

Public Works Department

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To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Stephen Brake, Director of Public Works
Date: December 7, 2020
Subject: Public Access Via Stairs to Municipal Property East of Mearns at Longworth Avenue
File:

At the regular Council meeting held on Monday, November 23, 2020, Council passed Resolution #C-465-20. This resolution provided direction for staff to report back regarding the installation of stairs going into the ravine near Mearns Avenue and Longworth Avenue.

1. As shown on the attached plan, the installation of a timber frame staircase leading into the ravine at the eastern terminus of Longworth Avenue, south-east of house #273, represents a total distance of approximately 42 metres. This staircase would require the construction of 7 transition platforms and 7 stair sections to traverse the existing 31 percent slope. Based on an internal estimate, the approximate cost for this project, including permit fees, would be between \$70,000.00 and \$75,000.00.
2. The staircase would be accessed through the Municipal property located directly adjacent to #273 Longworth Avenue. This access exists for the periodic entry of equipment to maintain the on-site Stormwater Management Pond. The costs to upgrade the surface of the existing pathway, complete grass cutting and provide regular winter maintenance on the stairs have not been included with the estimate.
3. The staircase itself would be constructed on lands that are designated environmentally protected. Any further design and construction considerations would require input and approval from the necessary conservation authorities.

Should Council wish to proceed with this project, staff will include the estimate in the 2021 Capital Budget submission and initiate the process of design and obtaining formal approval from the conservation authorities.

Regards,



Stephen Brake
Director of Public Works