

Mayor Guthrie and Members of Council:

I think "gobsmacked" understates my reaction to the "Conservation Plan" put forward by staff for the former Reformatory lands.

This is not a Conservation Plan, it's a "Development Plan" taking cover under the guise of "Adaptive Re-use".

And I would point out that Council, as warned by former CAO Scott Stewart, has already over-zoned for housing relative to our projected water supply to 2051: We are a completely groundwater dependent community.

https://www.guelphmercury.com/news/theres-a-water-issue-brewing-here-council-narrowly-decides-provinces-changes-to-guelph-innovation-district/article_f0553feb-cc48-5c16-88b3-a268ff05d44f.html

And where is the respect and acknowledgement of indigenous aspirations for this property?

Please reject this plan and send staff back to the drawing board to actually give teeth to protections that will preserve this treasured part of Guelph's heritage and the open space that is currently so valued by the community and so lacking in future plans.

Sincerely,
Susan Watson