

July 19, 2024

Ms Jane Clohecy
CAO, Town of Oakville
1225 Trafalgar Road
Oakville, ON L6H 0H3
Via E-mail: jane.Clohecy@oakville.ca

Reference: No Use of Green Infrastructure on Sir John Colborne Parking Renewal

Dear Ms. Clohecy,

In addition to the climate change mitigation commitments the Town of Oakville made when it declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and the ongoing frequent references made to Council and the public that all activities undertaken by the Town are vetted through a climate lens, you will recall that Council adopted a 'green infrastructure first' stature at its meeting of July 11, 2023. In fact the motion that drove that position directs 'that the Rainwater Management Strategy under development, and associated fees and studies, will ensure that green infrastructure be preferred and grey infrastructure only where necessary with a program of public consultation'.

The reconstruction of the eastern parking lot at Sir John Colborne Centre has been planned and undertaken with no public consultation and no attention to green infrastructure whatsoever. Further, by using cement curbs to ring the lot, the effects of runoff have been exacerbated.

Green Parking Lots are one of the easiest, straightforward and simple examples for the successful use of green infrastructure and low impact development practices. Permeable pavement, rain gardens, bioretention areas, grassed swales and infiltration trenches all represent opportunities to reduce runoff, remove pollutants, limit erosion and reduce the risk of flooding. And yet, in the case of Sir John Colborne, every single opportunity has been ignored, just as those who utilize the centre and those residents who surround it have been.

In light of last week's rain events and their damaging results in the local area, Coronation Park Residents Association strongly protests the work underway and the entire project as it currently is being implemented. We can no longer ignore the irrefutable need for responsible environmental management of our public and natural spaces. This project requires your immediate attention and intervention.

Sincerely,

Pamela Knight
President

cc: Mayor Rob Burton
Ward 2 Councillors
C. Bradbrook, R. Scarfo
Seniors Working Action Group
Oakvillegreen Conservation Organization
Oakville Climate Action