July 16, 2020

Dear Neighbour,

Re: Vimy Ridge Park Detailed Design and Construction - 1443 Trafalgar St.

The City of London is proceeding with detailed design and construction of Vimy Ridge Park in 2020. In August 2019, following a community-led process to create a park in honour of the battle of Vimy Ridge, Council selected this site as the preferred permanent location.

The site is located on the southeast corner of the Charley Fox Memorial overpass where Hale Street and Trafalgar Street intersect. The park is triangular in shape with some mature trees throughout, as well as an existing community-made monument featuring flags, benches and signs. The proposed layout of the park provides a small accessible parking area and pathways connecting to Trafalgar Street. There will be opportunities for interpretative signage about this historic WWI battle. The existing monument will be relocated to the north and re-oriented to ‘face’ east – approximately in the direction of Vimy, France. The existing monument is planned to be relocated within a new plaza to provide room for small ceremonies with seating. Two official “Vimy” Oak trees are proposed as entrance features to the monument area. The main monument could be raised on a low pedestal and surrounded by low plantings to amplify its importance. If funded, there could also be opportunities to include a commemorative wall or other meaningful sculptures to add to the space.

The tree planting plan is intended to reflect soldiers standing at attention throughout the manicured grass. The naturalized area would include a variety of native meadow and wildflower seed mixes with small trees. A black chain link fence is proposed along the south boundary to prohibit people from entering the railway.

A concept plan is enclosed on the reverse of this letter, or can be viewed online here: london.ca/parkconstruction

Note on Accessibility: the proposed pathways are considered an 'Exterior Paths of Travel' under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, and would meet all technical requirements for accessibility, including minimum width, maximum slope, and head clearance space. As part of this project, the City of London is inviting comments and suggestions from residents with various disabilities on their specific needs regarding the design and placement of rest areas along the recreation trails.

You can forward your questions, comments, and suggestions to Eric Conway in Parks Planning & Design by phone at (519) 661-CITY (2489) ext. 4288, by fax at (519) 963-1483, or by e-mail at elconway@london.ca.

Sincerely,

Eric Conway
Landscape Architect
Parks Planning & Design
City of London

Cc: S. Lewis – Ward 2 Councillor
    M. van Holst – Ward 1 Councillor
    J. Helmer – Ward 4 Councillor
    J. Bruin, Manager, Parks Planning and Design

Please contact 519-661-2489 Ext. 2425 or accessibility@london.ca by July 20, 2020 if you need information in an alternate format, or require the assistance of a communication support. Arrangements are made upon request by submitting a Customer Accommodation Request Form, and at no additional cost.
Vimy Ridge Park Location Map – 1443 Trafalgar Street

VIMY RIDGE PARK - Concept Plan

1. New Monument Area
2. Nine Vehicle Parking Area
3. Main Concrete Pathways
4. Secondary Granular Pathway
5. Naturalized Planting Area

Existing and Proposed Trees

Flag Poles

New Bench

Interpretive Sign