

November 12, 2018

To: Toronto and Region Conservation for the Living City

Re: Re: Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve Trail Planning Projects – Macleod estate Trail Linkage Projects

We received your letter dated Oct 22, 2018 and we are extremely worried and deeply concerned about the privacy, safety and security of our families as you are suggesting a trail behind our backyard fences.

1. Privacy:

This will affect our privacy; our backyard, living room and even our bedrooms will be visible from any potential trail. Many of these homes have swimming pools that the residents and their families enjoy during the summer season. Any such trail will drastically affect the use and enjoyment of homeowners both inside and outside of their homes drastically. in our backyards and also our enjoyment inside of our homes. We are certain that you are not and will not be able to control and govern people after you allow them to walk and populate behind our fences.

2. Security:

Some of us have already experienced break ins. The suggested new trail is raising even more concern to our security. Due to the lower land elevation of Vandervoort properties in comparison to the Oak Ridges land on the other side of our fences, inside our homes, and for some, even second floor bedrooms are entirely visible from the moraine. Allowing public access to the back of our properties will result in decreased security for the residents and their families - these properties were not designed with this new plan in mind. You are not able to guarantee no break ins will happen as a result of this new plan and public access to the back of our properties.

3. Safety:

The Moraine is a sensitive ecosystem and a shelter for wild animals. We all know that behind our fences, a wide variety of wild animals are living. We have seen many of these animals, year around, and they include but are not limited to: deer, coyotes, foxes, turkeys, and various other smaller wild animals. We chose and enjoy living beside them and count on our fences for protection. When you open the gate to the moraine, our families will not feel safe anymore. There is also a pond very close by the Vandervoort entrance; and we have safety concerns for our children to be safe from now on with being in such a close proximity to the pond right outside our doors.

4. Access:

We have heard of previous plans by TRCA to connect the neighbourhood to the trail's main spine. There was the original plan of Macleod estate trail linkage to connect the existing and original treed trail path from Yonge Street (right across Stouffville Rd.) passing through Windrow St. and Silver Maple Rd. and connecting it to MacLeod Estate Crt. We heard this plan was cancelled. The second plan to connect the same existing trail towards north and connecting it to the main trail spine was opposed by neighbouring properties; hence the study of Vandervoort Dr.

We strongly believe the Vandervoort entrance is NOT a good option as it is located in the far end of the community, as oppose to the original plan which is located at the heart of the community and provides more people larger access to the main trail and area. What is the valid casue of relocating the Macleod estate trail linkage project from its original location and close proximity to Macleod estate to more than a kilometer away to the border of the community at vandervoort?

Item 7.291.

We suggest TRCA goes back to the original plan if it is a must that a new plan is created. Otherwise, the trail already exists. We as a community have enjoyed walking and biking in the existing trails around us, using either the Yonge street entrance across Bond Lake or Jefferson Sideroad entrances. Our community agrees that the trail entrances and accessibility is adequate and that there is no need for a new entrance.

When we purchased our homes in this neighbourhood we all paid high premiums for having the moraine and no public access behind our homes. We were told that the Moraine land is protected and belongs to the Province and no one is able to touch it by law.

When we asked the developer at time of purchase to change the elevation so surface water does not flood our backyards and wash-off soil (due to the elevation), they said this is not an option, as no human is allowed to touch the moraine; but now we are witnessing that the town can in fact touch it and is in the process of reducing our security and making it an unsafe area for us to live and raise our families.

By signing this letter we the undersigned express our strong objection and concern regarding your proposed Vandervoort trail suggestion.

Regards,

Kamran Anyan

Natasha Liang

M. M. M. M. M.

CHI MING DONALD LAU .

Mojdeh Tanavosh,
Siamak Bashan

SUNITA RAMMOOP

Fan Lutan

Tony Campisi

Denis Khabas

Evoqenia Khabas

VITALI and Oksana
KRIPAK

ELIZAVETA LIANOS

Mahdi Memarpour

Ramiz Sarah

Jose BARTOLINI

Mariane Bitto

Timmy

C. Wong Wong