

OOECA Goals 2014

(Amended as per OOECA Board Discussion January 14, 2014)

A. Lees/Springhurst Park

A.1 Convert Portions of AVTC Lands to Parkland:

- joint project with CAG and SHCHC
- work with city to have lands identified by Transit Oriented Development – Lees Station as open space / parkland added to Springhurst Park and Rideau River Trail Park (aka 166 Lees)
- use cash in lieu of parkland funding to add features / trees etc. that will physically join the new parkland to existing parkland
- explore the possibility of having a proper soccer pitch / playing field on the parkland
- key CA members: Ron Rose, Nick Masciantonio, Christine Loth-Bown (?), Jaime Girard
- planned milestones:

A.2 Greater Lees Avenue apartment residents' participation/engagement in community + better integration of the east end of Lees Avenue into the community of Old Ottawa East

- joint project with CAG and SHCHC
- the various OOE community organizations (activities group, community association, community paper, etc.) have few members from the five large apartment towers on Lees Avenue despite the fact that about half the population of OOE lives in the towers.
- the proposed Transit Oriented Development at the Lees LRT station will result in many more people living in the area and enhancing the community environment for new and existing residents will improve their quality of living as well as strengthening the overall OOE community.
- As the TOD gets underway and uOttawa expands more on that location, there will be a tendency to view it as part of Sandy Hill so that OOE risks losing a key constituency that contributes to justifying better facilities and services.
- Lees Garden, that there are more people from the apartments participating in the Lees community garden so it has the potential to be part of the outreach to apartment residents.
- the issue of “inadequate community facilities” (below) ties into this goal
- key CA members: Ron Rose, Nick Masciantonio,
- planned milestones: charrette/meeting with residents and others: April/May

B. Main Street

B.1 Main Street Renewal Planning

- The working group for Main Street renewal and Lees Avenue reconstruction meets periodically and community members (including Paul Goodkey, and Board members Don Fugler, Ron Rose, Stephen Pope and John dance) are well-represented .

- However, there remain a number of issues that require continued pursuit including undergrounding (Paul Goodkey), east-west cycling lanes, north of the Queensway cycling lanes, public art (Nick Masciantonio).

- Also, there is great concern about the actual construction schedule and impacts of neighbouring business and residents.

- a further area of community pursuit is the ongoing care of certain aspects of the new Main Street, including nurturing the proposed parkette at Riverdale-main, and the restoration and care of trees along Main Street.

- key community association (CA) members: Ron Rose, Stephen Pope, Paul Goodkey, Nick Masciantonio, Don Fugler, John Dance)

- planned milestones:

C. Transportation

C.1 Accelerate Canal Footbridge Construction

- The recently approved transportation Master Plan calls for the construction of the proposed Clegg-Fifth canal footbridge sometime during the 2020-2025 period, i.e., at least six years from now. The community with sister communities and many others throughout the city have been advocating the bridge for more than six years – we don't want to wait another six or more for that this critical means of accessibility to be built.

- Also, the proposed plans for the bridge call for safe crossing of Col By and Queen Elizabeth Drive but to wait another six years or more for this improvement would be pathetic, especially in light of the NCC recently and readily installing safe crossings of CBD at Dow's lake and at Hartwell Locks/Carleton.

- key CA members: Ron Rose, John Dance

- planned milestones:

C.2 Responding to Other Transportation Issues

- this ongoing work addresses continuing and emerging transportation issues that are key to wellbeing of the community. Specific issues include seeking improved bus service and the implementation of improved cycling facilities (including east-west connectivity between Pretoria Bridge and the Rideau River (old railway) footbridge).

D. Development

D.1 Community Preparation for Oblates/Sisters Development

- Being able to play an informed and creative role during the planning for the Sisters / Oblate development has the potential of making the development be more sustainable and complementary to the existing Old Ottawa East community.

- Key CA members: Stephen Pope, Rebecca Aird, Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, Ron Rose, John Dance, Ian McRae, ...

- planned milestones: March 22: SLOE's "Deep Green" forum at Carleton University where an expert panel will review SLOE's sustainability research pertaining to the institutional lands and will discuss development options. (All Board members may be interested in attending this all-morning session.)

D.2 Responding to other Development

- this ongoing, technical and difficult work is managed by Planning Chair Stephen Pope with the Planning Committee composed of members representing the distinct neighbourhoods of OOE

- key CA members: Stephen Pope, Phyllis Odenbach Sutton,

- planned milestones: ongoing.

D.3 Addressing Inadequate Services/Facilities (with CAG)

- Community members have long felt that OOE has inadequate community facilities – particularly interior recreation and meeting space and the sense is that with the building on the institutional lands and the Lees TOD development the inadequacy will become much worse. Indeed, one suggestion is that the northeast quadrant of the AVTC lands could be an excellent location for a community centre. Other suggestions have been creating a community centre on the Oblate lands (e.g., within the Deschatelets building), in one of the underused schools on or near Main Street or expanding Old Town Hall. There is also the possibility of a partnership with Saint Paul University and others (Oblate developer, City, SHCHC) to bring athletic/community centre facilities to OOE in tandem with the Oblate land development.

A recent CAG survey has also identified a number of other facilities that if created would greatly improve the community (e.g., for youth 10 and up; and Rideau River water usage (e.g., paddling).

- key CA members: Nick Masciantonio, Ron Rose,
- planned milestones:

E. General

E.1 Incorporation of Board

- Incorporation gives the organization greater legitimacy and allows OOECA to participate in broader fora.

- Key CA members: Jaime Girard, Phyllis Odenbach Sutton (Phyllis – am I just imagining that you volunteered for this and the next one?)

E.2 Buy Directors' Insurance

- Protection of volunteers who are all operating in good faith is important.
- Key CA members: Jaime Girard, Phyllis Odenbach Sutton

E.3 More parties and celebrations

- There's much to celebrate but we spend little time doing so ...
- One board member suggested an early summer party on her new patio ...

F. Other

F.1 Influencing RRWP/Nature Trail Design/Construction

- SLOE has worked very hard on the Rideau River Nature Trail over the last seven years and wants to ensure that the work and its intentions are not jeopardized by the city's plan to build a multi-use pathway (the Rideau River Western Pathway) parallel to the OOE shoreline of the Rideau River. Also, nearby residents want to ensure the pathway and its construction have minimal impact on them.

- Key CA member: Ian McRae.

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