Thursday, January 4, 2010

Parks and Environment Committee

Possible Greenbelt Designation for Humber and Don River Valleys

Dear Parks and Environment Committee,

February marks the 5th anniversary of Ontario’s Greenbelt. In recognition of this important anniversary, this Committee requested that staff review possible Greenbelt designation for the Humber and Don River valleys.

I would like to thank staff for their work in outlining the criteria for Greenbelt designation and the process for municipal requests to the Province. This report presents a wonderful opportunity for the City of Toronto to celebrate our treasured greenways and natural spaces along the Don and Humber Rivers.

While further work must be undertaken by staff before an official request can be made to the Province, I request that the Committee add the following recommendation to celebrate this important occasion and demonstrate our support, in principal, of protecting these natural heritage areas:

1. City Council supports, in principle, the addition of public lands in the Don River and Humber valleys to Ontario’s Greenbelt to ensure these valuable lands are preserved and protected. Accordingly, staff are directed, in consultation with the TRCA, to carry out the following actions required to make an application to the Province.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher
City Councillor, Ward 30