

Ministry of the Environment
Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministry of Transportation

Ministère de l'Environnement
Ministère des Ressources Naturelles
Ministère des Transports

November 22, 2005

Mr. Dennis Jacobs
Director
Planning, Environment & Infrastructure Policy
Planning & Growth Management Department
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West - 4th Floor
Ottawa ON
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Dear Mr. Jacobs:

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE CARP RIVER WATERSHED / SUBWATERSHED STUDY
Our respective ministries have reviewed the City of Ottawa staff report going before the Planning and Environment Committee on Tuesday, November 22, 2005. At point no. 7 of the "Summary of Public Comments and Responses", MNR and MOE are named as approving agencies that were consulted for the Carp River restoration plan and modified floodplain strategy. It is said that communications were exchanged with MTO with regards to the Carp River watershed subwatershed study. In the closing paragraph to point no. 7, our respective ministries are mentioned as having been consulted as part of the Class Environmental Assessment studies for the Kanata West Concept Plan Area.

It is our understanding that letters were sent to the City of Ottawa by MTO (August 31, 2005), MOE (August 31, 2005) and MNR (September 27, 2005) with comments on the technical documentation relating to various Class EA studies and the Carp River watershed/subwatershed study. Your letter of October 13, 2005 to MNR, indicates that your consultants are presently considering the technical comments but not expecting to get into a significant level of detail until the detailed design stage. We collectively feel that, before the technical issues raised by our three government agencies can be brought to closure, it is essential that, as a minimum, the level of detail be sufficient to provide consistency between all technical studies, otherwise we can not concur with the City's intention of advertising a Notice of Completion for the Class EA Studies pertaining to the Kanata West development.

In order for the EA technical documents to hold up during the reviews inherent to MNR and MOE subsequent permitting/approving processes, the various projects need to be integrated and thus, go beyond the conceptual stage. Fundamentally, the floodplain delineation would need to be irrevocably determined and, riparian storage areas would need to be clearly defined by completing the following technical studies:

- Geomorphic analysis;
- Hydraulic analysis;
- Environmental Screening Report - review of the flora, fauna, fisheries, wildlife, Species at Risk, terrestrial habitat; and,
- Hydrogeological Assessment - maintaining groundwater flow regime between pre- and post-development conditions.


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In light of the various communications between the City and our respective ministries, we can summarize the situation by stating that we still have technical issues for which we are awaiting additional information.


We have been responsive to the City's needs to move in a timely fashion. Thus, we would be happy to meet with the city individually or as a group to discuss the terms of reference for these studies to ensure that all technical issues identified in the agency letters mentioned are adequately addressed.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve Burns at (613) 521-3450 ext. 224.

Regards,


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