CPRM, September 18, 2023
PL-51-23
Correspondence from Brian Helstrom

From: Brian Helstrom
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:44 PM
To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>
Cc: Rudy, Jo-Anne <Jo-Anne.Rudy@burlington.ca>
Subject: Council Standing Committee for Sept 18, 2023

I cannot attend in person to this meeting as I have University classes during this time window, which are equally important to me. However, I would like to have my voice heard in opposition to 5.1 Burlington Nelson Quarry Official Plan Amendment (PL-51-23) as I firmly believe this is not in the best interest of the Burlington communities nor the natural habitats that we as citizens have come to enjoy. Rezoning this area would destroy some of our natural habitats and significantly impact wildlife and the natural environment, which is critical to our green space protection and our target for carbon zero. The 20,000-plus trees in this area provide greater management of our air supply than we realize, as they act as our filters for the carbon emissions of our population. The act of granting the destruction of such an area would be in contravention of our need for carbon-zero neutrality, not to mention the benefits of having this area for future generations to enjoy the outdoors, our beautiful escarpment canopy, and the natural habitat of much wildlife that are home there.

Therefore, I suggest that the city maintain its current zoning of this area as part of green space protection and deny the Nelson Quarry zoning change request. Quarry expansion would last another 50 to 70 years, and we cannot wait that long for our forests to recover.

We are on the verge of a global crisis in environmental protection, and not protecting this natural area would be a detriment to our city and its citizens. Please say no to this change to the city plan amendment.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments,

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Brian Helstrom, [redacted]