

**Forest Valley Trails Working Group (FVTWG)**  
**PROTECTION, SUSTAINABILITY AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CHAPEL HILL NORTH FOREST AND ITS TRAILS**  
**Public Feedback on the FVTWG Report - Online Comments Received October-December 2018**  
**Report Provided to CHNCA, May 2018**

Submission # & Residency	A. GENERAL COMMENTS	FVTWG Report References
1 CHN	It is generally an impressive report if a little repetitive. The Working group is to be commended for their work on this report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> </ul>
2 CHN	As one of the former co-chairs, I think it would be appropriate to underscore the amounts of effort evident in this price of work (by volunteers to boot), and regardless of what the next steps will look like, this small team should be recognized for this report, before the meeting gets too far along.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> </ul>
2 CHN	<p>Personally, I completely support the Recommended option: “OPTION A: Key Priorities with Community Engagement”, because it’s more in keeping with prolonged “as close to natural state” use of this great natural asset, for current and future generations (including CHN and other residents).</p> <p>I also wish to underscore the importance of the highlighted Priorities. There are many important points, but I would strongly support Recommended Actions 4, 5 and 6 of Priority 1. <i>[Comments also listed in Priority 1]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-31.</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29.</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.13.</li> </ul>
3 CHN	As a former member of both the working group and community association I will say that this report fails to address the immediate needs of the community and is a reflection of the priorities of the WG, not the community members. I do not believe this report should be considered in any capacity. It is biased to members of the WG (whose actions resulted in the resignation of other members) and fails to listen to the direction of the governing bodies who manage the forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Executive Summary, p.1-2.</li> <li>● Chapter 1 Background &amp; Context, p.6.</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, Intro, p.7-8</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment, E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-64.</li> </ul>
8 CHN	<p>Having read "Protection, Sustainability and Maintenance of the Chapel Hill North Forest and its Trails" reports of the Forest Valley Trails Working Group (FVTWG) I have two objections.</p> <p>Firstly, I am perturbed by the level of effort the FVTWG is undertaking to exert influence over decision-making on public lands without a mandate. A representative of the FVTWG encouraged me to sign a petition, despite my stating that I did not agree with its content, on the basis that the language was not to be taken literally. The report now contradicts that assertion. This demonstrates that the FVTWG was not engaging with the community in good faith.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Executive Summary, p.1-2.</li> <li>● Chapter 1 Background &amp; Context, Intro. p.3 and FVTWG Mandate p.5-6.</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chapter 3 Options &amp; Activities, p.30-32</li> <li>● Chapter 4 Conclusions.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment:</li> </ul>

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	Secondly, the report fails to demonstrate that there will be any significant positive environmental impact resulting from the actions proposed. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.46-51.</li>   <li>· B. Topography of CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, # 15-20, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 21. Recreational Activities and Trail Design – OMBA proposal and CHN Petition (633 signatures).</li> </ul>
9 Orleans	I was in attendance at yesterday's meeting about the Forest Valley Trails. I just wanted to send a quick note to thank you for all your work on this. I didn't realize that so much time and effort had been volunteered. I thought last night's meeting went very well and that everyone learned a lot about what has been going on since January 2017. Thank you for your time and energy!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p.3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> </ul>
10 Blackburn Hamlet	I attended the meeting last night where the Forest Valley Trails Working Group (FVTWG) presented their report and I was very impressed with the amount of research and analysis that has clearly gone into this initiative by the current and former working group members. I live in Blackburn Hamlet and I attended the meeting under the belief, which I learned last night is incorrect, that the southern section of the forest (the area that was described as the NCC owned section) is part of the Blackburn Hamlet community and the northern section of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background &amp; Context, Chapel Hill North Forest, p.4-5.</li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photographs, p.74-77.</li> </ul>

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	the forest (the area that was described as the City of Ottawa owned section) is part of the Chapel Hill North community. As such when I signed in at the desk last night, I marked myself as a resident. However, I learned at last night's presentation that the entire forest area under discussion, including the NCC owned section, is considered to be part of the Chapel Hill North community.	
11 CHN	I have read the last report and would like to thank the group who has been looking into the maintenance and beautification of the Chapel Hill North Forest Trails. However, there are a number of problems that I see that I would like to address: <i>[See Comments listed in Priorities 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7]</i> I hope these comments will be added to your list and taken seriously. I do enjoy walking in this area and enjoy the little critters and birds that live in the forest. I appreciate the continuing work that you are doing to make this a safe and beautiful environment for all to enjoy. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 3]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>• Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> </ul>
13 CHN	The group preparing the report seems to have a pre-determined objective that does not reflect the sentiments of the community members I have consulted. The report itself has several claims that are not backed by evidence, I would like to see pure factual elements moving forward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Context, CHN Forest, FVTWG, FVTWG Mandate and Research Methodology, p.4-6.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-65.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
14 CHN	I would like to offer my feedback on the report: I recommend Option 1 but may take years... This report contains a tremendous of hours of work and has been a contentious item for several months. Does everything in it make sense? Not for everyone but there are several items that will be needed in order to move forward. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- most recommendations need to be discussed and approved by City and NCC and developed further.</li> <li>- several recommendations will likely never move forward.</li> <li>- key items to retain: . . . <i>[See Priorities 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7]</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29.</li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A Key Priorities with Community Engagement, p.30-32.</li> </ul>

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15 Chateaufort Com. Assoc.	<p>Many thanks for your detailed report and the presentation of November 5th by your committee regarding the NCC and City forest grounds. The significant effort by your volunteer committee members for this study is certainly a benefit to the Orléans community. As a community association we discussed this issue during our CCA meeting of Nov 15th. As you are requesting community feedback, we are providing the following comments for the future consultation of the NCC and City forest property: <i>[Other Comments listed in Priorities 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7]</i></p> <p>Thank you for your great work to date and we look forward to contributing along with the extended Orléans community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17 CHN	<p>We back onto the Chapel Hill North forest and see firsthand the number of people using the forest and admiring its beauty...we often see people taking pictures as they are out for walks. <i>[Other Comments listed in Priorities 1, 2 and 3]</i></p> <p>We support the FVTWG Report and its options outlined in the report.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29.</li> <li>● Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32.</li> </ul>
18 Carlington	<p>I am a 30-year resident of Carlington. My home is situated 1 block from the Carlington Woods. I spend every single day, every season enjoying nature on Carlington Hill. Similar to Forest Valley the area surrounding the Hill is environmentally protected or so we thought up till 2 years ago when the destruction of the trails and habitat commenced increasingly. <i>[Other Comments listed in Priorities 1, 2, 5 and 7]</i></p> <p>In conclusion, I implore you to not let OMBA manage your trails...they will take over your forest and as we are experiencing in Carlington the damage may take years to restore if we can. Please look up your area on Trailforks.com. you have unsanctioned trails already being used in both the City and NCC portions. We have found numerous nests on the ground and cut trees for trail blazing. We do not wish this total nightmare on your beautiful forest as it has progressed in our once 125-acre site which is now 22! Respectfully, Opponent of the OMBA PUMP TRACK FOR CARLINGTON HILL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29.</li> <li>● Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> <li>● Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> </ul>
19 CHN	<p>Please find below some constructive comments regarding the subject report for your appreciation and follow-up actions. Thank you for all your commendable and well researched work. Comments on the FVTWG Report dated October 22, 2018.</p> <p>I would like to tip my hat to the Working Group members for their tremendous efforts deployed to come up with such a thorough report on the ins and outs of the Forest Valley</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Executive Summary, p.1-2.</li> <li>● Chapter 1 Background and Context, p.3-6.</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>forest situated west of the Chapel Hill North Community (CHNC). Their Power Point presentation was excellent and deserves to be highlighted.</p> <p>This Working Group was put together in 2017 because the CHNC had realized that some serious problems existed with the environmental health of this forest. The CHNC was also concerned with some activities happening in this forest which cause worries for our community residents vis-à-vis its safe use and its sustainable protection for generations to come.</p> <p>As it has been said before, the first step in solving a problem is recognizing there is one. You will find below evidence of problems related to the degradation and deterioration of the natural beauty of the Forest Valley forest and in particular the City portion of it where the Voyageur Creek water flows through. You will also find references to environmental studies related to the Urban Natural Area (UNA) designation of #82 Forestglen Park. There is much evidence that points strongly to the need to decisively act a) on the type of activities that should take place in this forest, b) to put forth remediating measures to protect its natural beauty and c) to re-establish confidence in its sustainability for the use, security and pleasure of the present and future generations..</p> <p>There are essentially two main problems at hand to address in the short, medium and long terms:</p> <p>A- The lack of education and awareness of dog owners who bring their dogs into the forest for a stroll. This has not been treated in this report per se but remains a constant nagging concern to forest users and homeowners.</p> <p>B- The mountain biking activity is the other thorn in the side for residents when dealing with an area of the forest designated Urban Natural Feature and Environmentally Protected. This was exemplified by a petition signed by 633 residents of CHN and a series of complaints to the City Councillor Office which lead to a decision by the former City Councillor, Jody Mitic, to reject an OMBA Trail Maintenance Proposal.</p> <p><i>[Other Comments listed in Priorities 1, 2, 5 and 7]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking &amp; Traffic, p.20-21.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities – Option A</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use &amp; Planning: Permitted Uses; Significant Woodlands; Urban Natural Area Environmental Evaluation Study #82 (2003). p.37-39.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p. 52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, #15-20, p.57-61.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex C Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photographs, p.74-83.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Here are therefore four recommendations that I would propose:</p> <p>1- All studies and observations and the position of City authority point toward an immediate and pressing ban of mountain bike/bicycle activity in this environmentally protected City portion of the Forest Valley forest.</p> <p>2- The trails along the eroding slopes should be rehabilitated or redirected to more stable areas and to be only used by hikers in the City owned portion and most vulnerable part of the forest.</p> <p>3- Therefore, any envisaged future remedial measures should be undertaken once the Forest Department of the City of Ottawa has been approached and consulted on the health study of that City portion of the forest. Their report would provide us with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-An analysis of the current state of the forest plus a statement on its ecological integrity and sustainability;</li> <li>-What they believe would be the optimum health condition of the forest to assure the respect of its designations and its continued sustainability;</li> <li>-Their Environmental Impact Statement study would therefore lead to recommendations on the measures to undertake to safeguard this environmentally protected area, including some recommendations on the number of trails to keep open and where, as well as on how to maintain them, with a focus on how to keep this forest healthy and safe enough for a peaceful and secure enjoyment of present and future generations of hikers.</li> </ul> <p>4- Finally, to encourage mountain biking enthusiasts to go practice their sport activity in the purposely developed area of Larose Forest situated around 25 minutes from Chapel Hill North. See <a href="https://www.facebook.com/foretlarose/">https://www.facebook.com/foretlarose/</a></p> <p>Conclusion: In conclusion, I guess I would recommend Option A as being the closest to the recommendations presented above.</p>	
22 CHN	I would like to comment on the amazing depth of information, concern for our environment, and the detailed work exhibited by residents on the FVTWG committee on their Forest Valley trail report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background, p.3.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>I have attended two community information evenings and have read the offered report. Thus, as a long time resident of Chapel Hill North, I support Option A as recommended by the FVTWG committee.</p> <p>The neighborhood of CHN and adjacent forest area is of optimal importance to the residents and the community itself.</p> <p>It is a safe and quiet neighbourhood, beautiful local greenspace, and requires community insight and involvement for long term sustainability and conservation. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 1 and 6]</i> Thank you to everyone for all their hard work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A p.30-32.</li> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CN Community Residents p.61-65.</li> </ul>
24 Carlington	<p>I am writing you in support of Option A, because environmental awareness and protection must come first in facilitating the community's environmentally appropriate and sustainable use of specially designated greenspace.</p> <p>Otherwise, there is nothing to prevent our Urban Natural Areas and Environmental Protected Zones from being degraded beyond function and repair, and past hope. Damage caused by an intentionally careless person or someone who is simply uninformed has the same results: soil compaction, root damage, erosion, loss of suitable habitat, and proliferation of invasive species.</p> <p>That is why education, through all available means, is so important. Along with that, the fostering of focused community involvement has a double benefit: the greater awareness and acceptance of greenspace issues and requirements, and citizen participation in events such as Cleaning the Capital and the NCC's recent supervised work in eradicating buckthorn from a sensitive area. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i></p> <p>From reading your report and from what I have been observing, I wholly support your efforts as described in Option A. These are amply supported in both your report and in the City's Urban Forest Management Plan.</p> <p>If I am able to assist in any way, I would be happy to lend a hand. I hope you'll add me to your mailing list. Perhaps from Carp to Orleans and everywhere in between, it may be possible to collaborate in ways that help ensure consistent messaging and foster community participation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p.3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-28.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A. p.30-32.</li> </ul>

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25 Carlington	<p>I have read through the FVTWG's report and presentation. I am not surprised to see that Forest Valley is suffering from the same issues as many other of Ottawa's Urban Natural Areas and Environmentally Protected Zones.</p> <p>I am in support of Option A, as recommended by the working group. With the assault on urban forests continuing unabated-climate change, invasive species, disease, increased human activity-I am very pleased to see your support of environmental protection as the lens by which you would view all other measures. These types of connections need to be made more often and I will offer whatever support I can.</p> <p>I live close to Carlington Park where a mountain bike park was approved by the City of Ottawa. My experiences of that project might be informative given that the Ottawa Mountain Bike Association (OMBA) has approached the City for an agreement to maintain and improve trails through Forest Valley.</p> <p>I won't go into all the details here (if you would like more information, visit the Friends of Carlington Hill Facebook page for the timeline <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1105428122826947/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1105428122826947/</a> ) but in essence, OMBA approached the city many years ago to build a mountain bike park that would eventually take over most of Carlington Park. The eastern portion of the park is an Environmentally Protected Zone where certain activities, such as skiing, sledding, and mountain biking are not allowed. It connects to a well-established pollinator meadow and to NCC property to the south. Despite the City's EPZ designation, and community opposition, in the fall of 2016 the City approved one phase of an original four-phase project: a pump track and skills area on the meadow.</p> <p>Even though this one phase hasn't been built yet, Friends of Carlington Hill members have documented evidence of new trail building and clearing, structures such as jumps and berms, felled, cut and damaged trees and vegetation; the use of head lamps at night during nesting seasons; and run-ins with other park users. All of this has taken place in the Environmentally Protected Zone, an area OMBA was specifically barred from using when the project was approved, on NCC property, and on City property to the west by the municipal pumping station and the open (and badly fenced) snow dump (old quarry). In conversations and online forums, bike park proponents, including OMBA members have always expressed the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.7-14.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32</li> <li>● Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> <li>● Annex A Policy Framework: Zoning By-Laws; Environmental Protection Zone (EP); Environmental Designations; Permitted Uses; EIS and No Negative Impact: Significant Woodlands; Urban Forest Management Plan; Urban Natural Area Environmental Evaluation Study 2003 Forestglen Park #82; and NCC Greenbelt Master Plan, p.34-44</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment, p.45-65 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities &amp; Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p. 61-63.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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	<p>greatest interest in the steep woods of the EPZ. Since the early spring of 2018, mountain bike usage in and around the Carlington EPZ has increased dramatically.</p> <p>I have seen for myself how mountain biking in Carlington has eroded and compacted soil and exposed roots; how clearing existing and building new trails is removing habitat and wildlife corridors, and damaging plants, some of which are protected species, e.g., trilliums; and making certain trails unsafe for hikers or young or inexperienced mountain bikers. Mountain biking can also disturb, and potentially harm or kill wildlife, and night riding with headlamps disrupts wildlife cycles; it can, as it has in Carlington, disturb other users of the areas, hikers, dog walkers, birders, etc.</p> <p>Every urban forest counts and after reading the FVTWG report, I find several similarities between the issues and potential activities in Forest Valley and what is ongoing in Carlington Park. I offer this information as someone with more than two years of firsthand knowledge of the Carlington project and several decades of going to the park for a variety of activities.  <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i></p> <p>If you have a mailing list for updates, please add me to it. I look forward to hearing how things progress.</p>	
26 Carlington	<p>I commend the hard work and comprehensive report for the area, excellent job by the working group! I do not live in the area, but I have a similar situation in my neighbourhood with various land use designations and land ownership with the city of Ottawa EPZ land and NCC protected lands, UNA 121, Carlington/Clyde woods.</p> <p>Option A is my preferred direction for your woods!</p> <p>I'm a retired biologist from Environment Canada, Species at Risk Environmental Assessment Group, and have enjoyed the sport of mountain biking for the last 20 years. Your wooded areas have a greater ecological significance than our own neighbourhood woods, not too mention a much larger landmass and I would like to see stringent management of the trails and area. People walking have slight impacts on a forest and its biodiversity, and people mountain biking have slightly higher impacts or similar to walking (speed, weight etc....). However, when you put both activities in one area, sharing trails, the impacts to habitat and its biodiversity increase significantly, producing faster and greater degradation of habitat and wildlife disturbance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p. 34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, p.45-61 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest</li> <li>• B. Topography of the CHN Forest</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>The city of Ottawa needs a policy on urban mountain biking. NCC Federal lands have regulations indicating no biking off paved bike paths in urban natural areas and city of Ottawa have passive use (no bikes essentially) designation or at least the one in our neighbourhood is no biking allowed. Yet tire tracks and building of engineered jumps, cutting of trees, sweeping forest floor, burning brush etc.....riding at night (wildlife disturbance) degradation continually happens and several people doing illegal activities are OMBA volunteers for a bike pumptrack to be built in our neighbourhood. So does the organization advocate proper mountain biking, no. Their sport comes before nature and/or rules.</p> <p>Please keep OMBA away from trail maintenance or management bc although they proved good stewards for Kanata lake trails, the UNA's are not designated for that use and the user group have more irresponsible riders than the good kind. I have been working with OMBA for two years trying to protect our forests from destruction by mountain bikes to no avail. They will not advertise proper land use of trails in our area nor have remotely tried to help get the message out to that user group of no riding allowed in the forests surrounding pumptrack location. OMBA advocate mountain biking as sustainable and environmental, however the URBAN natural areas designated by city officials are still being gravely impacted all around the city by mountain bike people. The sport should be approached like downhill skiing, you go to where the trails are designated or sanctioned and ride, not tearing up forests in your own neighbourhood. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 1 and 2]</i></p> <p>Please keep me in the loop on your preservation and restoration of this important biodiverse land. I'm happy to volunteer on any restoration and habitat preservation opportunities should you need more hands on the ground.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
27 CHN	<p>I reviewed the FVTWG Report that was created and want to express a few comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clearly a lot of work has gone into the creation of the report and getting to this point. Thank you for doing so.</li> <li>2. I was at the meeting on November 5, 2018 and appreciated the way the questions were handled. I believe the gentlemen's name was Paul. He did a great job and your format was good.</li> <li>3. <i>[blank]</i></li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Summary, p.1-2</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33</li> </ul>

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	<p>4. The report highlights things but it feels biased. I have used this land since 1985 when we moved to Meadowglen Drive. My kids grew up knowing and using the land as we did as well. It is an absolute gem and must but saved but also used to be the most beneficial. I didn't find the report worked hard enough to come up with ways that it can before a proper/legitimate shared use area which is what it should be.  <i>[See Comments in Priorities 2, 3 and 5]</i></p> <p>10. As a side-note, the report is very long (may be done intentionally??) but if the intent is for the maximum number of people to get an accurate view of this situation, I would recommend providing a shorter version that more people will read completely. Something between the length of the Exec Summary and the full report, not more than 3 pages and can reference sections of the report as required.</p> <p>If further discussion would help, feel free to reach out to me at xxx or this email address.</p>	
28 Ottawa	<p>I want to first express my sincere thanks for the working group for all the hours of work creating the report on the Chapel Hill Forest and Trails. These projects are always thankless!</p> <p>As a resident of Ottawa for over 30 years, an outdoors enthusiast and environmentally conscious person, I appreciate the need to balance the competing demands of conservation and recreation. However, I continue to be concerned that these projects emphasise preserving greenspaces for residents to enjoy while being overly restrictive on what modes of recreation will be permitted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>• B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-65</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
30 Not indicated	<p>It is obvious that many nearby residents are taking a NIMBY attitude to use of the park. In an area of Orleans with very little parkland or recreational facilities of any kind, this attitude</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	should not be tolerated. This area belongs to the all residents of Ottawa and all NCC stakeholders, and needs to be available for the enjoyment of all. Thank you.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> </ul>
31 Orleans	I have read your report and am truly alarmed and saddened by the desire to reduce, if not attempt to completely remove, mountain biking from the Forest Valley trails. As a mother of 2 young children ages 3 & 6 who live in Orleans close to the trails and who love to bike in the woods it upsets me to think this would be taken away by a misconception of mountain biking as dangerous. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 1 and 2]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-65</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
32 CHN	<p>As a Chapel Hill North resident who has enjoyed the Forest Valley trails for many years, I was very interested to read the report by the Forest Valley Trails Working Group. I was happy to learn from the report that this beautiful area is designated as environmentally protected – something that I suspect many trail users were not aware of previously and something that will surely influence how the area is used.</p> <p>I would like to provide some information about my own experiences on the Forest Valley trails and make some suggestions based on these experiences. My comments pertain to the area managed by the NCC as well as the area managed by the City. <i>[Other Comments in Priorities 1, 5 and 7]</i></p> <p>It is thanks to the Forest Valley Trails Working Group report that we have an informed picture of the status of the forest and have information that can be used for education of trail users. It is clear from that report that the forest is not a park or an area to be developed – it is environmentally protected, and it is subject to issues such as damage to trails, soil compaction, and erosion. If it is to last, it must be used with care.</p> <p>In summary, the report is a significant step in the right direction. As a result of the report, decisions about usage of the trails can be made based on preservation of the forest rather than on the interests or preferences of any particular group.  <i>[Other Comments in Priorities 1, 5 and 7]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p. 3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>• B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Activities and Trail Design; Conflict between Users; and Dogs, p.61-65</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photos, p.78-83</li> </ul>

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1 CHN	<p>I totally agree with protecting the forest sustainably. If that means closing trails for regeneration, so be it. From an erosion point of view, and from a conflict potential point of view, it seems that use of the area for mountain bikes should be prevented if possible. I saw the damage in the form of chewed up, muddy trails unusable by ordinary walkers in Collingwood area on the Bruce Trail some years back.</p> <p>I hope that others will share this view, and that our forest will stay as natural as possible. It is worth remembering that many animals live in these forest areas now, and it would be a great loss if any changes ended up driving them out of their habitat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3. Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> </ul>
2 CHN	<p>Personally, I completely support the Recommended option: "OPTION A: Key Priorities with Community Engagement", because it's more in keeping with prolonged "as close to natural state" use of this great natural asset, for current and future generations (including CHN and other residents).</p> <p>I also wish to underscore the importance of the highlighted Priorities. There are many important points, but I would strongly support <i>Recommended Actions 4, 5 and 6 of Priority 1</i>. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.13.</li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, Key Priorities with Community Engagement, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> </ul>
7 CHN	<p>I have read the working group report on the Chapel Hill North forest trails, and while I agree that environmental stewardship is of the utmost importance, I do not agree with many of the recommendations pertaining to access. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 5]</i></p> <p>I find many of the recommendations exclusionary in nature and I hope that the CHCNA and our new city councillor will ensure that the trails are inclusive, easily accessible and open to a wide range of activities. It is possible, in my opinion, to achieve this while protecting the ecological integrity of the land. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 2 and 3]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8 CHN	<p>Having read "Protection, Sustainability and Maintenance of the Chapel Hill North Forest and its Trails" reports of the Forest Valley Trails Working Group (FVTWG) I have two objections. Firstly, ... <i>[See General Comments]</i> Secondly, the report fails to demonstrate that there will be any significant positive environmental impact resulting from the actions proposed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.46-51.</li> <li>· B. Topography of CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures: Trail Proliferation; Trail Locations; Erodible and Wet Terrain; Tree Maintenance; Structures; and Forest Maintenance, p.57-61.</li> </ul>
11 CHN	<p>Why are mountain bikes/fat bikes allowed on walking trails?  The paths are not very wide and pedestrians must make way for cyclists who are going at top speed. I see a risk for injuries to pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>Because these bikes have very large tires, they create rather large ruts in the soft ground that makes up the paths. This makes walking rather dangerous and treacherous. This is an environmentally protected area, bikes destroy the flora and animal habitats and frighten the creatures that live in the forest. Small creatures such as the rare blue-spotted salamanders and certain frogs are crushed under these bikes. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
11 CHN	<p>Loose dogs are dangerous not only to adult pedestrians and small children, but discourage wild animals (deer, fox, racoon, etc.) from building their habitat in the forest as they previously did when we first moved to this area. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 5]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> </ul> </li> <li>F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Dogs, p.61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
12 CHN	<p>In terms of preserving the ecosystem, I believe maintaining the trails would actually be beneficial as it would encourage people to stay on the trails.  <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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15 Chateaufort Com. Assoc.	Assure the sustainability and conservation of these public lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p.3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-28.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> </ul>
16 CHN	<p>Given the severity of climate, demographic and other changes, we should strive for sustainable usage of the forest and not just the eighteen-inch-wide trail strip.</p> <p>Once the garbage has been removed from the forest and the environmental audit completed then a trail should be considered that adheres to the restrictions of the regulations on a Federal, Provincial and Municipal level. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Permitted Uses, p.37.</li> <li>· Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and No Negative Impact, p.37-38.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17 CHN	As stated in the FVTWG report, the Chapel Hill North forest is an important part of our neighbourhood which residents appreciate and value and want to ensure is maintained. The report indicates that the forest is zoned EP Environmental Protection and designated high ecological significance that must be protected for the future. We support the FVTWG Report and its options outlined in the report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p. 3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32</li> </ul>
18 Carlington	<p>Needless to say, there has been a considerable reduction in the bird population in the past two years since the OMBA project to build a pump track on the meadow at Carlington Hill. The main catalyst behind this proposal was the area was underutilized! The City was aware the area surrounding this proposal was environmentally protected and also NCC lands of Clyde Woods which has also become a nighttime mountain bike track. The area borders the Carlington Quarry and surrounded by metal fencing which is cut open and now a mountain bike trail constructed inside! We are continually calling 311 to seal fence but again, the night is when the majority of the riding occurs.</p> <p>We have never had any interest from OMBA in a working group to address concerns and they have also never participated in clean up activities. The City does not do any</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>maintenance at all in EPA or surrounding. We have our own garbage collection done by volunteers every week. We are mostly picking up craft beer cans that are thrown by bike riders in the evening. The fat bikes of OMBA are very popular in this area as it also has the same topography as Forest Valley. The tires are tearing up the trails and making ruts and tossing soil. <i>[Other Comments listed in General and Priorities 2, 5 and 7]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement: Jurisdiction over Activities and Maintenance; City of Ottawa Trail Recreational Activities; Government Policy and By-law Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-65</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
<p>19 CHN</p>	<p>As it has been said before, the first step in solving a problem is recognizing there is one. You will find below evidence of problems related to the degradation and deterioration of the natural beauty of the Forest Valley forest and in particular the City portion of it where the Voyageur Creek water flows through. You will also find references to environmental studies related to the Urban Natural Area (UNA) designation of #82 Forestglen Park. There is much evidence that points strongly to the need to decisively act a) on the type of activities that should take place in this forest, b) to put forth remediating measures to protect its natural beauty and c) to re-establish confidence in its sustainability for the use, security and pleasure of the present and future generations.</p> <p>This forest has very special characteristics in terms of the types of trees, fauna and flora that grow and inhabit this ecosystem. It harbours an old hemlock colony as well as a panoply of plants and a diversity of animals and birds that need protection.</p> <p>The Forestglen Park is a forest portion of the Forest Valley forest belonging to the City and it is not a park per se but a designated Urban Natural Feature and Environmentally Protected Zone. These latter designations were made following nature surveys of this forest since 2003.</p> <p>The following series of evidence-based reports is highlighting the great environmental concerns caused by mountain biking activity in this environmentally protected designated area. <i>Nota:</i> The concerns regarding mountain biking activities go far back as you will see.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Situation, Land Use and Management</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning: CHN Zoning; Environmental Protection Zone EP; Environmental Designations; Permitted Uses: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and No Negative Impact; Significant Woodlands; Urban Forest Management Plan 2017; and Urban Natural Area Environmental Evaluation Study #82 (2003), p.34-39.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>1- The City of Ottawa has identified the Forestglen Park Forest, another name for the same area of the Forest Valley Forest owned by the City, as an Urban Natural Features/Area (UNA) and Environmentally Protected (EP). On Page 48, item 4 of the Annex B, these designations are clearly defined, and it is not for capricious reasons that the City experts arrived at these designations. It was after some serious studies on-site of this forest area in 2003 which concluded to effectively protect this vulnerable and fragile forest.</p> <p>2- The identification of the environmental sensitivity and the impact of mountain biking activity of the Forestglen Park/Forest was first identified in an Environmental Study Report for the City of Ottawa, and finalized in 2005 by Daniel F. Brunton, a naturalist, botanist &amp; birder of the area. <a href="http://ottawa.ca/calendar/ottawa/citycouncil/ec/2005/05-24/Final%20Report_UNAEES.htm">http://ottawa.ca/calendar/ottawa/citycouncil/ec/2005/05-24/Final%20Report_UNAEES.htm</a> ) In his Urban Natural Areas Environmental Evaluation Study (UNAEES), Mr. Brunton studied 187 Urban Sub-Areas. One of them was the Chapel Hill North UNAEES site #82 Forestglen Park/Forest Sub-Area.</p> <p>In sub-section 4.3.2, Recreational Management Measures, of his Study Report, Mr. Brunton states specifically that the: “Impacts of mountain bikes was noted as a potential serious concern at Forestglen Park.”</p> <p>In that same sub-section 4.3.2, he also recommends to directing pedestrian activity to the periphery of the urban natural area for the natural areas of Forestglen Park in particular.</p> <p>3- In a complementary document to his Study Report, titled: “Urban Natural area (UNA) 82: Forestglen Park”, Mr. Brunton identifies for the Forestglen Park the following disturbance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- erosion along trails (especially at wet sites) by mountain bicycle traffic;</li> </ul> <p>and in the management section of that same document, we find the following management recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- rationalization and stabilization of informal footpath along periphery of the site (including rock crush surface) important to reduce vegetation damage and erosion;</li> <li>- pre-emptive control of mountain bicycle traffic required before impact becomes serious.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; Conflict between Users; and Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic, p.61-65.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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	<p>In this latter document Mr. Brunton concludes the following about this forest: “- aesthetically spectacular forest site as well as ecologically significant;”</p> <p>4- In the document study titled: "GREEN SPACES IN URBAN PLACES, Ottawa Stewardship Council (OSC), Urban (Forestry) Natural Area Stewardship Program" found here: <a href="http://ottawastewardship.org/OSC%20Green%20Spaces%20Urban%20Places%20ReportFeb%2016%2010.pdf">http://ottawastewardship.org/OSC%20Green%20Spaces%20Urban%20Places%20ReportFeb%2016%2010.pdf</a> Its purpose was: "... to identify and assess the relative environmental value of these natural areas across the entire urban area, and make recommendations for management of these lands aimed at their long-term sustainability." (<i>my highlight</i>)</p> <p>You will then notice on page 8 of 23 of this document, under the section titled: "Annex A: Priority List of Evaluated Urban Natural Areas", that Forestglen Park area #82 scored the third highest out of 187 sites. This is not negligible and in fact quite significant and provides an impetus to go into action to protect its sustainability.</p> <p>5- In the City's Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP 2018-2037) dated April 2017, on page 124 of the document titled <i>Putting Down Roots for the Future</i> found here: <a href="https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/default/files/final_ufmp_en.pdf">https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/default/files/final_ufmp_en.pdf</a>, I noted the following statement which I find most interesting as it points directly to damage that mountain biking activity does to the Urban Natural Areas:  “Stewardship of Urban Natural Areas - There is a great need for education on the appropriate public use and stewardship of these features, particularly in regard to largely unintended abuses such as yard waste dumping, excessive "fort" development, encroachment from adjacent yards and gardens, vegetation damage and removal, and mountain bike structures.” Urban Natural Areas Environmental Evaluation Study (UNAEES) Addendum, 2006”</p>	
22 CHN	<p>The neighborhood of Chapel Hill North and adjacent forest area is of optimal importance to the residents and the community itself.</p> <p>It is a safe and quiet neighbour hood, beautiful local greenspace, and requires community insight and involvement for long term sustainability and conservation.</p> <p>Both the City of Ottawa and the NCC must recognize the importance of their role in the environmental protection and sustainability of all greenspace within our city and region, as the major public stakeholders for generations to come.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background, p.3.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A p.30-32.</li> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CN Community Residents p.61-65.</li> </ul>
24 Carlington	<p>I am writing you in support of Option A, because environmental awareness and protection must come first in facilitating the community’s environmentally appropriate and sustainable use of specially designated greenspace. Otherwise, there is nothing to prevent our Urban Natural Areas and Environmental Protected Zones from being degraded beyond function and repair, and past hope. Damage caused by an intentionally careless person or someone who is simply uninformed has the same results: soil compaction, root damage, erosion, loss of suitable habitat, and proliferation of invasive species.</p> <p>That is why education, through all available means, is so important. Along with that, the fostering of focused community involvement has a double benefit: the greater awareness and acceptance of greenspace issues and requirements, and citizen participation in events such as Cleaning the Capital and the NCC’s recent supervised work in eradicating buckthorn from a sensitive area. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i></p> <p>I do not live in the Chapel Hill North part of this city, but I am an Ottawan who spends time in Urban Natural Area #121 in Carlington and its adjacent greenspace, including an Environmental Protected Zone which is under some of the same regulations as Forest Valley. And similar threats. Considering Forest Valley's multiple special characteristics, what moves me to write is this: if as citizens we are unable to protect the area which is the focus of your report, what chance is there of preserving any of the 186 other locations named in the UNAEEs?</p> <p>For the past 31 months, I have been observing as OMBA sought to install an extensive mountain bike project in Carlington Park – including a network of paths and jumps located in the adjacent EPZ. Three of those 4 phases are “off the table”, but the Community and Protective Services Committee allocated space for 1 phase on the Carlington Meadow. It took extensive efforts by concerned citizens to ensure that no formal elements would be installed in that fragile ecosystem...but those efforts have guaranteed nothing. It now seems that some of those elements are taking shape, informally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p.3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29</li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A p.30-32.</li> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning: CHN Zoning: Environmental Protection Zone EP; Environmental Designations; Permitted Uses; Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and No Negative Impact; Significant Woodlands; Urban Forest Management Plan 2017; and Urban Natural Area Environmental Evaluation Study #82 (2003), p.61-65.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest: Forest Ownership; Governance; Zoning; City of Ottawa designation - Urban Natural Features; and NCC Environmental Designations - Core Natural Area, High-Value Ecosystems &amp; Habitats, p.45-52.</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities &amp; Enforcement: Jurisdiction over Activities and Maintenance; City of Ottawa Trail Recreational Activities; and Government Policy &amp; By-Law Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation &amp; Corrective Measures: Trail Proliferation; Trail Locations;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>All through this summer in the Environmental Protected Zone, I have observed (and often reported to Bylaw or to Parks) the gathering and stacking of deadfall which disrupts wildlife habitat and is typical of mountain bike use in an area, since this practice – known as “sweeping” clears away pesky branches which otherwise interfere with bicycle spokes. I have shown a City employee a portion of a slope onto a path, where a cutaway that removed soil also left roots exposed and dangling. The soil had been shifted over to create a perimeter berm along the edge of the path a couple of feet away: a mountain biking feature. I have helped to dig out materials such as pallets and large rocks that were put in place as foundations for jumps and then “integrated” with soil displaced from nearby.</p> <p>In the NCC Carlington/Clyde Woods, I have removed reflective tape placed at eye level to guide mountain bikers through sensitive habitat where nighttime use of high-powered headlamps silently renders habitat inhospitable for birds and other species. Observations such as these are the basis for my concern for not only UNA 121 but also Forest Valley and such spaces throughout Ottawa. I don't wish them on Forest Valley. I note that at the other end of the City, the Friends of the Carp Hills addressed similar concerns earlier this week:  <a href="https://carphills.com/?p=1337&amp;fbclid=IwAR2H2PIhKZB9BHPHMcA6GuxplgH6HZPdpeR7XQfgoD8OvJSx4dkvlifxGI">https://carphills.com/?p=1337&amp;fbclid=IwAR2H2PIhKZB9BHPHMcA6GuxplgH6HZPdpeR7XQfgoD8OvJSx4dkvlifxGI</a> The 70 or 80 people gathered there heard about concerns similar to those mentioned in your report: “environmental damage”, “high value designations of the forest”, “trail layout” and the clarification of “appropriate vs. inappropriate use of the trails”.</p> <p>Some of what I have understood from attending a couple of meetings at Chapel Hill North and this week’s in Carp, along with a recent visit to New York’s Central Park – a greenspace sustained while under significant pressure – and making best stewardship efforts in Carlington is the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-When it comes to appropriate trail use, the most useful signage often evokes the *effects* of our actions, so that we better understand that these directives are consequential, and not simply arbitrary.</li> </ul>	<p>Erodible and Wet Terrain; Tree Maintenance; Structures; and Forest Maintenance, p.57-61.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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	<p>-When the term “sustainable” is used, it should properly refer to the sustainability of green infrastructure -- the natural elements of flora, fauna, and habitat. It has to be made clear that it is not synonymous with “easy maintenance for bike/pedestrian trails”.</p> <p>From reading your report and from what I have been observing, I wholly support your efforts as described in Option A. These are amply supported in both your report and in the City’s Urban Forest Management Plan. <i>[Other Comments listed in Priorities 2 and 5]</i></p>	
25 Carlington	<p>Every urban forest counts and after reading the FVTWG report, I find several similarities between the issues and potential activities in Forest Valley and what is ongoing in Carlington Park. I offer this information as someone with more than two years of firsthand knowledge of the Carlington project and several decades of going to the park for a variety of activities. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.7-14.</li> <li>• Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> </ul>
26 Carlington	<p>Please keep OMBA away from trail maintenance or management bc although they proved good stewards for Kanata lake trails, the UNA’s are not designated for that use and the user group have more irresponsible riders than the good kind. I have been working with OMBA for two years trying to protect our forests from destruction by mountain bikes to no avail. They will not advertise proper land use of trails in our area nor have remotely tried to help get the message out to that user group of no riding allowed in the forests surrounding pumptrack location.</p> <p>OMBA advocate mountain biking as sustainable and environmental, however the URBAN natural areas designated by city officials are still being gravely impacted all around the city by mountain bike people. The sport should be approached like downhill skiing, you go to where the trails are designated or sanctioned and ride, not tearing up forests in your own neighbourhood.</p> <p><i>[Comments also listed in General and Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority Forest Trails.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment p.45-65. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest</li> <li>• B. Topography of the CHN Forest</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and their Enforcement</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
28 Ottawa	<p>1) The environmental impact of mountain bike tires on trails has been studied in comparison to the impact of several other trail uses such as hiking, horses, motorbikes etc. Time after time it has been scientifically proven that the impact of mountain bikes on trails is basically equivalent in terms of erosion and soil compaction and it has less impact than horses or motorized uses. The impact of tires and feet are basically the same, pound for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>pound. Sustainable trail design and maintenance allows for trails to be built in a manner that can reduce the effects of erosion while maintaining an enjoyable experience for all users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment</li> <li>• B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement: Jurisdiction over Activities and Maintenance; City of Ottawa - Trail Recreational Activities; and Government Policy &amp; By-Law Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
31 Ottawa	<p>Sustainable multi-use mountain bike trails can be developed to ensure the protection of the environment and the users. <i>[Other Comments in General and Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
32 CHN	<p>As a Chapel Hill North resident who has enjoyed the Forest Valley trails for many years, I was very interested to read the report by the Forest Valley Trails Working Group. I was happy to learn from the report that this beautiful area is designated as environmentally protected – something that I suspect many trail users were not aware of previously and something that will surely influence how the area is used. <i>[See other Comments in General and Priorities 2, 5 and 7]</i></p> <p>In summary, the report is a significant step in the right direction. As a result of the report, decisions about usage of the trails can be made based on preservation of the forest rather than on the interests or preferences of any particular group. Providing users of the trails with a better understanding of the impact of their actions and information about this urban gem will go a long way towards improving the protection of this beautiful area, improving user behaviour, and reducing user conflicts. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p. 3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p. 61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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3 CHN	Both governing bodies encouraged the WG to outline recommendations for signage including a trail map and regular maintenance which would foster an inclusive environment. Unfortunately, this report is recommending exclusion, the complete opposite values of those the city of Ottawa. During meetings the city was clear that any barriers to entry and exclusion would not be considered as an option, this includes limiting access which is proposed in this proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement: Jurisdiction over Activities and Maintenance; City of Ottawa - Trail Recreational Activities; and Government Policy &amp; By-Law Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7 CHN	I find many of the recommend exclusionary in nature and I hope that the CHCNA and our new city councillor will ensure that the trails are inclusive, easily accessible and open to a wide range of activities. It is possible, in my opinion, to achieve this while protecting the ecological integrity of the land. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 1 and 3]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols</li> </ul>
10 Blackburn Hamlet	Given the close proximity of the Blackburn Hamlet community to the trails, I am a frequent user of the trails. My activities include walking, snowshoeing, mountain biking and snow biking. Earlier this summer I was in touch with the City of Ottawa through the 3-1-1 contact number regarding the numerous trees that have fallen across the trails and wooden bridges that are degrading, and I was able to speak with a City representative on several occasions. The City representative advised me that due to the unofficial designation of the trails, the City of Ottawa will not undertake any maintenance activities and any clearing of fallen branches or trees that are blocking trails or bridge repairs is up to the trail users to do so if they wish and at their own risk. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 3]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols.</li> </ul>
11 CHN	Why are mountain bikes/fat bikes allowed on walking trails?  The paths are not very wide and pedestrians must make way for cyclists who are going at top speed. I see a risk for injuries to pedestrians and cyclists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	Because these bikes have very large tires, they create rather large ruts in the soft ground that makes up the paths. This makes walking rather dangerous and treacherous. This is an environmentally protected area, bikes destroy the flora and animal habitats and frighten the creatures that live in the forest. Small creatures such as the rare blue-spotted salamanders and certain frogs are crushed under these bikes. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement: Jurisdiction over Activities and Maintenance; City of Ottawa Trail Recreational Activities, p.53-55.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-63.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12 CHN	In terms of preserving the ecosystem, I believe maintaining the trails would actually be beneficial as it would encourage people to stay on the trails. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13 CHN	I am not concerned over the mountain bike users; however, I would recommend maintenance on the pedestrian bridges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
14 CHN	Key items to retain: 1 - trails (keep/eliminate), entry/exits points, education/code of conduct info...these are crucial. <i>[Other items listed in Priorities 4, 5, 6 and 7]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic, p.20-21.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Activities and Trail Design; Conflict between Users; and Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic, , p.61-65.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
15 Chateaufeuf Com. Assoc.	Seek best practices of forest trails management by other similar public lands. E.g. South March Highlands Conservation area in Kanata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex B Assessment, D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> </ul>
16 CHN	<p>Given the severity of climate, demographic and other changes, we should strive for sustainable usage of the forest and not just the eighteen-inch-wide trail strip.</p> <p>Once the garbage has been removed from the forest and the environmental audit completed then a trail should be considered that adheres to the restrictions of the regulations on a Federal, Provincial and Municipal level. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p. 34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17 CHN	<p>We back onto the Chapel Hill North forest and see firsthand the number of people using the forest and admiring its beauty...we often see people taking pictures as they are out for walks. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 3]</i></p> <p>We do see people on their bikes, and they do travel fast, but I had no idea that they were using the forest as their personal playground for their biking...seeing the pictures in the report of what they have done to improve their rides has me very worried...this forest does not belong to them, and they should not be allowed to disturb the forest in any way, shape or form!! In our opinion mountain biking and leisurely walks don't mix well in highly environmentally protected forests with narrow walking trails in residential areas.</p> <p>We would like to see the trails to be designated as nature trails for passive recreation like walking, hiking, snowshoeing and skiing.</p> <p>As stated in the FVTWG report, the Chapel Hill North forest is an important part of our neighbourhood which residents appreciate and value and want to ensure is maintained.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 Background and Context, p. 3-6.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29.</li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, Option A, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> </ul> </li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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	The report indicates that the forest is zoned EP Environmental Protection and designated high ecological significance that must be protected for the future. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i> We support the FVTHG Report and its options outlined in the report. <i>[Comment also listed in General Comments]</i>	
18 Carlington	<p>Mountain biking, as per the IMBA statistics is primarily, in Ontario comprised of men between 30 and 40 years old. The nighttime riding is very popular, and the main destructive influence on a forest. We, in Carlington and surrounding neighbourhoods around the area, Copeland Park and Central Park have tried to stop the almost daily intricate jumps, berms, canopy shelters, widening of trails, new trails forming loops, multiple entrance and exit points, firepits for elimination of forest fauna, pallet constructed hidden obstacles and the list goes on... It is no longer enjoyable to find tranquility in a stroll through the area.</p> <p>If you look at the web site, "Trailforks.com" which was public until we made the City and NCC aware of it (now has a membership fee) there are numerous, "unsanctioned trails with rider information", all over Ottawa and NCC lands. Each area has members dedicated to making trails and obstacles that are not obvious to the occasional user.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
19 CHN	<p>B- Mountain Biking Activity <i>[See also General Comments and Priority 1]</i>  Mountain biking activity has created quite a stressful situation regarding</p> <p>(1) the protection of this forest against soil and slope degradations, trail braiding and watershed flow in sensitive and protected areas of this forest and</p> <p>(2) the peaceful and safe enjoyment of these forest trails by CHN residents mainly.</p> <p>The results of the petition are quite eloquent in this regard. And contrary to some comments posted on the blog of the CHNCA Board, the content of the OMBA proposal was explained and the content of the petition per se was read and clearly understood by all residents who signed it.</p> <p>There was a subsequent unanimous acceptance by the CHNCA Board members of a motion to (1) formally accept the will of the residents expressed through this petition; (2) to also accept Councillor Mitic's decision to its full extent; and (3) to reflect this acceptance accordingly when communicating with all its resident members via Facebook or its website or other forms of communications.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions, p.7-29.</li> <li>· Annex B Assessment,</li> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>There is a difference between being able to bike in a protected natural space, and the predictable effects of repeated use of unsanctioned trails; not to mention the habitat alterations and degradations which are associated with the way mountain-bike users adapt such habitat to optimize their own riding experience, which relies on stripping ground from tree and plant roots, altering grade, sweeping &amp; stacking deadfall, building berms...and so on. Here are therefore four recommendations that I would propose:</p> <p>1- All studies and observations and the position of City authority point toward an immediate and pressing ban of mountain bike/bicycle activity in this environmentally protected City portion of the Forest Valley forest.</p> <p>2- The trails along the eroding slopes should be rehabilitated or redirected to more stable areas and to be only used by hikers in the City owned portion and most vulnerable part of the forest.</p> <p>3- Therefore, any envisaged future remedial measures should be undertaken once the Forest Department of the City of Ottawa has been approached and consulted on the health study of that City portion of the forest. Their report would provide us with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-An analysis of the current state of the forest plus a statement on its ecological integrity and sustainability;</li> <li>-What they believe would be the optimum health condition of the forest to assure the respect of its designations and its continued sustainability;</li> <li>-Their Environmental Impact Statement study would therefore lead to recommendations on the measures to undertake to safeguard this environmentally protected area, including some recommendations on the number of trails to keep open and where, as well as on how to maintain them, with a focus on how to keep this forest healthy and safe enough for a peaceful and secure enjoyment of present and future generations of hikers.</li> </ul> <p>4- Finally, to encourage mountain biking enthusiasts to go practice their sport activity in the purposely developed area of Larose Forest situated around 25 minutes from Chapel Hill North. See <a href="https://www.facebook.com/foretlarose/">https://www.facebook.com/foretlarose/</a></p> <p>Nota: The concerns regarding mountain biking activities go far back as you will see.</p>	

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20 Not indicated	<p>I am frequent user of the Chapel Hill North Forest and its Trails. My family, my friends and I walk, trail run, mountain bike and fat bike their throughout the year. I’m in support of bettering the trail system in ensuring they are safe and sustainable. I also support educating users that wish to use this resource. I am however not in support of the proposed preventing of cyclists from using the trails and removal of mountain biking features. Ensuring the safety of all is important, but not at the cost of discriminating against those who choose to enjoy being outside in nature on their bicycles. Education and respect is the key here. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 5]</i></p> <p>A great example of a recent success story is how the municipality of Prescott Russell have been developing a network of shared and dedicated trails for hikers, snowshoers, trail runners, cyclists (mountain bike and fat bike), skiers, dog sleders, etc. in Foret Larose. The success of the project has been beyond their expectations; especially with the addition of the cycling features. All users get along and respect each other and trail designations (some for unique application, others, shared). It’s rare that you’ll see someone that doesn’t sport a smile (no pun intended) as they enjoy and share the trail network with other users. People in Foret Larose know how to play nice in the sandbox. Thank you, sincerely yours,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Current Situation, Land Use and Management</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> <li>● Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· CHN Environmental Protection Zone, p.35-37.</li> <li>· Permitted Uses, p.37-38.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
21 Not indicated	<p>Please keep access to mountain bikes. These are used by local young kids that would rather bike than Nintendo! Let’s keep our <i>[blank]</i>. Tks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
23 Not indicated	<p>As this is city property the trails should be multi use trails open to all users (walkers, fat bike for winter and mountain bike in summer, snowshoeing and dog walking etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
26 Carlington	<p>Please keep OMBA away from trail maintenance or management bc although they proved good stewards for Kanata lake trails, the UNA’s are not designated for that use and the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>user group have more irresponsible riders than the good kind. I have been working with OMBA for two years trying to protect our forests from destruction by mountain bikes to no avail. They will not advertise proper land use of trails in our area nor have remotely tried to help get the message out to that user group of no riding allowed in the forests surrounding pumptrack location. OMBA advocate mountain biking as sustainable and environmental, however the URBAN natural areas designated by city officials are still being gravely impacted all around the city by mountain bike people. The sport should be approached like downhill skiing, you go to where the trails are designated or sanctioned and ride, not tearing up forests in your own neighbourhood. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 1 and 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>27 CHN</p>	<p>5. There are ways to have multiple user groups sharing the workload and benefit of having proper trails through the woods. Keeping all humans out of that land is not going to happen so we should find ways to make it happen properly. Trails that are not creating more mud-holes like there are in a few places. Put proper work into the trails so all user groups can enjoy them. This groups don't seem to appreciate how much better it can be for everyone if we avoid the mess that has created itself because they won't allow a little maintenance. The water puddles get wider and we destroy more forest when left on its own as it is now. Shame on the group for not having an open mind about this and not portraying it in a better manner.</p> <p>6. My son learned to bike in these woods, I have also taken other novice riders through there and they really enjoyed it. With proper trail maintenance, this does not negatively impact the trails. It would be shame to lose this for future kids and novice riders in the area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>• D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> </ul> </li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
<p>28 Ottawa</p>	<p>Chapel Hill Forest is the type of small, local urban forest trail system where local residents can recreate on their bikes without having to travel great distances by car. Mountain biking should continue to be permitted in this forest.</p> <p>A few key points I'd like to make: <i>[Other Comments listed in General and Priority 1,4 &amp; 5]</i></p> <p>1) The environmental impact of mountain bike tires on trails has been studied in comparison to the impact of several other trail uses such as hiking, horses, motorbikes etc. Time after time it has been scientifically proven that the impact of mountain bikes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment</li> </ul>

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**Forest Valley Trails Working Group (FVTWG)**  
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	<p>on trails is basically equivalent in terms of erosion and soil compaction and it has less impact than horses or motorized uses. The impact of tires and feet are basically the same, pound for pound. Sustainable trail design and maintenance allows for trails to be built in a manner that can reduce the effects of erosion while maintaining an enjoyable experience for all users.</p> <p>2) Trails such as those in Chapel Hill can be shared use with bikes and foot traffic if properly managed. It seems that the major objection to bicycles on these trails comes down to SOCIAL CONFLICT. Some residents simply are not prepared to share trails with other users. As much as the objections we've heard are being expressed as environmental concerns, there is an underlying theme of "local residents only/not in my backyard". The fact is these lands are owned by the NCC and City of Ottawa and as such the views of local residents should be given no more weight than those of any other resident.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
<p>29 Blackburn Hamlet</p>	<p>I'd like to throw my piece in to trail access. I'm a longtime resident of Blackburn and live very close to Station 54.</p> <p>I've used the trails for walking, snowshoes and biking and traveling to Youville to either get my vehicle from a shop or renting a car. I've taken my kids and dog for walks there too many times to count - I pack what I bring in and always carry an extra bag to pack out whatever detritus is left behind by other users. I've done so in the Canadian Rockies to the Adirondacks to the Scottish highlands and Canary islands. I have also passed this respect in to my boys.</p> <p>That said I am a cyclist - I don't race, I respect walkers, dogs and joggers. I hear that there is an effort to ban all cycling in the trails - and to that end is very troubling for me. I have cycled in the Gatineau for years now and the work done by OMBA and the NCC is fantastic. Trails have been established and cared for and folks have enjoyed that relationship. We should embrace that spirit here.</p> <p>As I have said - I have used these trails and woods and have respected all those who pass. I have heard folks say that canvassers have passed their residences trying to halt dirt bikes (motorized) from using the trails - if this is true then there is a misrepresentation of what is at stake here.</p> <p>Cycling whether fat bike for winter or mountain bike for summer should not be banned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 1 Background and Context, FVTWG p.5-6</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps , p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> <li>● Chapter 4 Conclusions, p.33.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	If you need more please feel free to email me. Cheers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
30 Not indicated	<p>I am very disappointed by the recent report on the Forest Valley trails, and the exclusionary attitude directed toward the mountain biking community.</p> <p>Many trails in the Forest have been developed and maintained by this user group and are open for a wide range of stakeholders to enjoy.</p> <p>The rejection of trail support and maintenance by the local biking association is particularly disappointing, and we are now seeing many of the trails fall into disrepair, particularly in the northern portion of the forest. <i>[Comments also listed in General]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 1 Background and Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Forest Valley Trails Working Group, p.5.</li> <li>· FVTWG Mandate, p.5-6.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chapter 2 Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols</li> </ul>
31 Orleans	<p>Sustainable multi-use mountain bike trails can be developed to ensure the protection of the environment and the users. The recent development and success of mountain bike trails at Larose Forest is a great example of how this can be done right. I would recommend that a partnership with the Ottawa Mountain Biking Association be explored so that safe useable trails can be created for all. <i>[Other Comments listed in Priority 1]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex A Policy Framework, p.34-44.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, p.61-63</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
32 CHN	<p>I use the trails frequently each week for running, walking my dogs, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing. I also enjoy mountain biking on forest trails, but I find the FV trails less than ideal for this activity; the trails are narrow and are easily damaged by bikes except during prolonged periods of dry weather. In contrast, I have found that the many kilometres of trails in the Larose Forest and the South March Highlands (both of which have very different trail surfaces from the FV trails), are excellent for mountain biking. In fact, new trails intended for mountain biking were opened last year at Larose.</p> <p>Another concern that has deterred me from using these trails for cycling is the limited visibility on the trails, especially when riding at speed. The winding paths which make walking such a pleasure, prevent riders from having a clear view of other users who can include walkers, often with young families and/or dogs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>I have frequently seen cyclists riding too fast on the trails as well as riding in wet weather resulting in what is often significant trail damage. That damage was in evidence just a few weeks ago when one and possibly two cyclists rode their bikes on a wet day leaving deep ruts. The ruts then froze, making many parts of the trails treacherous for walking and running until filled in by the snow. Had the riders simply waited until the trails were dry, this damage would not have happened. Last winter, I ran into other cross country skiers on the trails who, like me, were dismayed at the damage from a bike that ruined parts of the trail for skiing. It was apparent that walkers had moved to one side so as to not damage the tracks but the cyclist had not been so considerate.</p> <p>It is notable that just a few bikes can cause a lot of damage, but that damage affects all trail users. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; Conflict between Users; and Dogs, p.61-65.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

Submission # & Residency	D. FVTWG Priority 3 – HEALTH BENEFITS AND FAMILY	FVTWG Report References
7 CHN	<p>I find many of the recommend exclusionary in nature and I hope that the CHCNA and our new city councillor will ensure that the trails are inclusive, easily accessible and open to a wide range of activities. It is possible, in my opinion, to achieve this while protecting the ecological integrity of the land. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p. 7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11 CHN	<p>Also, I have talked to people who have been knocked to the ground by large dogs that have charged at them while their masters saunter behind them unaware of where the dog is. I witnessed an elderly man being surrounded by two large loose dogs. The elderly man had to cope until the master arrived to call off his dogs. I even had a woman tell me that her dog was too aggressive to bring to the dog park, yet she let the dog run loose on the trails because it needed to run! <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 5]</i></p> <p>I hope these comments will be added to your list and taken seriously. I do enjoy walking in this area and enjoy the little critters and birds that live in the forest. I appreciate the continuing work that you are doing to make this a safe and beautiful environment for all to enjoy. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; Conflict between Users; and Dogs, p.61-65.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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Submission # & Residency	D. FVTWG Priority 3 – HEALTH BENEFITS AND FAMILY	FVTWG Report References
17 CHN	We back onto the Chapel Hill North forest and see firsthand the number of people using the forest and admiring its beauty...we often see people taking pictures as they are out for walks. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 2]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Priority 3 Health Benefit and Family, p.18-19</li> </ul>
27 CHN	7. Not everyone has the opportunity to go elsewhere (Gatineau Park or otherwise) to enjoy such beautiful and peaceful natural surroundings. We must keep this access available to all user non-motorised groups (like hikers, dog-walkers, snowshoers, skiers, bikers and possibly others I am not thinking of). Cooperation and consideration is the key to success in this environment. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 5]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
28 Ottawa	As a life long cyclist and parent of two preteens, the importance of getting kids outdoors and appreciating nature while recreating cannot be understated. With a population of almost 1 million in Ottawa, one of the biggest benefits of living in Ottawa are the many urban green spaces where citizens can recreate in a natural setting without having to pile into a car. This contributes to the overall quality of life for all residents.  I support the efforts of this committee to preserve and protect the local trail systems, but not to the exclusion of "non local" residents or to the exclusion of mountain bikes on these trails. <i>[Comment also listed in General]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> </ul>

Submission # & Residency	E. FVTWG Priority 4 – FOREST ENTRY AND EXITY POINTS, PARKING AND TRAFFIC	FVTWG Report References
3 CHN	In meetings I attended and documented by the WG, the NCC and city of Ottawa forestry team were clear that existing rules (all inclusive use for hikers, bikers, walkers, etc.), entry points and access to the trails would not be considered for modification or change. This report ignores the clear direction of both governing bodies. <i>[Comment also in Priority 5]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest: Forest Ownership and Management: Governance; Zoning; City of Ottawa Environmental Degradation Urban Natural Features; and NCC Environmental Degradation Core Natural Areas, High-Value Ecosystems &amp; Habitats, p.46-50.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement: Jurisdiction over Activities and Maintenance; and City of Ottawa Trail Recreational Activities, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>● Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
4 CHN	<p>I wanted to write to express my concern with the findings of the report. Specifically in reference to this finding on page 51: "The use of Forestglen Park as an access point to the CHN forest could be contrary to the Park's design and intended benefit to the local community."</p> <p>I want to stress that one of the main reasons why we decided to buy our house was the accessibility to the park and forest. We are vehemently opposed to any attempt to bar residents from the forest via the park. Thank you,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest 7. Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>· Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
5 CHN	<p>I understand that there is a proposal to close trail access at Forest Valley. To be clear, I vehemently oppose this decision and any other decision to limit right of way access and so do most of my neighbours that live adjacent to our trails. This Trail access is used by families, cycling enthusiasts and dog walkers. Aside from this, closing access to public lands is undemocratic and completely antithetical to open community enjoyment of undeveloped nature. For most of my neighbours and I, this is why we moved to this neighbourhood and paid a lot premium in the first place. Thank you for your attention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest 7. Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> <li>● Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
6 CHN	<p>To whom it my concern. I use the trails every day with my family. I strongly oppose any action that would restrict access to the trails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex B Assessment:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest 7. Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
7 CHN	<p>I have read the working group report on the Chapel Hill North forest trails, and while I agree that environmental stewardship is of the utmost importance, I do not agree with many of the recommendations pertaining to access. The trails are on public land and all residents should be welcomed and encouraged to enjoy the trails, not just the few lucky enough to live nearby designated access points.</p> <p>I have never had a problem with parking congestion or any other issue on our street, Valley Field Cres., at the Forestglen park entrance. Closing access point such as these would be a terrible decision for local families who are now able to access the paths by foot or bicycle. Asking us to drive to access the trails is not a good environmental decision.</p> <p>I find many of the recommend exclusionary in nature and I hope that the CHCNA and our new city councillor will ensure that the trails are inclusive, easily accessible and open to a wide range of activities. It is possible, in my opinion, to achieve this while protecting the ecological integrity of the land. <i>[Comments also listed in Priorities 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest 7. Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
12 CHN	<p>I believe the trails should be open to everyone. I believe limiting trail access goes against basic community values. Many residents have bought houses in this neighbourhood because of those trails and they outdoor enjoyment they provide. Anyone who buys houses in this community is well aware of the access points before buying a house. If they do not which for people to park on their streets as a result of the access points, they should have bought a house on another street. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 5]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.7-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest 7. Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
12 CHN	I do not believe that bathrooms are necessary at any access points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13 CHN	Lastly the notion of taking away an access point to a forest my family uses on a regular basis seems absurd and I am strongly against this.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
14 CHN	Key items to retain: <i>[See other items in Priorities 2, 6 and 7]</i> 1 - trails (keep/eliminate), entry/exits points, education/code of conduct info...these are crucial. 4- ensure parking availability at or near main entry/exit points with code of conduct evident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> <li>· Annex B Assessment</li> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest - Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents - Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>
15 Chateaneuf Com. Assoc.	Address the concerns of the adjacent and close residents to the forest property. E.g. Increased traffic and parking issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, 7. Forestglen Park Designation, p.51.</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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Submission # & Residency	E. FVTWG Priority 4 – FOREST ENTRY AND EXITY POINTS, PARKING AND TRAFFIC	FVTWG Report References
28 Ottawa	3) Concerns raised about parking and masses of people travelling from other parts of the City to ride in Chapel Hill are largely overblown. This is a small, self contained system that would best be described as a beginner trail system. It is not going to be a draw for users from all over the region or province. It will primarily serve local users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest,</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents, 24. Forest Entry &amp; Exit Points, Parking, Traffic, p.63-65.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> <li>● Annex E Maps and Photos</li> </ul>

Submission # & Residency	F. FVTWG Priority 5 – PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS	FVTWG Report References
3 CHN	<p>In meetings I attended and documented by the WG, the NCC and city of Ottawa forestry team were clear that existing rules (all inclusive use for hikers, bikers, walkers, etc.), entry points and access to the trails would not be considered for modification or change. This report ignores the clear direction of both governing bodies. <i>[also recorded in Priority 4]</i></p> <p>Both governing bodies encouraged the WG to outline recommendations for signage including a trail map and regular maintenance which would foster an inclusive environment. Unfortunately, this report is recommending exclusion, the complete opposite values of those the city of Ottawa. During meetings the city was clear that any barriers to entry and exclusion would not be considered as an option, this includes limiting access which is proposed in this proposal.</p> <p>The forest needs signage and garbages at entry points immediately, the WG seems to be intentionally delaying matters in order to enact their own desires.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex B Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.46-51.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8 CHN	I would be willing to make financial contributions toward environmental awareness and education actions related to the woodland directed at children in future. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 7]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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11 CHN	<p>Loose dogs are not mentioned in this report but are certainly an issue that was mentioned by several people at the very first meeting. Nothing has been done to deter dog owners who refuse to respect the signs at the entrances to the forest. Many people who live along the forest have been disturbed by loose dogs that come up to their fences and bark at the home owners or their pets in their yards. We have even had people (dog's master) swear at us in our backyards when we politely have asked them to leash their dogs.</p> <p>Also, I have talked to people who have been knocked to the ground by large dogs that have charged at them while their masters saunter behind them unaware of where the dog is. I witnessed an elderly man being surrounded by two large loose dogs. The elderly man had to cope until the master arrived to call off his dogs. I even had a woman tell me that her dog was too aggressive to bring to the dog park, yet she let the dog run loose on the trails because it needed to run! <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 3]</i></p> <p>Loose dogs are dangerous not only to adult pedestrians and small children, but discourage wild animals (deer, fox, racoon, etc,) from building their habitat in the forest as they previously did when we first moved to this area. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 1]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chapter 3 Options and Activities, p.30-32.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; Conflict between Users; Dogs, p.61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
11 CHN	<p>Beautification - People leave bags of dog excrement at the entrances to the forest or hang these in trees rather than bring them home to be properly disposed. Pedestrians have to walk around dog feces, especially in the winter time because people feel that since they are in a natural environment, they do not need to pick it up and dispose of it. Also, when the dog is far ahead of its master, the master is clueless as to what is going on with the animal.</p> <p>People who live in the neighbouring area to the forest, dispose of all types of junk in the forest. This is not a junk yard!</p> <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clearer signage (See the city signs at the entrance to the path or near the mailboxes on Thistleleaf) may help with this problem.</li> <li>- Better education for dog owners (leaflets, Orleans newspaper, etc.)</li> <li>- Repeatedly advising NCC for better surveillance of this problem and fines</li> <li>- Disposal cans and bags at the entrances to the forest - this is offered in other communities to keep parks and green spaces clean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 4 Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>• Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> <li>• Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Conflict between Users; and Dogs, p.61-63.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
13	I would like to see signage in the forest along with garbage cans at the access points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> </ul>

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CHN		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
14 CHN	<p>Key items to retain: <i>[See other in Priorities 2, 6 and 7]</i></p> <p>1-trails (keep/eliminate), entry/exits points, education/code of conduct info...these are crucial.</p> <p>4- ensure parking availability at or near main entry/exit points with code of conduct evident.</p>	<p>Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment,</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
18 Carlington	<p><i>[Note: comments below refer to Carlington Environmental Protected area]</i></p> <p>I have been subject to verbal abuse for simply reminding a mountain biker (OMBA member) that there is no bike riding in the EPA. When the City was asked for interpretive signs we were given, "sensitive area" signage, which is totally inadequate. We have requested numerous times for OMBA to come and view the damage but they have not attended the site with us.. an ignorance is bliss attitude. Our councillor Riley Brockington only viewed the area two weeks ago even though this project for pump track was commenced in 2014.</p> <p>John B O'Dea, the creator of the mountain bike proposal states he was unaware that the site surrounding his 4-phase conception was environmentally protected?? Really, come on!! should the city not have known that also? Local residents were the ones to approach our councillor and surprise...phase 2,3 and 4 were dropped. Unfortunately, members of OMBA have been able to accomplish those phases during the evening and as we were told by John B O'DEA, "nothing will stop us"....</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment: p.45-63</li> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p. 45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and their Enforcement</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> <li>● Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
19 CHN	<p>A- Dog off-leash and removal of dog feces recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some information dissemination and proper signage are required to urgently educate dog owners on the need to keep their dog(s) on a leash at all times including in the forest.</li> </ul> <p>The off-leash dogs create a lot of unnecessary stress to homeowners, to hikers of all ages as well as the fauna and flora living in this forest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> <li>● Annex B Assessment,</li> </ul>

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	- Some information dissemination and proper signage are required to urgently educate dog owners on the need to stoop and scoop and to remove the dog feces from the forest. Access to a garbage at entrances/exits to the forest would probably help a lot in this regard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
20 Not indicated	I am frequent user of the Chapel Hill North Forest and its Trails. My family, my friends and I walk, trail run, mountain bike and fat bike there throughout the year. I'm in support of bettering the trail system in ensuring they are safe and sustainable. I also support educating users that wish to use this resource. I am however not in support of the proposed preventing of cyclists from using the trails and removal of mountain biking features. Ensuring the safety of all is important, but not at the cost of discriminating against those who choose to enjoy being outside in nature on their bicycles. Education and respect is the key here. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 2]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
27 CHN	<p>7. Not everyone has the opportunity to go elsewhere (Gatineau Park or otherwise) to enjoy such beautiful and peaceful natural surroundings. We must keep this access available to all user non-motorised groups (like hikers, dog-walkers, snowshoers, skiers, bikers and possibly others I am not thinking of). Cooperation and consideration is the key to success in this environment. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 3 Health]</i></p> <p>8. I appreciate that the land is in Chapel Hill however it is owned, governed and managed by the City of Ottawa and the NCC. This land is not exclusively for the use and benefit of residents of Chapel Hill North. I believe this may be forgotten by a few members of your team. A quick reminder would be good. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 7]</i></p> <p>9. I believe I have been very pleasant and polite in all my interactions with other users of these trails/woods. For the most part, that is what I have experienced, seen and heard of from other users as well. Let's continue to build a cooperative approach rather than try to create more issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p. 15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment: p.45-63 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest, p. 45-52.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and their Enforcement</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
28 Ottawa	2) Trails such as those in Chapel Hill can be shared use with bikes and foot traffic if properly managed. It seems that the major objection to bicycles on these trails comes down to SOCIAL CONFLICT. Some residents simply are not prepared to share trails with other users. As much as the objections we've heard are being expressed as environmental concerns, there is an underlying theme of "local residents only/not in my backyard". The fact is these	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 3 Health Benefits and Family, p.18-19.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	lands are owned by the NCC and City of Ottawa and as such the views of local residents should be given no more weight than those of any other resident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of the CHN Forest, p.45-52.</li> <li>· B. Topography of the CHN Forest, p.52-53.</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities and Enforcement, p.53-56.</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests, p.56-57.</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures, p.57-61</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p.61-63.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
29 Blackburn Hamlet	<p>I've taken my kids and dog for walks there too many times to count - I pack what I bring in and always carry an extra bag to pack out whatever detritus is left behind by other users. I've done so in the Canadian Rockies to the Adirondacks to the Scottish highlands and Canary islands. I have also passed this respect on to my boys</p> <p>As I have said - I have used these trails and woods and have respected all those who pass. I have heard folks say that canvassers have passed their residences trying to halt dirt bikes (motorized) from using the trails - if this is true then there is a misrepresentation of what is at stake here <i>[Other Comments listed in General and Priority 2]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
32 CHN	<p>As a dog walker, I am also concerned by the thoughtlessness of those who let their dogs run loose on the trails. It is not unusual to see people drive up in vans to park on our street and then unload multiple dogs which they let loose to run in the forest.</p> <p>I have had a number of incidents occur where my own leashed dogs were charged on the trails by loose dogs. I am a very experienced dog owner and dog trainer and I am well-aware of the issues associated with loose dogs.</p> <p>A year ago, I was knocked off my feet when a full grown, off-leash Bernese Mountain Dog came running down a trail and jumped on me. By the time the dog reached me, I was fairly sure that it was simply over-exuberant but being charged by an unknown dog that weights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment:</li> </ul>

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	<p>over 100 pounds was intimidating, nonetheless. No owner appeared for what seemed like forever. When she did appear and saw what was going on, her recall command brought no response from her dog. The owner could see that I was on the ground but did not apologize or ask if I had been injured or even offer to help me up. Her explanation was that the dog was a puppy and did not have a good recall yet. Fortunately, I was only winded and mildly bruised in this incident but someone else might have been badly injured or left terrified of dogs for life. This was but one of a number of incidents that I experienced over the years as a result of loose dogs and inconsiderate owners.</p> <p>I have also encountered dog owners who do not seem to care that their dogs chase wildlife when they are loose. One dog walker told me that she lets her dogs loose in the forest because they “like to chase deer.” This person did not seem to be aware that not only is this terrifying for wild animals, but her dogs could be harmed during these encounters. A dog can be killed by the kick from a deer or grabbed by a coyote. The cost for a veterinarian to remove porcupine quills can range from hundreds to over a thousand dollar. Loose dogs pose a risk to other dogs and people, especially children. In the right circumstances, even the nicest dog can become nasty. Not all trail users like dogs.</p> <p>As a resident living next to the forest, I am frustrated by another aspect of loose dogs in the forest. Unlike a leashed dog, loose dogs do not stay on the trails. They frequently run up to the fence that separates individual back gardens from the forest. There have been so many incidents of loose dogs, barking and even snarling as they charged up to the fence, that my own dogs are now wary in their own backyard. This was never a problem until a few years ago when a trail was opened up behind the houses. Now, dogs trotting down the trail with no owner in sight is something I see every day. The owners are either many metres ahead or behind on the trail. They are often chatting with friends or looking at their cell phones, but they are not supervising their dogs or cleaning up when their dogs defecate in the forest.</p> <p>As a result of my own experiences and observations and what I have learned from other trail users, I have come to the conclusion that although there will always be some users who don’t care about the impact of their actions, there are many more users who would likely change their behaviour if they were better informed about how their actions affect others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest: City of Ottawa Designation Urban Natural Feature;</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conflict between Users;</li> <li>○ Dogs, p.62-63.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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**Public Feedback on the FVTWG Report - Online Comments Received October-December 2018**  
**Report Provided to CHNCA, May 2018**

Submission # & Residency	F. FVTWG Priority 5 – PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS	FVTWG Report References
	<p>and can damage the forest that we all enjoy so much. These may be cyclists who don't see the ruts that their bikes make or realize that riding by rapidly startles walkers. These may be dog owners who have no idea that their loose dog may badly frighten someone else on the trail.</p> <p>I understand that the approach used to date by my neighbours to address issues associated with loose dogs has been to contact the NCC and request increased enforcement. The NCC has responded by sending officers to the trails to issue tickets but clearly this has not resolved the loose dog issue. I suspect that the same results would occur if a similar approach were taken with problems related to cyclists.</p> <p>A more productive approach to resolving such trail use issues and providing better protection of the forest would be to focus on educating trail users so that they recognize the protected status of the forest, the consequences of their actions, and can make a choice to change their behaviour. It is especially important to start educating children about responsible trail usage. It worries me that children are learning from the actions of adults who are frequently displaying inconsiderate behaviour towards other users and behaviour that is not protective of the forest.</p> <p>Providing users of the trails with a better understanding of the impact of their actions and information about this urban gem will go a long way towards improving the protection of this beautiful area, improving user behaviour, and reducing user conflicts.</p>	

Submission # & Residency	G. FVTWG Priority 6 – FEEDBACK AND CONSULTATIONS	FVTWG Report References
7 CHN	<p>I find many of the recommend exclusionary in nature and I hope that the CHCNA and our new city councillor will ensure that the trails are inclusive, easily accessible and open to a wide range of activities. It is possible, in my opinion, to achieve this while protecting the ecological integrity of the land. <i>[Comment also listed in Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>• Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>• Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment:</li> </ul>

Notes:

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- b) A number (#) was assigned to each submission based on the chronological order in which it was received.
- c) Respondents' comments were placed in eight categories: General Comments and the FVTWG Report's seven Key Priorities in Chapter 2: 1-Environmental Protection; 2-Forest Trails; 3-Health Benefits and Family; 4-Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic; 5-Public Education and Awareness; 6-Feedback and Consultations; and 7-Next Steps.

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Submission # & Residency	G. FVTWG Priority 6 – FEEDBACK AND CONSULTATIONS	FVTWG Report References
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest: City of Ottawa Designation Urban Natural Feature;</li> <li>· F. Concerns of CHN Community Residents: Recreational Activities and Trail Design; and Conflict between Users, p. 61-63.</li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>
8 CHN	I would recommend that should the FTWG wish to continue, that they begin on one small non-contentious priority action that is limited in scope. From there, further actions could be considered in time by the community to the extent that there are viable justifications for doing so and that public confidence and support has been sought and secured. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 7]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10 Blackburn Hamlet	I would like to know if either the Working Group or our current or incoming City Councillor will be soliciting input from residents of nearby communities, such as Blackburn Hamlet and Chapel Hill South, on the future of the forest and the trails?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
14 CHN	Key items to retain: <i>[Also in Priorities 2, 4, 5 and 7]</i> 1- trails (keep/eliminate), entry/exits points, education/code of conduct info...these are crucial. 2- get residents from CNH but also allow nearby resident from BCA, CHS, and others that are willing to help and get involved. 3-have 1 or 2 people each linking with NCC & City staff for discussions on how to proceed for #1 above, preferably both together.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 4 Priority 4 Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic p.20-21.</li> <li>· Priority 5 Public Education and Awareness, p.22-23.</li> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, p.45-65. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A. Environmental Status of CHN Forest</li> <li>· C. Permissible Forest Activities &amp; their Enforcement</li> <li>· D. Best Practices of Other Urban Forests</li> <li>· E. Observed Terrain Degradation and Corrective Measures.</li> <li>· F . Concerns of CHN Community Residents.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
15 Chateaufneuf Com. Assoc.	Ensure active participation in the consultation process with representatives of all possible users of the forest. E.g. walkers, hikers, runners, cyclists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Priority 6 Feedback and Consultations, p.24-26</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annex D Examples of Trail Protocols, p.72-73.</li> </ul>

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Submission # & Residency	H. FVTWG Priority 7 – NEXT STEPS	FVTWG Report References
8 CHN	I would recommend that should the FTWG wish to continue, that they begin on one small non-contentious priority action that is limited in scope. From there, further actions could be considered in time by the community to the extent that there are viable justifications for doing so and that public confidence and support has been sought and secured. <i>[Comment also listed in Priority 6]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul>
10 Blackburn Hamlet	I would also like to know if the Working Group, our current or incoming City Councillor, the Chapel Hill North Community Association, the City of Ottawa, the NCC, or any other group would be willing to organize a regularly scheduled community volunteer trail maintenance program? Perhaps on a monthly or quarterly basis. I would be pleased to participate in any upcoming trail maintenance activities to help make the trails more enjoyable and safer for users and contribute to their care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul>
12 CHN	I would be happy to open the trail to the mountain bike associations as they would create trails, add signage, bridges, etc. which would increase the safety of the trails.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>· Priority 2 Forest Trails, p.15-17.</li> </ul>
14 CHN	Key items to retain: <i>[Also in Priorities 2, 4, 5 and 6]</i> 1- trails (keep/eliminate), entry/exits points, education/code of conduct info...these are crucial. 3 - have 1 or 2 people each linking with NCC & City staff for discussions on how to proceed for #1 above, preferably both together.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>· Priority 1 Environmental Protection, p.9-14.</li> <li>· Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> <li>• Annex A Policy Framework for Environment, Land Use and Planning, p.34-44.</li> <li>• Annex B Assessment, F. Concerns of CN Community Residents p.61-65.</li> </ul>
15 Chateaufneuf Com. Assoc.	Invite representation from the neighboring community associations to the future working committees, e.g. Innes and Orléans wards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 Key Priorities and Recommended Actions:</li> <li>Priority 7 Next Steps, p.27-29.</li> </ul>

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