

A photograph of a gravel path winding through a dense forest of tall trees. The path is light-colored and leads into the distance. The trees are mostly deciduous with green foliage. On the left side of the path, there is a body of water, possibly a pond or a slow-moving stream, reflecting the surrounding greenery. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

HESPELER HERITAGE CONSERVATION DISTRICT STUDY FOCUS GROUP 2

**VILLAGE OF HESPELER
FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

FOCUS GROUP OVERVIEW

Welcome and thank you for your help!

Housekeeping Items:

- Consultant Team will take notes.
- Meeting will be recorded for internal note-taking purposes.
- Meeting is 90 minutes long. Any unanswered questions will be responded to by email, after the meeting.
- Next meeting scheduled Wednesday March 13th, 2024 - 3:00pm via Zoom. (This is the final meeting for the Study Phase)



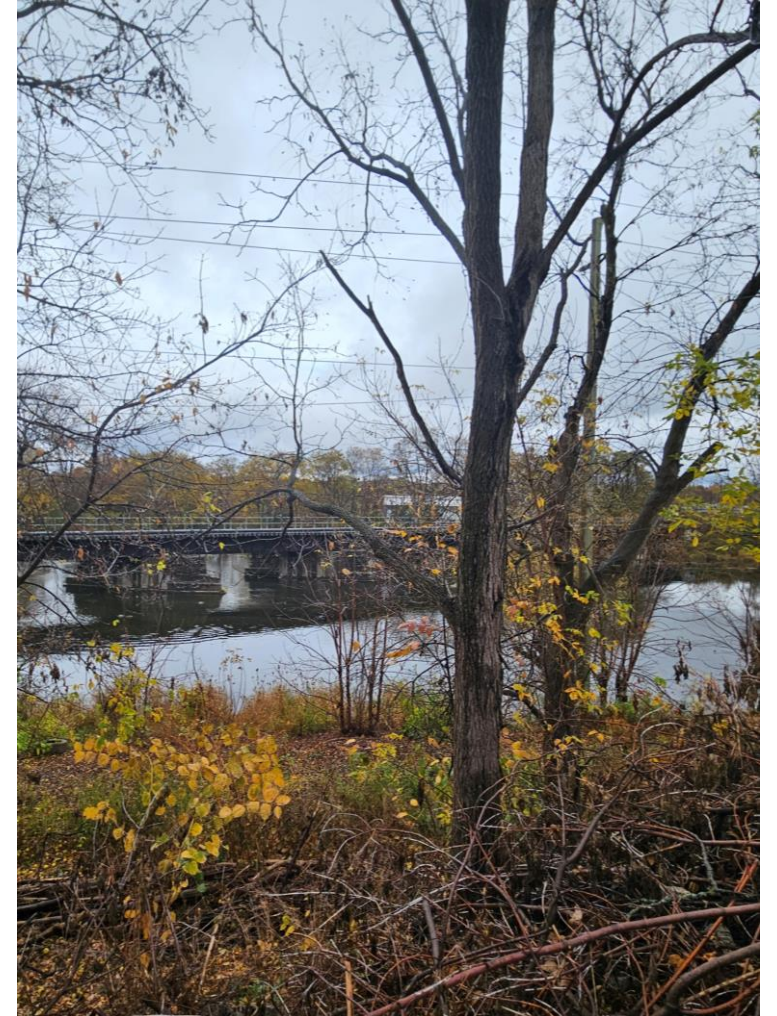
FEBRUARY AGENDA

- Natural Landscapes (25 mins)
- Village Gateways (25 mins)
- Heritage Conservation Districts (25 mins)
 - Benefits/Implications
- Questions & Next Steps – 10 mins



- A Heritage Conservation District Study should also include public spaces such as:
 - Sidewalks;
 - Roads;
 - Streets;
 - Public Parks;
 - Gardens;
 - Rivers/Riverbanks;
 - Shorelines;
 - Etc.
- Open spaces provide settings for buildings as well as places to view them and landscapes in which they sit.
- These spaces are often features of the original plan or survey of a settled community.

HESPELER'S NATURAL LANDSCAPES



VALUE



- Value is temporal, in the future, will the natural areas have increased value? (ex: when there are 50 more buildings in the area)
- The Natural Heritage is right there in the heart of town. This is an amazing opportunity.
- Densification: Where are the people going to go, where are the children going to play, where are people going to take their walks?
- If you have natural areas closely associated with your historic place, it's a huge opportunity.
- You never want to lose those, especially as they come up development.

MILL POND



- The park opens to the River, therefore this is a huge advantage.

CHILLIGO CONSERVATION AREA



- Owned and managed by the Grand River Conservation Authority.
- The land sits adjacent to the Speed River and is comprised primarily of deciduous forest, grassy meadows, and thick marshlands.
- Ellis Creek also flows through Chilligo.

THE SPEED RIVER



- For a long time, because it was needed for prosperity – and as a result of the industry, we “turned our back” on the River. Today (especially as industry moves elsewhere), industrial uses are not a priority – we can use waterfronts for recreation and leisure, views and nature.

Opportunities:

- Improved quality of life;
- Attract new people to the Town;
- These areas set the context for the town; provide “the best of both worlds” – enhanced properties and neighbourhoods built around these natural areas.

VILLAGE GATEWAYS

The boundary of a district considers Physical Features, such as man-made corridors (railroads and roadways), gateways, entrances and vistas to and from a potential district.

Gateways are a primary arrival and departure point, often offering a significant view or vista, vantage points, or views to and from an area.

1922



2022



QUEEN STREET EAST



COOPER STREET



QUEEN STREET WEST



GUELPH AVENUE



NEXT STEPS...

- Consultant Team will send information 2 weeks prior to the next meeting.
- Please provide us with Feedback!
- March Meeting: Wednesday March 13, 2024 (this will be the last for the HCD Study Phase).

