

Added Item 5.1(o)

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Sent: Saturday, September 18, 2021 4:25 PM

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Subject: Sewage Should Not be Diverted into Ancaster Creek

I am a resident of Ward 12 and I think that a sewage overflow pipe should not be built to divert sewage into Ancaster Creek to prevent sewage backup in homes on Old Dundas Rd. This is not the solution that the city should choose for so many reasons and even residents that would be negatively affected believe so too. The city is already spending millions of dollars to clean up the sewage spill in Cootes Paradise and the health of waterways are already in jeopardy. We need to fix and add on to the existing sewage infrastructure and promote other ways residents and the City can reduce the amount of rain water from entering into our sewer system. Here are some ideas:

-create incentives for home owners and businesses to use permeable paving for their driveways and parking lots so that rainwater does not runoff into the sewer

-create bylaws that do not allow residents to have their backyards and front yards entirely covered in asphalt, concrete and paving stones which are impermeable

-create bylaws that do not allow residents to divert their downspout water to the road

- incentivize homeowners who's sump pumps empty directly into the sewer system to disconnect them and have them empty onto their lawns instead

-promote, educate and creates incentives for residents to install rain gardens planted with native plants to collect downspout and sump pump water so that it will drain into the ground away from the home

-stop building until the inefficiency of the sewage system is resolved

-create incentives to encourage homeowners to install grey water systems

- promote the use of native Ontario plants in homeowners gardens which have a deep root systems to absorb rainwater

- discourage the installation of lawns and promote their replacement with native plants gardens which will reduce rain runoff plus reduce the wastage of water and use of herbicides and pesticides

- replace lawns in the city's green spaces with native plants and trees

- promote planting of trees on homeowners properties to absorb rain water

- stop paving over natural areas and farmland

- stop paving over wetlands which are nature's sponges and flood control

- stop straightening, and altering the flow and pathways of our creeks, rivers and streams

- replace all the combined sewers systems in Hamilton with dual systems

- don't build on wetlands and areas with high water tables, you are just asking for trouble

- don't build on flood plains, again you are asking for trouble

As you see there are many other solutions to this flooding issue, and Hamilton should learn from its mistakes that raw sewage should never be dumped into our waterways.

Thank you,

Anka Cassar