Beck, Danielle

From:

Kenny, Darren

Sent:

July-18-14 8:52 AM

To:

Beck, Danielle

Cc:

McDonell, Lesley

Subject:

RE: 900 Woodward Avenue, Hamilton - Ti-Cat Sign

Danielle,

According to our mapping, the proposed location for the sign puts it approx.160 metres from the nearest boundary of the Van Wagner's marsh wetland.

Our ecologist is on vacation until next week, so I cannot provide further comment on the potential impact of lighting, etc. until then.

The base of the sign is roughly 64 sq ft. HCA policy does not require regulatory approval for accessory structures under 108 sq ft.

That being said, the proposed sign location as shown by the green x on the attached plan is within both the Regulatory Floodplain and erosion hazard (meander belt) of Redhill Creek.

Darren Kenny, B.Sc., (Hons.) Watershed Officer

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Thank you.

Beck, Danielle

From: Sent: McDonell, Lesley July-23-14 1:51 PM

To: Cc: Beck, Danielle Kenny, Darren

Subject:

RE: 900 Woodward Avenue, Hamilton - Ti-Cat Sign

Hi Danielle,

I have completed a review of the sign and its location. I do have the following comments:

- It appears from the mapping that Van Wagners ponds and the wetland west of the QEW are part of an
 Important Bird Area as defined by Bird Studies Canada under the international Important Bird Area Program.
 Generally this is a designation that relates to water birds the congregate in Lake Ontario in late winter and early
 spring. The marsh area and Van Wagners Ponds are important to some of these waterfowl.
- 2. Natural spaces close to Lake Ontario are used by a large number of species that migrate along the lake in fall and spring. The number of these natural habitats is low along the Hamilton shoreline which increases the importance of those remaining.
- 3. In looking at air photos of the location, this signs looks like it will be one of the largest (tallest) structures in the local area. It will also be brightly lit. The height and brightness of the sign are a concern. As indicated above this is a migratory bird route with many different species being recoded in this area over a number of years during migration. In addition some insects also migrate, although their migratory pathways are lesser known. Both of these groups of species can be distraction on their migration by large bright lights. This increase the stress on an already exhausted bird or insect and can led to death.

Therefore it is HCA's recommendation that the sign be moved to a different location away from the Van Wagners Ponds and marshes and also not near Windimere Basin.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Lesley

Lesley McDonell
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