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July 25, 2011

Suzanne Barrett
Chair, Etobicoke-Mimico Watersheds Coalition
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, Ontario
M3N 1S4

Dear Ms. Barrett,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Sherway Trail & Valley Restoration Project on behalf of the Etobicoke-Mimico Watersheds Coalition.

The Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (formerly ORC) approached ministry staff to consider transferring the lands to the Ministry of Infrastructure. Conversely, the ministry has since initiated a preliminary design study looking at alternatives to reconfigure the QEW/Dixie Road interchange and as well retaining property for widening of the QEW to provide HOV lanes from Evans Avenue to Dixie Road. The study will identify a technically preferred design alternative and associated property impacts in this area. The study will take about three to five years to complete and we are unable to transfer the lands to Infrastructure Ontario until it is completed.

The ministry will also be conducting environmental investigations at the site to determine its current condition. A study of this nature is a requirement prior to any consideration in regards to an easement being granted. We expect to have the environmental investigation for this portion of the site completed over the next several months. I will ask ministry staff to contact the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and your group whom you represent, once the environmental investigations are completed.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Cheryl Ahmed, Head, Property Section, at (416) 235-5490.

Sincerely,


Lou Politano
Regional Director
Central Region