it is fair or reasonable that I should have to scan through 3 years of ACCAC or EEPAC minutes to review their position of these matters as I wish to see them prior to April 30th so I can respond to you about these consultations prior to April 30th. I also want to see the correspondence and minutes of meeting with UTRCA and the Indigenous people prior to April 30th for the same reason. I spoke yesterday with Dan Schinkelshoek Chair of "Friends of the Medway Valley" and he was not aware that this matter was back up for review. I am a ratepayer who assists in payment of the salary of staff through my property taxes. I should not be rebuffed by staff in their apparent rush to complete a task that staff have apparently been working on for 3 years. Staff have only made the Medway heights neighbourhood aware that this issue was back up for consideration in a letter sent by ordinary mail to ratepayers in late March of this year. A rush to judgment is an abuse of process and a denial of natural justice.

This matter should be deferred until a proper collaborative and holistic approach has been initiated to deal with all issues including above all the Medway Heights neighbourhood which is most directly affected.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated co-operation.

George

From: Emily Williamson
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:31 PM
To: George Sinker
Cc: Michael Fabro
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads

Hello Mr. Sinker,

In response to your inquiry regarding names and contact information for the groups listed in your email, I have provided links to the City's Advisory Committee and Advisory Committee meetings and agendas homepages that include meeting times and dates, agendas, and the Committee secretary contacts.

- <https://london.ca/government/council-civic-administration/committees-task-forces/advisory-committees>
- <https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/MeetingsContent?MeetingViewId=2>.

A summary of the input received from these groups will be appended to the staff report to the Planning and Environment Committee. I would be pleased to provide you with a link to that report when it is completed.

I would also like to clarify your comment regarding a "non-binding" comment date. The comment dates are set as the final date where input received on a matter which will be reflected in the staff report. Comments can be received up to the date of any scheduled Committee meeting; it's just that these comments would not be included as part of the staff report.

Sincerely,

Emily Williamson

From: George Sinker
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Williamson, Emily
Cc: Holden Rhodes; Tom Tillmann
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA Conservation Master Plan (South) Eastern Boundary and Roads

Hi Emily;

In the interests of complete transparency and full disclosure would you kindly provide me with the following:

Names and contact information for the following together with copies of minutes of all meetings with these groups and all emails/letters and correspondence between the City and these groups in connection with the above referenced matter :

1. Environmental Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC)
2. Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC)
3. Upper Thames Region Conservation Authority (UTRCA)
4. First Nations Communities – presumably Chippewas of the Thames and Onieda Muncey first Nations

It is imperative that we receive this information well before the non binding date of April 30th for comments on the above

Thanks

George

From: George Sinker

Sent: Friday, April 30, 2021 4:18 PM

To: Williamson, Emily; Morgan, Josh; Tom Tillmann; Holden Rhodes

Cc: Dave Hayman; Michael M. Lerner

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA and Sustainable Trail Plan

Hi Emily;

Josh Morgan has graciously provided me with the recording of the March 18th 2021 EEPAC meeting and the March 25th 2021 ACCAC meeting both of which you participated in. You made clear at those meetings that the then proposed April 8th meeting with the Community was just to discuss the Eastern Boundary and to “see how the neighbours feel about the use of Public Roads and any other suggestions. You stated at the ACCAC meeting that staff wanted to provide “equitable access” and an “equitable experience” for the public to the trails and in answer to committee member “Penny’s” question as to whether “the paths are wheelchair accessible” you stated that “the intent of Level 2 is to be wheelchair accessible”.

The trail between 1597 and 1607 cannot be made firm and stable by adding recycled asphalt, or chip and dust as our consultant Dave Hayman Manager of Biological Sciences at MTE Consulting and UTRCA Land Regulation Officer Brent Verscheure have both indicated to me that it would wash out due to the steepness of the bank and the over 65 foot drop. Wheelchairs could never be used at this location.

I understand that you and your Manager Michael have assured Deputy Mayor Morgan that switchbacks would not be used at A11 as they would further damage the ecology. UTRCA have confirmed that any Development at this location would require S.28 Conservation Authority permits as UTRCA have only commented on your plan from a high level conceptually. I am also advised that any such permit applications would require detailed consultant reports to determine how erosion hazard could be avoided and the primary goal of protection to the environment could be achieved. For these reasons leave the trail between 1597 and 1607 Gloucester Road as a Level 1 trail. Common sense dictates it must be so.

In regard to the use of Public roads in Medway Heights by trail users this should be avoided at all costs as it would represent a safety hazard given the fact that the roads here are not only narrow but contain no sidewalks in the neighbourhood which is how we want it to remain.

The alternative solution to the use of Public Roads by pedestrians hiking in the valley is for them to walk across the public lane owned by the City which lane is south of the homes on Marcus Crescent to where it intersects with the path leading to Ambleside Park then taking the sidewalk east along Ambleside to Corley and then taking the sidewalk south along Corley to Windermere and east along the rather wide (at that location) road allowance to Elsie Perrin Williams Estate.

This keeps the pedestrians safe, protects the City from liability from encouraging the public to walk on Public roads and creates connectivity to the trails at Elsie Perrin Williams.

This also avoids the City having to negotiate Encroachment agreements with the Owners with an encroaching brick wall and poolhouse on the lane off Greenacres which has existed for about 50 years. It would just leave the owner of 1607 Gloucester having to negotiate an Easement with the City to allow him to obtain access to the unopened City Lane from his 7 car garage constructed in 2017 1.23 meters off his east lot line should he wish continued access to the lane.

Kindly consider this email when preparing your Staff Report and have a copy appended to your report please.

George and Sydney Sinker

From: Amanda Swartman
Sent: Friday, May 5, 2021 4:15 PM
To: Emily Williamson
Cc: Josh Morgan; Amanda Swartman
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley

Hi Emily,

With permission provided by the resident, we would like to share the comments below with you regarding the Medway Valley CMP for your consideration.

Thank you,

On behalf of Councillor Josh Morgan,
Amanda Swartman

From: Silvana Pacifico
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 11:51 AM
To: Morgan, Josh
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley

Hello,

Thank you for meeting with the Medway Valley neighbourhood last Wednesday evening. I appreciate you taking the time to hear our concerns. I live at 1607 Gloucester, which is right beside the existing access point into the valley. You mentioned that people could email you if they did not want to voice their concerns at the meeting and I am one of these people.

My concerns are:

1. Cyclists are under the impression that bicycles are allowed in the valley. Tourism London's website lists that cycling is allowed in the Medway Valley Heritage Forest on

crushed gravel paths. People do not distinguish between trails and just feel entitled to take their bicycles down into the valley. They actually just ignore the signs. I called after 2 boys who just laughed at me and continued with their bikes down into the valley. I have confronted many people but frankly I am afraid of the repercussions of doing so.

2. There are signs saying the valley is open from dawn to dusk but according to Emily Williamson and google, the hours are from 6am to 10pm. This far exceeds the normal hours of dusk to dawn. Can the City change the hours advertised on google to read dusk to dawn? Does Emily Williamson even know what the actual hours are according to the signs?

3. Some people at City Hall will cite the newly expanded access point in the Tetherwood neighbourhood as some sort of success story. Just because it was done, does not mean that it is a success. You just need to ask the homeowners most affected by this. Many people in that neighbourhood are extremely unhappy with the access point and have noticed an increase in crime but they did not understand the consequences of having this access point when it was presented.

4. The area at the end of Windermere Road, which is now a small parking lot, was created for London Hydro to get access to their lines. When London Hydro was cutting trees, our neighbours were told that it was for London Hydro's use only. Somehow this land has been turned into a parking lot, the surface was hardened, and a public access point was created. Our neighbourhood was not consulted on this. Again, we were told this was for London Hydro use only. Hikers should be directed towards the Elsie Perrin Williams parking lot with proper signage.

5. The issue of increased crime was brushed aside by Emily Williamson instead of being taken seriously. Dale Ballucci is a criminology professor at Western and has offered to provide evidence of increased crime when access points exist in neighborhoods. It is irresponsible of a person who has been put in charge of this to not do her due diligence and not take advantage of research and statistics that is already in the City's possession, since it was provided 3 years ago. The City should take advantage of this opportunity rather than having the neighbourhood provide it again through a legal challenge.

6. I believe Emily Williamson is pushing to make the existing access point between 1597 and 1607 Gloucester a level 2 trail so that the City can slowly widen and harden the path to accommodate wheeled vehicles. She promises that it will remain basically as is, but upgrading it to a level 2 trail will remove any obstacles for anyone in the future wanting to develop the trail further.

7. The Medway Heights neighbourhood had been around since the 1950s. At that time, the Elsie Perrin Williams Estate was privately owned, therefore the Medway Valley could not be accessed from that point. It became City property in the 1970s, so the City could allow access to the Valley from there. Today, this is the only access that truly makes sense to keep, since there is ample parking and the City can provide trash cans

and washrooms on their site. The other access points are disruptive to the entire neighbourhood and especially to the neighbouring properties.

8. The ESA is not a park! We went through this at the 2018 meeting where sadly, many speakers referred to it as a park. There are parks available that have paved surfaces for scooters, bikes, wheelchairs and strollers. We don't need to make every natural area equally accessible to the detriment of the natural area itself! Having different types of trails available is desirable as not everyone is looking for a smooth trail that approaches the characteristics of a city sidewalk.

9. The only solution is to close the existing access point and leave the second one closed. Trail users can access the valley from the Elsie Perrin Williams estate, which is a city owned property not directly beside any individual house. Trail users consistently ignore signage, resulting in homeowners taking on the burden of redirecting trail users and collecting their garbage and pet waste.

I know that it is the vision of certain people from the City to have this connected system as their legacy. They have one focus and can conduct studies ad nauseam until they have the study they need to support that position. In 2018, the residents of Medway Heights became aware of the CMP by chance, mere weeks before the final meeting—despite the Orchard Park Sherwood Forest and Old Masonville Ratepayers Associations (which Medway Heights is a part of) being included in the discussion from the beginning. We quickly acted so that our views could be represented. Our community is the one most affected by this plan—by far—yet we are repeatedly brushed aside, diminished or left out of decision making discussions. Many of us thought this aspect of the plan had been settled in 2018, but that is clearly not the case. We are and will always be prepared to defend our position and beliefs about Medway Valley.

I appreciate you taking the time to listen to your constituents and present their views to the other members of council who may not be as familiar with this as they may not have been on council in 2018.

Respectfully,
Silvana Pacifico

From: Margaret Jones
Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 4:17 PM
To: Morgan, Josh
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley

Hi Emily,

Please find the comments below from Margaret Jones regarding the Medway Valley CMP. With her permission, we would like to share this with you for your consideration.

Thank you,

On behalf of Councillor Josh Morgan,

Amanda Swartman

From: Margaret Jones
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Morgan, Josh
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley

Thank you very much for convening the meeting Wednesday night concerning the development/protection of the Medway Valley in the Official Plan.

The Medway Valley is a very unique and precious area. Due to the limited access and its environmental protection, it has remained a natural ecosystem in the city.

I would submit that to ensure and maintain this natural environment, access to the valley must be minimized and maintained at L1 in all areas. There are three access points that I will address.

The first access from Gloucester should be maintained as it is, with no parking and L1 access. It does not lead anywhere that is accessible. At one end it is private property and at the other (the South End at Elsie Perrin) the grade is very steep and it would be destructive to make any more than a footpath. As well it will invite more traffic, which in turn will be detrimental to the environment. Presently it is a circular dirt path, that should remain as is with no changes.

The next access is at the North end by Elsie Perrin. I strongly suggest that the access and parking should be closed. It is very steep and the parking is dangerous at the corner. The access should be from the existing but unmaintained trail at Elsie Perrin and the parking should be the existing parking at Elsie Perrin.

The final access, at Green Acres, should not be opened. It will increase the traffic to both the designated sensitive area and private lands in the valley. As well it will increase the traffic to the access at Gloucester. As a result, it will increase the parking, traffic, and potential crime issues in the neighborhood.

We all appreciate your time this evening to address this issue. Please continue to keep us informed of any relevant information and dates concerning this issue, such as the draft master plan and the public participation meeting.

Margaret Jones 1650 Gloucester Rd

From: Travis Macbeth
Date: Friday, July 9, 2021, 9:34 AM
To: Dave Hayman

Cc: Phil Squire; Emily Williamson; Kevin Edwards
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA OPA

Mr. Hayman,

The purpose of the London Plan Amendments are to align mapping with previous Council decision regarding the delineation of the Medway ESA feature. This occurred in 2017 during Phase 1 of the CMP. The London Plan was approved in 2016. Now that the second phase of the CMP is being undertaken, the amendment to align the ESA mapping is being proposed concurrent with the CMP Phase 2 work.

In force London Plan policies include ESA policies, and that ESAs are to be included in the Green Space Place Type on Map 1 (Place Types) and delineated on Map 5 (Natural Heritage). The April 15, 2021 decision of the LPAT approved Map 5 (notwithstanding certain sites), partial approval of Map 1 (including approval of the Green Space Place Type) and approval of outstanding Environmental policies.

Proposed map changes to the old Official Plan (1989) are for alignment with the 2017 ESA delineation as well.

Regards,

Travis Macbeth

From: Squire, Phil
Date: July 8, 2021 at 1:29:10 PM EDT
To: Dave Hayman
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA OPA

There will be a public meeting on this. Phil

From: Dave Hayman
Date: July 8, 2021 at 12:55 PM
To: Squire, Phil
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Medway Valley ESA OPA

Phil:

Here we go again. We live on Doncaster Ave and just finished our debate with the proposed sidewalks and in the midst of construction on our old school grounds, and the City staff suggest an OPA to impact rear yards of resident's existing homes. In looking at the Schedule A and changes proposed, many rear yards in this neighbourhood are now being added as ESA.

It is not clear why this is necessary. Nor is it clear the reason for doing so other than what appears to be a dripline survey from air photos. The line work on the map is thick and so not clear if rear yards are the boundary or some are in and some are out. Others are impacted substantially.

While I recognize there are easements currently in residential or a desire to constrain large properties from subdividing, I see no for other areas of change. Would it not just be better to work with specific landowners to discuss impacts and solutions than a blanket OPA which most people will not see or realize the implications?

It is my opinion that unless staff have a clear notion of why rear yards are to be included on a property by property basis, the ESA line should stay outside of the existing limits.

Dave Hayman

Agency Comments

London Hydro – June 24, 2021

London Hydro has no objection to this proposal or possible official plan and/or zoning amendment. However, London Hydro will require a blanket easement.

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority – February 11, 2021

Thank you for the opportunity and follow-up discussion regarding UTRCA regulatory interests applicable to the Medway Valley Heritage Forest CMP - Phase 2.

The vast majority of the subject lands are regulated by the UTRCA in accordance with *Ontario Regulation 157/06*, made pursuant to Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The regulation limit at this location is comprised of both riverine flooding and riverine erosion hazards. Prior to undertaking any site specific alteration or development on these lands, including filling, grading, construction of trails or other, written approval will be required through a Section 28 permit application and approval. Further, it is acknowledged and understood that during future detailed design and implementation phases of the various components of the Medway Valley CMP, further consultation will be required with the UTRCA that will confirm the site/location specific technical assessments (ie. geotechnical investigations, SWM and drainage considerations, grading, ESC plans etc.) required to support the proposed trail design, specific siting/location, and development.

UTRCA staff recognize and appreciate significant effort has been made amongst various stakeholders and agencies to prepare a conceptual CMP to bring forward having regard for various interests. In general, UTRCA Environmental Regulations staff support and agree with the principles that provide the framework for the (conceptual) CMP which includes the future formalization of existing trails, closure of informal trails, and overall strategic improvement to accessibility and connectivity, restoration and management, while ultimately having regard for hazard lands.

April 19, 2021

Dear Ms. Williamson and City Council members,

My husband, Peter Pendl and I, Allyson Vanstone, reside at 74 Green Acres Drive. We are writing in regards to the “

We have many concerns with the proposal.

Our first concern is that the proposed access points and roadway use in the Medway Heights Neighbourhood, specifically Green Acres Drive and Gloucester Road, constitute the same path that was presented in the Medway Valley plan in 2018. At that time, almost 75% of our neighbourhood signed a quickly circulated petition and spoke passionately against this plan. The current 2021 plan shows there has been no consideration of our neighbourhood concerns and that alternative ideas have not been examined or presented. In fact, when asked about these concerns in the zoom call, Ms. Williamson told us that it isn't her problem and that we would need to speak with the next planners after this proposal is passed.

Our neighbourhood concerns listed in 2018 still hold true. Please see the updated petition that has been submitted from our neighbourhood detailing the following concerns:

1. Safety
2. Inconvenient/Annoyance/Nuisance
3. More than Adequate Nearby Existing Access Elsewhere
4. Liability
5. No Public Demand

Our second concern is the poor plan of the proposed path itself. Based on how people currently use the Medway Valley, people will not follow the newly proposed path. In order to use this path, people would need to walk out of the valley and through our neighbourhood, which would look like the following:

1. Up a 65 foot incline,
2. Along a path behind 11 homes (approximately 500 meters),
3. Exiting the nature path onto Green Acres Drive through the newly proposed path between 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive,
4. Along Green Acres Drive and Gloucester Road, in front of the same 11 homes, and

5. Back down into the valley through a reentry point between 1607 and 1597 Gloucester Road.

This detour of approximately one kilometer moves people around an area that would be approximately 250 meters if they walked straight through. Like water, people will make their way through the area and will not use the detour as intended. People accessing the two entry points from our neighbourhood will not follow the intended path either, rather these openings will just become additional access points bringing more traffic to the ESA and our neighbourhood.

Our third concern is environmental degradation of the Medway Valley, including animal habitat, with construction of new ramps into the valley and increased usage by opening up a new access point. All new access points will increase the amount of people going into the valley, stepping off the paths, creating their own paths, cycling in the valley, partying in the valley, living in the valley and leaving garbage. When the number of people and garbage increases, this will lead to more planning and development to combat the new problems. The Medway Valley will be turned into another park and will stop being an Environmentally Sensitive Area with thriving plant and animal habitat.

Our final concern, specifically related to our home, is the road/driveway that currently exists between 74 and 84 Green Acres Drive. This road/driveway has been there since the neighbourhood was developed in the 1950s and is the only access to the garages of both homes. Placing a trail down the middle of this road will impede access to our laneways and garages. This will lead to safety concerns for people and vehicles using the same path. In addition, there are many trees, hedges and a 200+ year-old willow tree in the middle of the lane that would need to be destroyed to implement the new path plan.


Thank you for your consideration of all these issues. We would like to see the planners develop alternative possibilities for saving both the Medway Valley ESA and the Medway Heights neighbourhood.

Sincerely,

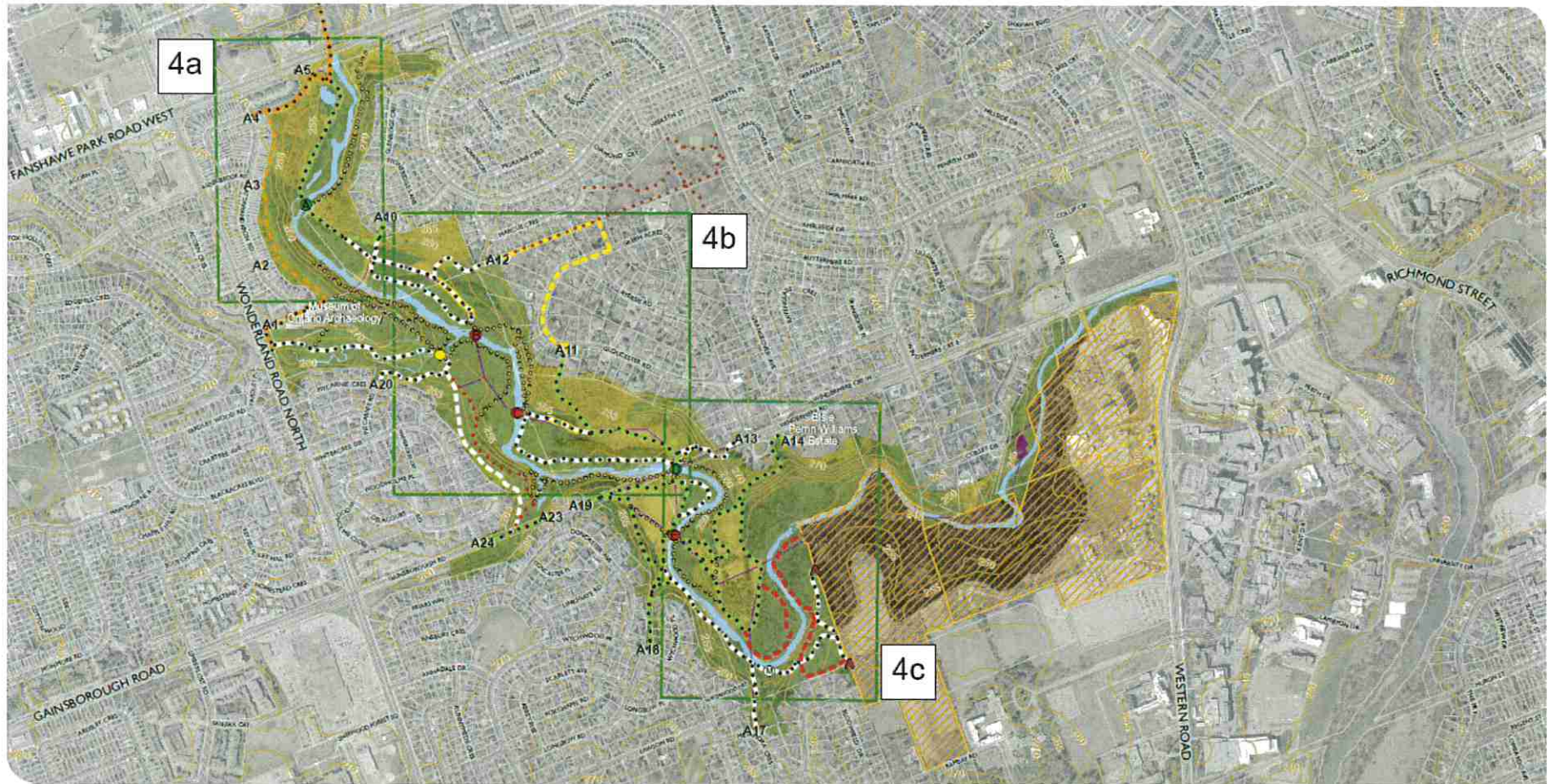
Allyson Vanstone and Peter Pendl
74 Green Acres Drive

**Petition to City of London
 Planning and Environment Committee
 Conservation Master Plan Phase II – Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA (South)
 April 9, 2021**

Petition summary and background	The neighbourhood residents that own the properties that abut Gloucester Road, Ryersie Road, and Green Acres Drive, otherwise known as the Medway Heights neighbourhood, have recently become aware that, among other intended changes to the Medway Valley trail system, the City of London, through its Planning and Environment Committee, plans on establishing a connection outside of the ESA boundaries and utilizing the City right-of-ways, existing City trails outside the ESA, and Green Acres Drive/Gloucester Road to connect Access #11 and Access #12 in accordance with Figure 4 of the Conservation Mater Plan, an excerpt of which is attached to this petition as Schedule A. For the reasons set out on Schedule B to this petition the undersigned are petitioning the City of London for the Action identified below.
Action petitioned for	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge the City of London, through its Planning and Environment Committee and ultimately, through Council, to (i) remove the connection along Gloucester Road between Access #11 and Access #12, and to (ii) close up the rights of way to Access #11 and Access #12.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	E-Mail	Date
		1501 Ryersie Road		April 17/21
		1505 Ryersie Road		Apr 10/21
		1527 Gloucester Rd 1509 Ryersie Road		
		1527 Gloucester Road		APRIL 10/21 APRIL 10/21
		1535 Gloucester Road		April 10/2021
		1545 Gloucester Road		April 12/2021
		1553 Gloucester Road		Apr 12/2021
		1561 Gloucester Road		April 10/2021
		1571 Gloucester Road		10.04.2021

Schedule "A"



CITY OF LONDON
CONSERVATION MASTER PLAN
MEDWAY VALLEY HERITAGE FOREST ESA (SOUTH)

FIGURE 4
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:
PROPOSED SUSTAINABLE TRAIL
CONCEPT PLAN

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposed Trail Linkage (not recommended for implementation) ● Proposed Trail Linkage (Medway Creek) ● Proposed Trail Linkage (Snake Creek) ○ Existing Trail Linkage (Metamora Bridge) ▲ Potential Future Access (PFA) Access Point A # | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Existing Trails ● City Trail Outside of ESA ● Closed Trail¹ ● Informal Trail¹ ● Managed Trail ● Temporarily Closed Trail² | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Managed Trails ● Future Connection Outside the ESA ● Level One Trail ● Level Two Trail ● Level Three Trail ● Improved Trail Surface | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contour (5 metre Elevation) ● Property Boundaries ● Utility Overlay (4 m) ● Western/Huron Properties ● Watercourse (also Nature Reserve) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Management Zone ● Nature Reserve ● Natural Environment |
|---|---|--|--|--|

THE PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN COMPLIES WITH THE COUNCIL APPROVED GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TRAILS IN ESAS (2016) AND AODA LEGISLATION

MAP DRAWING INFORMATION:
DATA PROVIDED BY: MWH (2016) & CITY OF LONDON (2016)
MAP CREATED BY: JAW
MAP CHECKED BY: JLP
MAP PROJECTION: NAD 83 UTM Zone 17N

1:10,000



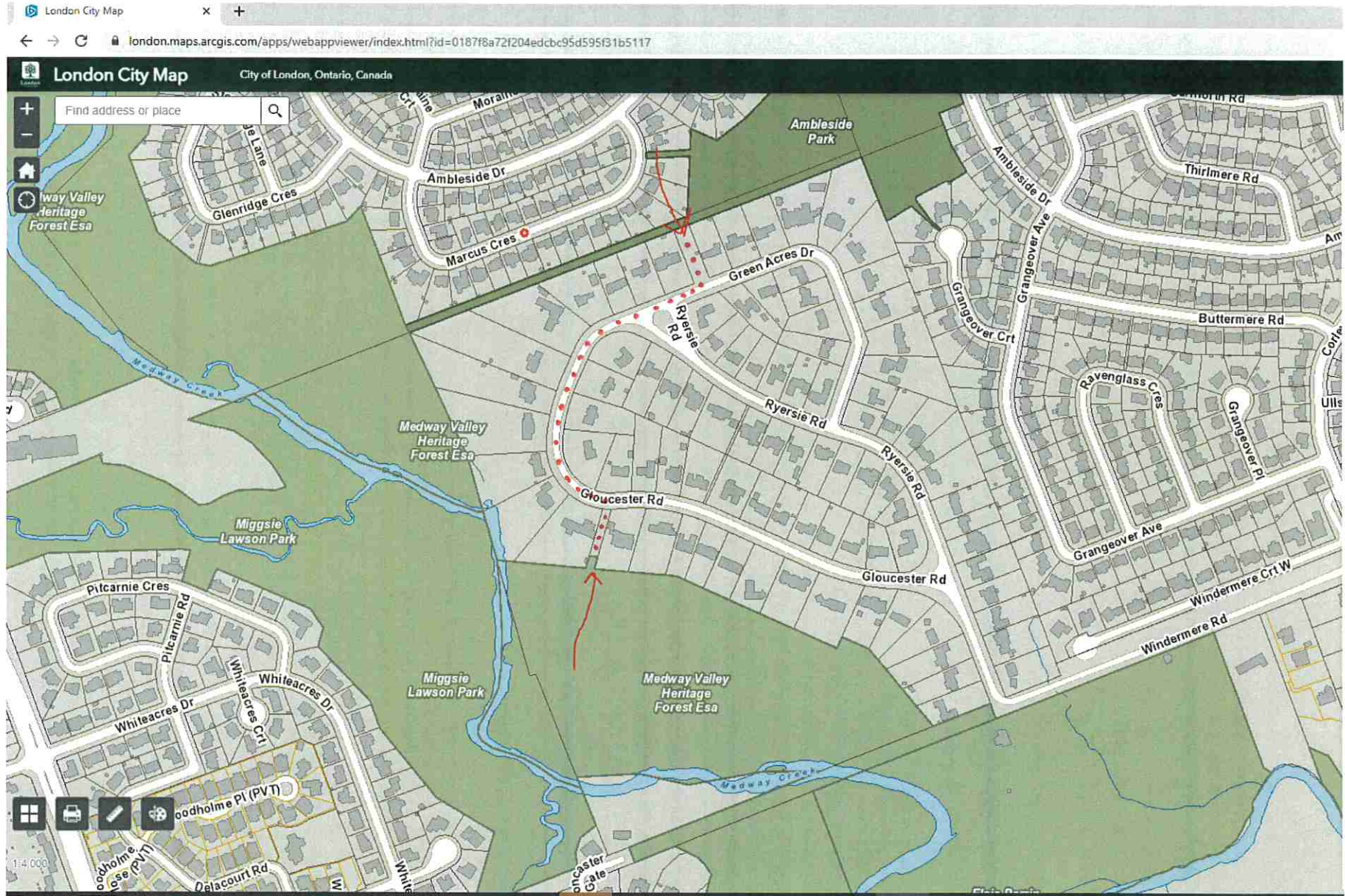
¹ INFORMAL AND CLOSED EXISTING TRAILS DOCUMENTED DURING PHASE I ARE TO BE CLOSED AND RESTORED (SEE R016 ON FIGURE 2).
² TEMPORARILY CLOSED TRAIL TO BE REOPENED/ REALIGNED.
SECTIONS NOT REALIGNED WILL BE CLOSED AND RESTORED

Schedule "B"
Reasons for the Petition

The residents of the Medway Heights neighbourhood (there are only 88 homes in the neighbourhood) who have signed the petition above are concerned about the City of London's decision to proceed with creating a connection between Access #11 and Access #12 on Gloucester Road and Green Acres Drive respectively. Reasons for the concern and the request to remove the connection and the access are set out below.

1. **Safety** – encouraging parking on Gloucester Road by the public in order to connect the two access points along Gloucester Road and Green Acres Drive will create safety issues of passage of other vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic given the narrowness of the road which becomes considerably worse in winter months when snow accumulates. Our neighbourhood is poorly maintained by municipal plows with them often coming several hours or days after snow falls. This creates significant ruts and very icy conditions on the street. There is no public transport that comes anywhere near our neighbourhood so the only way to get in is to drive and park. Parked vehicles on this narrow street (23' in width) will cause further safety issues for snow removal and garbage collection. Given the size of the lots, most people in the neighbourhood have lawn maintenance services in the spring, fall and winter months. These vehicles and trailers already park on the street so additional parking by people being encouraged to enter the trail system on Gloucester Road and Green Acres Drive would simply cause more congestion and issues passing by these vehicles. Additionally, there is no City maintenance or lighting of the access points so there is a danger for liability to the City and to neighbouring property owners.
2. **Increased Crime** – if access points were provided to the neighbourhood it increases the potential for crime in the neighbourhood providing an easy escape for criminals to come in and out of the neighbourhood.
3. **Inconvenient/Annoyance/Nuisance** – while safety is an issue as identified above, given there are no curbs or sidewalks in the neighbourhood, parked cars on the street will also be a nuisance to residents of the neighbourhood as they try to pass around the parked cars and we would no doubt end up with cars parking on part of the front lawns of our property and that of our neighbours. While we appreciate everyone's lawns represent a component of unopened/unused road allowance which is owned by the municipality, each resident meticulously maintains their lawns and cars parking on them would be very problematic in this regard. Additionally, driveways would have to be relocated for the adjacent property owners to each of the access points which would be expensive and very disruptive – see Schedule C map of the Neighbourhood
4. **More than Adequate Nearby Existing Access Elsewhere** – there is plenty of access to the trail system through Elsie Perrin Estate. There is also plentiful and safe parking there. Additionally, that parking is cleared of snow and ice in the wintertime. Access #11 and #12 are not cleared of snow and ice by the City.
5. **Liability** - The risk of potential personal injury and other liabilities is much greater than the reward of public access especially since there is almost no evidence that the public is using these access points. There is no lighting, no signage and it would be virtually impossible to be accessibility compliant given the grade differential between (well over 50 feet high from the road to the valley floor) the Gloucester Road/GreenAcres Drive access points and the valley floor.
6. **No Public Demand** – it is extremely rare to see anyone from the neighbourhood and especially anyone from outside the neighbourhood use these access points. Unless a title search was conducted to determine where Access #11 and #12 were located, from the physical attributes of the area, members of the public would assume the property in question is owned by the neighbours and not the City. We are unclear as to why the City has requested these connections as we are not in favour of them and have not been informed of any sort of public demand outside the neighbourhood. There is no logical reason someone traversing the path in the valley would want to come up to the neighbourhood to traverse on a City street when they are hiking in the forest below.

Schedule "C" Map of Neighbourhood



Emily Williamson, M.Sc.
Ecologist - Planner
Long Range Planning and Sustainability
City of London
206 Dundas Street,
London, ON N6A 1G7
ewilliamson@london.ca

April 10, 2021

We are writing this letter to voice our strong objection to creating a connection between Access #11 and Access #12 on Gloucester Road and Green Acres Drive respectively.

My wife and I live in Medway Heights, at 77 Green Acres Drive.

Our concerns are many. They include safety (no lighting, cars parked on already narrow roads); increased crime (easy access and escape for criminals into and out of our neighbourhood); inconvenient/annoyance/nuisance; more than adequate access from elsewhere; liability (lighting, no signage; steep, dangerous terrain); no public demand.

We have signed a petition and we hope you and the City Council will listen to all the families in our neighbourhood. We all feel strongly that these connections are unwanted and unnecessary.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please contact us if you need any additional information.

Regards,

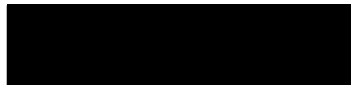
||

Jonathan and Tanya Izawa

Home Address: 77 Green Acres Drive
London, ON N6G 2S4

Cell Phone:

Email:





Reply Sheet for City of London Applications to be Reviewed by London Hydro Engineering

Date: June 24, 2021
 To: City of London Planning Division – Room 609
 Attn: E. Williamson

RE: **Address:** Medway Valley Heritage Forest (ESA)
 Applicant: City of London
 File/Ref #: OZ-9367 (Notice of Application & Public Meeting Notice)

London Hydro Response:

<p>Servicing the above proposal should present no foreseeable problems. Any new and/or relocation of existing infrastructure will be at the applicant's expense, maintaining safe clearances from L.H. infrastructure is mandatory. Note: Transformation lead times are minimum 16 weeks. Contact the Engineering Dept. to confirm requirements & availability.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>This site is presently serviced by London Hydro. Contact the Engineering Dept. if a service upgrade is required to facilitate the new building. Any new and/or relocation of existing infrastructure will be at the applicant's expense, maintaining safe clearances from L.H. infrastructure is mandatory. Note: Transformation lead times are minimum 16 weeks. Contact the Engineering Dept. to confirm requirements & availability.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Servicing the above proposal should present no foreseeable problems. Any new and/or relocation of existing infrastructure will be at the applicant's expense, maintaining safe clearances from L.H. infrastructure is mandatory. A blanket easement will be required. Note: Transformation lead times are minimum 16 weeks. Contact Engineering Dept. to confirm requirements & availability.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>London Hydro has no objection to this proposal or possible official plan and/or zoning amendment. Any new or relocation of the existing service will be at the expense of the owner.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>London Hydro has no objection to this proposal or possible official plan and/or zoning amendment. However, London Hydro will require a blanket easement.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed:
 Hans Schreff
 Manager - Developer & Operations Support,
 Engineering & Operations Administration Dept.
 519-661-5800 ext. 5014

Committee of Adjustment Notice of Application Site Plan Consultation Site Plan Application