

Wellesley Pond Project
Report and Analysis of Community Feedback Survey

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Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction	3
1.1 Brief History of the Project	3
1.2 Feedback from Engagement Activities	4
2.0 Analysis of Survey Results	4
2.1 Overall Support for the Proposed Plan	4
2.2 Need for Pond Restoration and Enhancement	5
2.3 Resident Evaluation of the Proposed Plan	5
2.4 Community Engagement	5
3.0 Resident Comments	6
3.1 Pond Design; Size and Dredging	6
3.2 Pond Design; Erosion	7
3.3 Pond Design; Habitat	7
3.4 Pond Design; Appearance	8
4.0 Conclusions and Next Steps	9
Appendix 1	11

1.0 Introduction

Wellesley Friends of the Pond (WFOP) hosted a community meeting on Feb 11 2019. The meeting consisted of a series of presentations designed to provide residents with a solid understanding of the scope and rationale for the proposed pond restoration and enhancement project. After the presentations, residents were asked to complete a detailed feedback survey. There were two objectives for the meeting, as follows:

1. To provide Wellesley Residents with an accurate, detailed and expert description of the proposed plans for the pond.
2. To gather feedback from Wellesley Residents in attendance and in particular to ask whether or not residents support the proposed plan. A measure of support is critical to enable WFOP to determine if there is enough support to move ahead with the project.

There were four presentations:

- The current state of the pond; delivered by WFOP member, included history of the pond, past remediation efforts, various water quality and pond studies completed in recent years and summary of the issues the proposed plan will address.
- The proposed plan to address water quality, pond habitat and overall health of the pond; delivered by the consultant who did the design work. Note that the consultant is a professional with specific education and experience relevant to the project.
- GRCA review of the project as it relates to dam operations and flood risk; delivered by GRCA Senior Water Resources Engineer
- Overview of the proposed expanded parklands and naturalized areas around the pond. These areas will be designed to ensure that we continue to have public space around the pond for community activities. Delivered by WFOP member and based on review of successful similar projects.

After the presentations, there was a question and answer session.

1.1 Brief History of the Project

Several years ago, issues with the health of the pond were identified at a community forum. This led to discussions about what could be done, the formation of WFOP and the development of a project proposal to secure funding to develop a design and plan to address the issues with the pond. Funding for this was secured from Region of Waterloo Community Environmental Fund. A consultant was contracted following a competitive Request for Quotation process. Three concept designs were requested and received. One design changed the pond to a flow through stream with adjacent wetlands (return to more natural state). The second design kept the pond with a much smaller size and included many measures to address water quality and habitat. The third design included a reduced pond but larger than the second option and similar measures to restore and enhance the pond and surrounding habitat. These options were presented to the community at a drop-in meeting in Nov 2017. The purpose of this meeting was to gather feedback to inform a revised, working plan. Residents who attended completed a feedback form with most expressing preference for the option with the largest

pond. Subsequent to this meeting, many residents who had not attended the meeting completed a similar feedback form with the added options of “do nothing” or “dredge only.” This form was created by a member of the community and the results were provided to WFOP.

WFOP determined that there was not sufficient support for the proposed plan despite the fact that most of the people opposed to the plan had not attended the community meeting. Therefore, throughout 2018, WFOP undertook to engage and inform the community about the plan through a number of community meetings, the creation of a website and a Facebook page where regular posts discussed in words and pictures the proposed plan and rationale. The plan was revised to increase the width of the pond and to maintain space for community activities. Measures to restore and enhance water quality and habitat remain in the plan. The revised working plan was reviewed and accepted at a general meeting of WFOP in May 2018. It is this working plan that was shared with the community through the engagement activities listed above and at the February 11 2019 Community Meeting.

1.2 Feedback from Engagement Activities

Comments received from the Facebook page and from in person contacts were recorded. Generally, residents were interested in the proposed plan, expressed support for many of the measures to address water quality and habitat. The most frequently cited area of discussion was the shoreline and overall appearance of the pond and surrounding parklands. Some people expressed concerns about appearance, maintenance, costs and the importance of maintaining space for community activities while others said they were in favour of a more naturalized approach for the shoreline and parklands.

WFOP were encouraged by the overall positive and encouraging comments so moved ahead to plan the community meeting held February 11. Concerns and questions that were raised by residents through our engagement activities informed the content of the presentations.

2.0 Analysis of Survey Results

Everyone who attended the February 11 community meeting received a survey form and pen. Instructions were provided at the beginning of the meeting. Residents were encouraged to record their comments as the meeting progressed and to submit their completed survey at the end of the meeting. There was over 90 residents in attendance, 75 submitted surveys. A team of four WFOP members tallied survey responses. These were totalled and recorded for all questions along with all resident comments. (Appendix 1)

2.1 Overall Support for the Proposed Plan

Question 7 (Q7) asked if residents supported the proposed plan.

- Sixty six people responded to this question with 58 or 88% answering Yes.
- There were eight No's and nine surveys submitted had no response to this question.

Note that Q7 response categories Yes, No, No Response have been used to filter responses to all questions so we can better understand the survey data. In the data tables, responses are displayed according to Q7 No Response, Q7 No, Q7 Yes.

2.2 Need for Pond Restoration and Enhancement

Q1 asked if people felt that the pond needed some attention and work to restore the health of the pond.

- Ninety seven percent of 73 people who responded to this question Strongly Agreed or Agreed.
- This includes all Q7 No Response and Q7 No responses.
- Most people Strongly Agreed (73%) with the need for action.

Q2 asked residents to rank order a number of issues related to the pond from most important to less important with a rank of 1 being most important. All responses were tallied and the issues with the lowest overall scores are the ones ranked as most important by the majority of respondents.

- Most important issues are: Water Quality, Shoreline Erosion, Habitat for Fish, Birds, Amphibians, Insects Etc. and Appearance.
- These priorities align with the Pond Project objectives to restore and enhance water quality, pond habitat and overall health of the pond.
- Lower rated priorities are; Invasive species, Flood Control and Dam Operation, Space for Community Activities and Trails/Access to the Pond.
- Lower rated priorities may be of great importance for many residents but water quality and habitat issues may be seen as more fundamentally important to the health of the pond.
- There were no differences between top four and bottom four issues between Q7 No Response, Q7 No and Q7 Yes groups.

2.3 Resident Evaluation of the Proposed Plan

Questions 3, 4 and 5 asked residents about the parts of the plan that address water quality, habitat in and around the pond and the creation of additional parklands and naturalized areas.

- 86% of 73 responses Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the plan would improve water quality.
- 77% of 70 responses Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the plan would restore and enhance habitat in and around the pond.
- 65% of 74 respondents Strongly Agreed or Agreed with the plan to create expanded parklands and naturalized areas.
- The data tables show that Q7 No Response and Q7 No groups support the part of the plan that addresses water quality but are more likely to be Neutral or Disagree with the parts of the plan that will impact the overall appearance of the plan including provisions to address habitat.
- Q7 Yes respondents are solidly in agreement with plans to address water quality and habitat and to a somewhat lesser degree with the plan for parklands. Eleven of 58 of this group are Neutral with regard to parkland and naturalization areas.
- Resident comments throughout the survey indicate that greatest concerns are with the size and appearance of the pond.

2.4 Community Engagement

In 2018, WFOP undertook to engage and inform the community about the project through in person meetings, displays, website, Facebook page and several newspaper articles. Q8 asked residents about how they learned about the pond project. Residents reported that information was accessed through a

number of sources. Most sources, other than the actual meeting all respondents attended on February 11 received no more than 28 responses. This indicates that many people may not remember if and where they saw information about the project. For example, every household received two flyers about the meeting but this was mentioned less than 20 times. The Woolwich Observer newspaper has done at least three articles about the project but this was mentioned only a few times.

Q9 asked if WFOP has done an adequate job of keeping the community informed. Of 61 responses to the question, 88% said that Yes, communication was adequate.

These two questions indicate the importance of maintaining a multi-channel, transparent and thorough communication effort that keeps the community informed.

3.0 Resident Comments

All questions in the survey asked residents for additional comments.

- The Q7 No group offered more comments, proportionally, than the Q7 Yes group perhaps giving the impression of significant opposition to the plan. This is not the case. Q7 No group was 8 people or 11% of total respondents. This group contributed 28% of total comments of about 113. Many of these comments raised concerns or expressed preferences different than the proposed plan.
- More comments addressed pond size and appearance and related aspects of the plan than any other issue. This included many supportive and positive comments.
- Some comments suggest ideas or actions that are contrary to the rationale outlined in the presentations at February 11 meeting.

Response to Resident Comments and Concerns

A number of common concerns or themes are apparent in the comments provided by residents. These are addressed in the sections below.

3.1 Pond Design; Size and Dredging

Numerous comments mentioned size of pond and a preference for keeping the pond at its original size or as large as possible. This implies the question; why does the pond have to be made smaller? Other residents suggested that dredging the pond and hauling away sediment would be sufficient to restore the pond.

The current pond is a large, man-made, shallow pond with slow moving water and in places standing water. This results in higher water temperatures, accumulation of sediment and lower dissolved oxygen levels in the water. As well, nutrients trapped in the pond, due to slow moving water, and higher water temperatures contribute to excessive algae growth and degraded aquatic habitat for many species.

The proposed plan is for a deeper, smaller pond. The pond will be excavated to remove sediment which will be placed behind newly created shoreline. Additional parkland/naturalized areas will replace some of the pond on the east side of the south pond and on the west side of the north pond.

- These changes are designed to increase water flow velocity which will help to reduce sediment accumulation because the sediment will have less time to settle out in the pond
- The narrowed channel close to Queens Bush Rd is especially important to enhanced flow

- Greater flow and depth will reduce water temperature
- New design will also eliminate zones where algae accumulates because flow is very minimal. These areas are the south east corner of the south pond and the west side of the pond near the bridge on the north pond.
- A dredge only solution does not achieve enhanced flow velocity and leaves in place the conditions that lead to excessive heating of the water and sediment accumulation.

The pond will be reduced in size by about 30%. However, it will still be a large pond. The south pond will be approximately 350 wide which is about equal to the length of a soccer field.

3.2 Pond Design; Erosion

Numerous comments expressed concerns about ongoing erosion and/or suggested the use of retaining walls or gabions to shore up the banks. Some comments expressed that moving excavated material to the sides is not a solution because the material will slide back in. Other concerns were sediment coming into the pond from upstream and erosion from spring runoff and heavy rain storms.

The proposed plan and design do address these concerns.

- The current pond does suffer from significant erosion in a few places, notably near Queens Bush Road on the south pond. At the time of the last dredging, material from the pond was added to this area and others without sufficient materials and plantings to stabilize the bank
- The proposed plan will use a berm of new, stable materials behind which the excavated materials from the pond will be placed
- The shoreline will be stabilized initially with a mat-like material that will hold materials in place. Various plants will be added to the “riparian zone” along the shoreline to stabilize the bank for the long term
- This is why extensive use of gabion baskets or other hard materials are not needed to shore up the bank.
- Some sediment from upstream, especially after storms and spring runoff are normal and the pond has the capacity to absorb this. As well, since water will move through the pond more quickly, some of this sediment will pass through the pond before settling.
- Sediment from upstream is less than what occurred 20 or more years ago. This is the result of education and awareness programs that encouraged farmers to allow a buffer zone along watercourses where they do not plough or allow grazing resulting in less erosion of soil.

3.3 Pond Design; Habitat

There were a number of comments that were specifically supportive of more naturalization and habitat enhancement. Some people expressed concern about how the plan will protect creatures in and around the pond and how human impact will be minimized including during the construction phase.

Comments that expressed concerns about naturalization of the pond shoreline, creation of some wetland areas focused more on the appearance of the parkland and access for people to the space than habitat concerns. Almost all comments that touched on habitat and species diversity were supportive.

Design elements that address habitat and species diversity do affect the appearance of the pond. Therefore, it is important to review the design rationale for these features of the design. The following is

excerpted from Option 1,V3 Design Narrative by Waters Edge which provides a detailed rationale and description for the proposed pond design. It was compiled by the project consultant, Ed Gazandam, (Ph.D., P.Eng., Senior Geomorphologist at Water's Edge). The full report can be viewed on the project website.

“to understand the functions of the naturalized areas as well as the inclusion of the various images in and around the pond, a brief explanation is included. The naturalized area along the east shore of the south pond will include armour stone for access to the pond, room for a proposed trail (as requested), a grassy area with gardens for trees and shrubs which help to dissuade geese, a wetland, and a raptor pole. This will be used to help increase biodiversity as raptors are birds of prey that will help to control the rodent population. In reference to wetlands, frogs, birds and minnows will help to control the mosquito population as well as add to the increasing biodiversity of the area. Wetlands are also known to improve water quality as they act as filtering systems to remove sediment, nutrient and pollutants from the water. In an urban environment such as this, wetlands help to manage storm water, and improve the removal of nutrients, suspended material and pathogens prior to its return to the environment.

Additionally, the naturalized area on the west side of the north pond is much the same but has a few features that the south pond does not. Root wads, sweepers and half-log structures were added to the north pond's naturalized area. Root wads are made up of the root mass and ball, as well as a portion of the trunk; they are used to armour a stream bank by directing the flow away from the bank, avoiding erosion. They also act as a structural support to the bank, a habitat to fish and other aquatic animals and as a food source for aquatic insects. Sweepers are used to attract juvenile fish by providing dense coverage and food in the form of aquatic organisms. The inclusion of the half-log structures is meant to act as a habitat which fulfills the requirement for increased and varying biodiversity. Additionally, features such as rock piles and logs were added to provide further habitat and will provide shelter and food for mammals, birds, fish and insects. This is necessary to enhance the water quality and habitat for various species. The combination of these features in the naturalized area will lead to a well-sustained ecosystem within and around the pond; further developments and biodiversity are thus encouraged through this.

The plan for the pond is to use dredged sediment from the bed to build up the west side of the north pond and the east side of the south pond. This will create a more naturalized area and will promote a healthier ecosystem. Additionally, the benefits of narrowing the channel at Queen's Bush Road will create more direct benefits to the flow and habitat variability as well as reduce impoundment and sediment accumulation. Balancing the ecosystem was a primary goal of the Friends of Wellesley Pond. As such, this is meant to produce an ecosystem that will thrive.”

3.4 Pond Design; Appearance

There were numerous comments that expressed concern about the appearance of the pond. Some people were supportive of a more naturalized look, more walking trails, interpretive signage and educational opportunities for the public school. Other comments expressed concern about possible unkempt appearance along the shoreline, more weeds taking over in the absence of maintenance, limited accessible space due to presence of wetlands and naturalized areas impeding access to the shoreline.

The design narrative quoted above details the rationale for more naturalized areas, especially along the shoreline. These are necessary to prevent erosion, enhance flow velocity and improve the habitat in and around the pond. Therefore, these elements need to be an essential part of the pond design. However, there are many ways that the design does mitigate the concerns expressed about the appearance of the pond after restoration.

- The plan includes large, open grassy areas for social and recreational activities. On the south pond, there are more open grassy areas planned than planted gardens and wetland areas.
- Some of the shoreline will have armour stone to stabilize the bank and to provide unimpeded access to the water for fishing and nature viewing
- Green space/parkland will utilize native species (plants, trees and shrubs) that require less maintenance
- Wetland areas will be a relatively small proportion of the greenspace/parkland
- The plan includes planting of many trees and shrubs in designated areas. This will give the park a somewhat more formal, planned look even as native, beneficial species are incorporated into the design
- WFOP will coordinate volunteer events throughout the year to monitor establishment of naturalized areas, ensure overall tidiness of the sites and facilitate community enjoyment of the pond. As well, the Township will mow the grassy areas, as they do now.

Resident comments will also inform the final design of the new parklands created when the pond is excavated. As noted, there are some essential elements necessary to achieve water quality and habitat objectives. WFOP will work with the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Township of Wellesley to complete the final design of the parklands. Resident concerns about protecting the creatures in and around the pond, appearance, access and amenities around the pond will be considered. WFOP does have a team working on this part of the project and will present a more detailed plan for community feedback before project implementation.

4.0 Conclusions and Next Steps

Large majorities of the residents who attended the community meeting February 11, 2019 and who completed the feedback survey confirmed the need to address the problems affecting the health of the pond and agreed with the proposed plan. In summary, key results are as follows. Refer to sections above for more details.

- 97% agreed that the pond needs some attention and work
- 88% support the proposed plan
- 86% agree that the proposed plan will improve water quality
- 77% agree that the proposed plan will restore and enhance habitat in and around the pond
- 65% agree with the proposed plan for parklands and green space
- 88% felt that WFOP efforts to communicate with the community about the proposed plan and project was adequate.

WFOP concludes that there is support for the proposed plan and will undertake the following next steps.

1. Work with the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Township of Wellesley to secure necessary approvals and agreements to move the project forward.

2. Complete a new set of Project Terms of Reference to guide project implementation and to detail roles and responsibilities.
3. Work with the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Township of Wellesley to complete the final design of the new parklands and green space.
4. Initiate planning for the necessary fundraising to finance the project.

Go to next page to view Appendix 1: Resident Responses to Feedback Survey

Appendix 1

Wellesley Pond Project **Community Feedback Survey** **Resident Responses**

1. Do you agree or disagree that Wellesley Pond needs some attention and work to restore the health of the pond and maintain its appearance? Please circle your response.

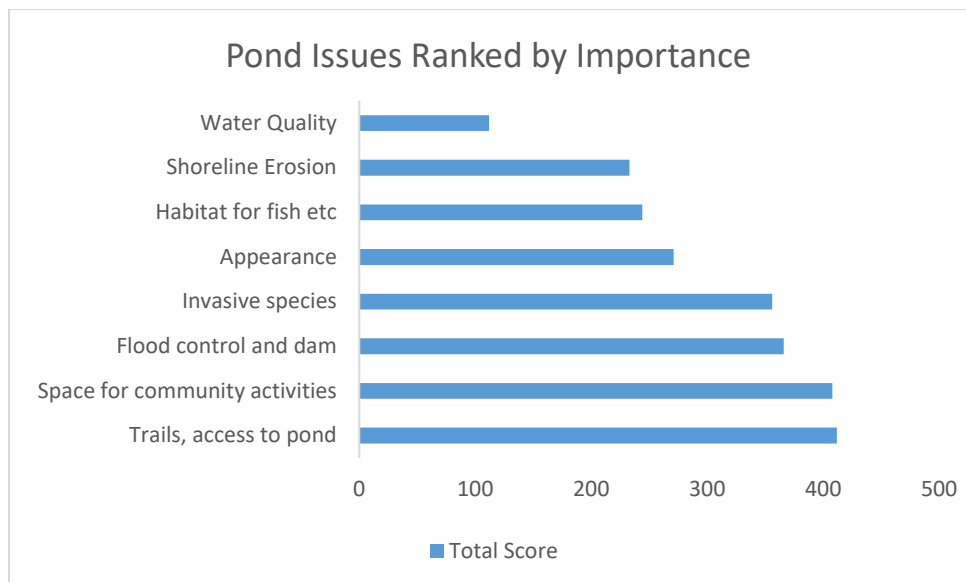
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
Q7 No Response	3	6				9
Q7 No	6	2				8
Q7 Yes	44	10			2	56
Totals	53	18	0	0	2	73
% of Total Responses	97.3%		0.0%	2.7%		

Comments/Feedback:

- Dig out only with retaining walls. We have 7 retention ponds now. We don't need another unkempt swamp (N)
- Pond needs to be dug deeper, banks held back to prevent erosion. Gabions, naturalized areas detract from beauty of the pond (N)
- Save money for 4 years then did it out and keep as is (N)
- Would like to see other options. Concerned that pond will erode back after heavy rains and spring thaw. As a taxpayer do not support the plan. (N)
- This depends on what will happen to the size of the pond (NR)
- After presentation I now have a better understanding and strongly agree that action is needed
- Water needs to be deeper and move faster
- Size as is

2. There are a number of issues and concerns with the pond listed below. Please rank these issues from 1 to 10 in importance. (1 is Most Important) Your most important issues are the ones you think should be addressed by the pond restoration and enhancement project.

In the chart and table below, the issues rated most important are the ones with the lower scores.



Ranked Issues	Total Score	No Response	No	Yes
Water Quality	112	13	8	91
Shoreline Erosion	233	38	23	172
Habitat for fish etc	244	38	26	180
Appearance	271	23	11	237
Invasive species	356	47	30	279
Flood control and dam	366	40	30	296
Space for community activities	408	49	31	328
Trails, access to pond	412	53	40	319

There were some other issues identified but none were mentioned more than once. These were: Boat racing, education on the environment, replace Queens Bush Rd Bridge, major repairs to the dam, lower dam rehab.

Comments/Feedback:

- The new space that will be created has not been described as usable. Marshland until it dries up can't be counted on to use (NR)
- I understand recreational need for access to pond but also love to see large areas of naturalized shoreline
- Invasive plants, especially "Phrag"
- Canada Geese are native. We don't need to control them but instead provide appropriate habitat to encourage biodiversity which would naturally reduce the number of geese

3. Do you agree that the proposed Pond Restoration and Enhancement Plan will improve water quality?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
Q7 No Response	1	4	3	1		9
Q7 No		2	4		1	7
Q7 Yes	24	32	1			57
Totals	25	38	8	1	1	73
% of Total Responses	86.3%		11.0%	2.7%		

Comments/Feedback:

- Dredging current pond would also improve water quality. Wellesley is known for beauty of pond, sad to lose this beauty (N)
- Photos in the presentation... water looks dirty (N)
- Dig pond deeper, streamline pond to eliminate dead areas. This will increase flow without reducing pond size so much. Use gabions to reinforce banks (N)
- Still see problems upstream with runoff, sediment, fertilizer and animal waste (N)
- The problem needs to be corrected upstream, it will just fill in again (NR)
- Yes if the pond is dredged
- Pond needs to be dredged up to Nafziger Rd bridge otherwise sediment in this area will wash down.
- It sounds like it but do we really know
- Increasing water speed
- Wish the sediment was completely removed
- Run off from fields is still a problem
- Geese feces need to be controlled
- Yes, decrease in temperature and increased depth will work to improve

4/ Do you agree that the proposed restoration and enhancement plan will restore and enhance habitat in and around the pond for a variety of plants and animal species like birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
Q7 No Response	1	3	4	1		9
Q7 No			5	1	1	7
Q7 Yes	24	27	3			54
Totals	25	30	12	2	1	70
% of Total Responses	78.6%		17.1%	4.3%		

Comments/Feedback:

- Dredging pond every 50 years and less work on shorelines would do same thing (N)
- I envision a mess along the shorelines, not managed, an eyesore like the area along QueensBush (N)
- BS Baffel brains (N)
- This can be accomplished by focusing on stream that flow into the pond rather than focus on the pond and reduction in size (N)
- Pond is 175 years old. Would like it close to original (N)
- There are trumpeter swans and other endangered/at risk species in parts of the pond. What happens to them, how does this affect them? (NR)
- The enhancement of habitat will improve natural habitat but also the civilized/urban habitat by creating natural green space in the middle of the village
- Enhancing water quality
- Yes if invasive species don't out compete native species. Plant and maintain the right plants and biodiversity of plants and animals follow

5. The proposed plan includes the creation of expanded parklands and naturalized areas that can be used for activities on and around the pond. Do you agree with this part of the plan?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
Q7 No Response		2	3	4		9
Q7 No				3	4	7
Q7 Yes	20	26	11		1	58
Totals	20	28	14	7	5	74
% of Total Responses	64.9%		18.9%	16.2%		

Comments/Feedback:

- Prefer slightly larger pond. Improve existing playground below dam before creating more parkland (N)

- How do you use wetlands for recreation (N)
- My family has allergies (N)
- If no maintenance, area will grow wild with weeds, people with allergies will suffer. Mowing keeps weeds down and lets us see the shoreline (N)
- I only see wetlands, no expanded parklands (N)
- Keep pond as large as possible, trails are unnecessary, haul away sediment (N)
- Creating parkland with limited space and naturalized areas impede access to the pond (NR)
- It may take on the look of becoming overgrown and out of hand (NR)
- Must remember that at certain times these areas will flood and plantings may wash away
- I better understand why the pond area needs to be reduced. Love the idea of a more natural look rather than manicured look
- Suggest any increased parkland be minimal
- Space for community activities should not be factor at this time. First, focus on water quality, erosion control and appearance. After all this is funded then start to plan for community activities. Habitat for fish, birds etc is more important than manicured green space.
- Parklands, natural playground for children and adults in the downtown area would be great
- Adding trails would be very beneficial
- Expanded parklands should be designed to encourage environmental education. Cooperation with WDPS is important
- How will animal habitats be encouraged with humans having access to the eaters edge
- I think having more naturalized areas are important within a town
- Property owners that edge the river north of Quens Bush will experience the greatest change to their property boundaries. Ensure appropriate natural privacy plantings are incorporated
- Who will be responsible for the maintenance of the parklands
- Naturalized areas should comprise well over 50% of the new greenspace and ideally maybe even 90% but with a network of trails for educational, recreational and even research purposes
- Naturalized areas need to be somewhat maintained so that the area doesn't grow or look wild

6. Is there any part of the restoration and enhancement plan that you think needs improvement or is there something missing?

Comments/Feedback:

- Stratford Park, Victoria Park look the best. These guys should work on cleaning up the Nith River (N)

- Has any consideration been given to protecting wells used for drinking water near the pond (N)
- Add a little width to existing trail 20-30 feet (N)
- Retaining wall stability? (NR)
- Great job so far (NR)
- Could it be made larger it seems small (NR)
- What about properties that could be in danger of flooding? (NR)
- Trails plan needs improvement due to possible flooding
- Take care to minimize damage to wildlife during construction
- Use gabion baskets around pond to keep soil from eroding
- You need more community involvement and buy-in
- As a park, plan should include seating, picnic tables, water activities like paddle boats to give families and opportunity to use the park
- Major dredging only to original size where the banks are clay. Silt fill moved to edges just slide back in and need redoing in the future.
- West side of pond; address slumping banks
- Sediment loading coming from farm drains
- Areas where turtles and birds will not be disturbed by people
- Replace Queens Bush Rd bridge with a higher and wider bridge
- Signs with historical and natural/wildlife information
- I think the pool (pond?) should be bigger for swimming
- Are we not concerned where the geese go?
- What about connections to the overall community impact and the mill
- A fishway for the dam
- There needs to be a better understanding of what an invasive species is. Carp, purple loosestrife, Canada Thistle are invasive and not native. Manitoba Maple is native, some say unsightly but not invasive here
- I like the natural park (like at Huron Park in Kitchener) idea in the naturalization area
- Plan for reassessment and further adjustments/changes after a few years, after seeing how the enhancements are functioning

7. A detailed pond restoration and enhancement plan has been developed and shared with the community at Jan 28 2019 Community meeting.

Overall, do you support the plan and agree that GRCA, Wellesley Friends of the Pond and the Township should implement the plan with enhancements identified by the community (if any) at the community meeting?

	Yes	No	No Response			Total Responses
	58	8	9			66
Percentage of residents who support the plan					87.9%	

Comments/Feedback:

- Prefer larger pond and less fill in (N)
- Why not dredge the pond and line banks with rock face (N)
- Pond is focal point of the village. What is being proposed, naturalized areas, is more suited to a larger parkland. It will look very unkempt (N)
- What will prevent berms from eroding? Dig pond deeper, smooth out dead areas to increase flow and leave out naturalized areas (N)
- Process has not been transparent. This is first public meeting and first time I received notification in the mail. Meeting was mostly presentations and no time for discussion (N)
- Too many residents disagree with the plan. We don't need grass and trees where the pond should be (N)
- How much will it cost, how will it impact taxes, how long will it take (NR)
- Agree with dredging, not sold on new greenspace. It does not look very usable; marsh, plants, trees (NR)
- Huge monetary undertaking (NR)
- Depending on cost and impact on taxes agree it would be an improvement (NR)
- Agree. Reduction in size should be no more than 30%
- The pond is an important part of Wellesley and I am so happy (the plan) keeps the pond.
- Something needs to be done but silt removal off site would be best option. This is a low cost alternative
- Yes if west side of pond is addressed (slumping banks)
- This proposal is better than the three original plans
- This is an important project for our community. Thankyou to WFOP for taking a lead to drive this forward. Keep it up!

8. Please indicate how you learned about the Pond Restoration Project. Check all that apply.

28	Public Information Session Nov 2017
75	Community Meeting Feb 11, 2019
21	WFOP Face book page
18	Wellesley Pond Project Website
16	Wellesley Pond Project Display at Community BBQ, Fall Fair, Farmer's Market

9. Overall, do you feel that WFOP has done an adequate job of keeping the community informed of the project and responding to concerns?

	Yes	No	Total Responses
Q7 No Response	6		6
Q7 No	1	4	5
Q7 Yes	47	3	50
Totals	54	7	61

Percentage of residents who feel communication was adequate 88.5%

Comments/Feedback:

- Community was not informed at all until last few months. Flyer was positive move(N)
- There was an overwhelming response to keep the pond the way it is (N)
- After last open house, majority wanted pond to stay the same size with no naturalized areas
- Many of initial meetings were not publicized. I should have been informed since I live on the pond. (N)
- Communication has improved over past year (NR)
- Not in the beginning but now there is more information (NR)
- Flyers are likely best way to communicate
- Much better in 2018-19. Great job!
- There are some people who do not use social media so mailers and newspaper articles are important. Township should also communicate with a subscribed email list
- Have another meeting when plans are finalized and funding and planning is being organized.
- Have your meetings publicized to get people to come and become involved. Open meetings.
- I've seen improvements over past 2 years, keep up your hard work.
- Visuals are so important – plantings and allowed native growth is very good
- Thankyou for the time, energy and commitment you put into this process
- Excellent
- The information flow has certainly gotten better. It seemed pretty secretive to start
- There is no excuse for people in this town who complain that there was poor communication. It is disappointing to see the lack of attendance by younger (less than 40) community members

10. Would you like to get involved in the project? Please provide name, email and phone and your interest. We need volunteers:

- **To assist with organizing and implementing events**
- **Work crews**
- **Organizing committee**

Eight people provided their contact information.