

Topic 4: Environment, Drainage and Floodplains

In 20 Years, I want our plan to achieve:

Protecting the environment
Pathways, walkways
Changing water flow from new buildings
Impact on floodplain
New floodplain map
Modifying lands in existing floodplain
Not allowed to change floodplain
Goose problem
Wildlife management
Ag land
Impact on aquifer
Pesticide use
Divert floodplain around village
Floodplains – what are development impacts
Consistent rules without floodplain development (level playing field)
Role of RVCA
Development permitted in floodplains (why?)
Roles of RVCA vs. City regarding floodplains
Is part of Mattamy land (in floodplain) excluded/included in development
Impact of development on ground water
Shea Road floodplain mapping
Concern with development at Shea/Perth Street intersection
Need overall floodplain mapping including adjacent areas to Richmond
Don't building on floodplains
Appearance of Jock River to be maintained (trees)
City of Ottawa should maintain Jock (or RVCA)
Spring freshets could be affected
What are rules for developing floodplain
Visible, clear, public
Old floodplain rules/mapping is still in effect
New mapping has not been approved
Why does floodplain mapping stop at Perth Street (by Fire Hall)
Effect of development on existing wells (concern)
Retain good agricultural land and use poor agricultural land for development
Maintain greenspace around river
Floodplain is major issue (consistency)
Beavers are now appearing
Explain RVCA role (confusion over role/responsibility) vis-à-vis City of Ottawa and land owners
Status of floodplain mapping?
Enhance usefulness of Jock River to village

Maintain village character without environment/development mix
Like Richmond character especially rural characteristics (build upon it)
Engage Jock River
River is under used, need more signage, flora/fauna indicators
Educational outings
Extend village characteristics (streets) into new lands
Respect drainage but increase river use (paths, parks)
Concern with drainage on new development lands – effect on adjacent lands
Status on Arbuckle Award drain? Cost to land owners is a concern
Why is there a berm along Jock (by legion)
Who built and provided approval?
Concern with flooding at Straugh and Maitland (flooding within 5' of door)
Will development on JD lands take downstream flooding into affect?
Should there be a stormwater retention pond on new development lands
Publicize launch points for access to river (signs)
Improve park feeling (picnic tables, parking, launch points)
Publicize river and its assets
Emergency preparedness (sand bags), help neighbours deal with flooding
RVCA budget (90%) from City of Ottawa
3 Councillors sit on Board of Directors
RVCA did not audit construction of force main under river
Perth Street drain to River (at McBean Bridge)
Improve retention so silt, salt doesn't drain directly to river
Some use of river in spring but not year-round
Don't manicure to river's edge but more tree planting beside river for shore stability
Use floodplains for recreational areas (soccer, dog runs)
Running tracks along river
Nature areas
Lagoons are not well used (or signed)
Homeowners pay for recreational areas along river (per Houston example)
Why is land on Barnsdale been stripped of trees?
Survey stakes?
Houston was successful because of partnership between City, land owners, developers
Development was awarded by competition
Impact on Legion (flooding) by adjacent development
Maintain access points to river
Balance between access and recreation but also natural environment and features
Challenge developers to build environmentally friendly housing and structures
Energy, water, etc.
Perhaps charge an extra fee for owners in new developments for extra environmentally friendly features
Limit upstream draws on river to prevent drying up in summer time
Stop using sewer system for sumps, etc. (allow water to go back to Jock)
Construction of houses that don't have basements (so don't need sumps)
Ensure proper construction and also proper drainage

Develop floodplains into greenspaces where recreational use can be encouraged.
Use latest environmental technology and knowledge for new developments
Why just meet Code? Exceed Code and be forward thinking
High standard than predecessors
people will pay for this extra effort and costs
Build partnership with existing villagers – not adversarial relationship
Retain trees
Berm is not a good indication of developers intent
Who owns land adjacent to river?
Clear signs for private lands
Maintain autonomy of village
Faith in City's environmental leadership and review (Kanata was cited as a poor example)

Greatest Opportunity:

Greatest Challenge:

Floodplains