

# THE TAYLOR MASSEY PROJECT

*Celebrating and Protecting Taylor Massey Creek*

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Jane Weninger  
Senior Planner, Environment  
Zoning By-law and Environmental Planning  
Toronto City Planning

April 11, 2010

RE: **Incorporating Part of Taylor Massey Creek into the Greenbelt**

Dear Ms Weninger,

Further to recent correspondence and discussion between you, TMP volunteer Andrew McCammon, and Heather Harding of Environmental Defence, the Taylor Massey Project formally requests that the City consider including the lower third of Taylor Massey Creek in the expansion of the Greenbelt into the Don River in Toronto.

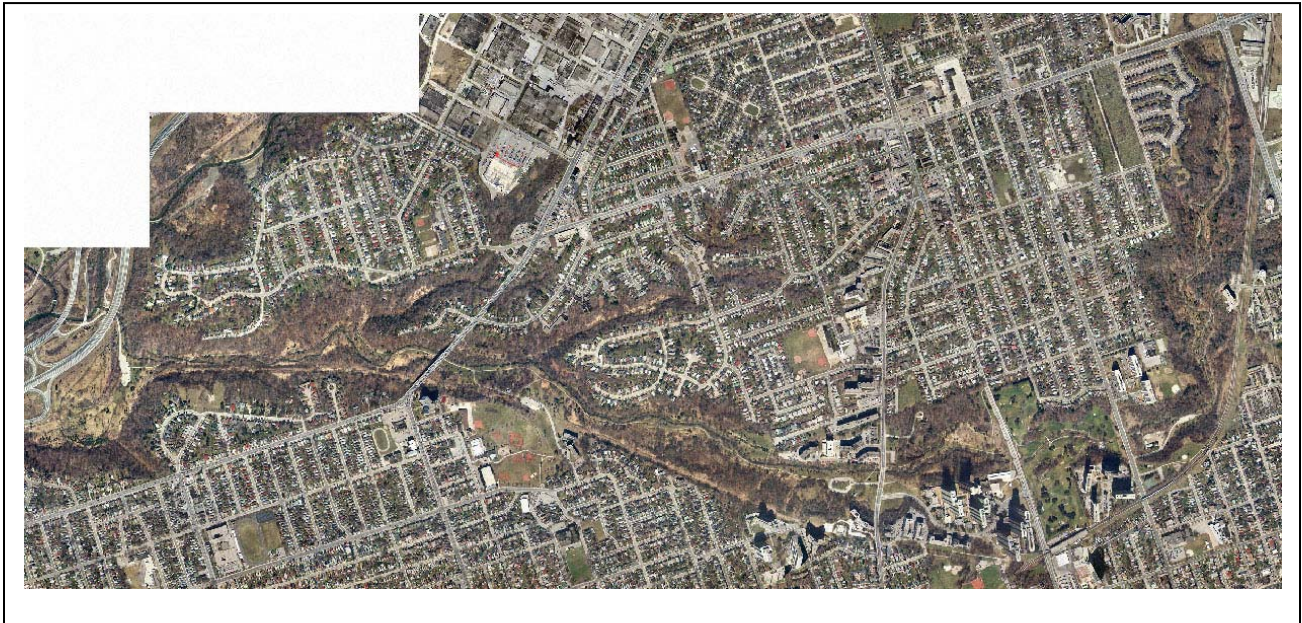
The lower third of Taylor Massey Creek, a major tributary of the Don system, consists of the area from the northern edge of Warden Woods at St Clair and Warden avenues to where the Creek meets the Don River. We believe that it should be added to the Greenbelt because it both connects to the area of the Don River already being considered for inclusion and because it contains many natural areas that surpass the ecological and recreational benefits of areas along the main channels of the Don.

The lower third of the Creek includes:

- Warden Woods, one of the largest forests and best bird habitats in Toronto, an area that contains a former outlet of the Creek into historic Lake Iroquois, and which is being considered by your office for designation as an ESA in the upcoming revisions to the Official Plan;
- The Dentonia Golf Course, a city-owned course that we believe adheres to Audubon management practices;
- The Goulding Reach of the Creek, containing a newly-created wetland with interpretive signage and a link to the Goulding Estate, a designated historic site;
- Taylor Creek Park, one of the broadest and more highly-used recreational greenspaces within Toronto's ravine system, which much of it already designated an ESA; and
- Both the Curity and Ferris Ravines. Much of the Ferris Ravine is also already designated as an ESA, while the Curity Ravine was described in a 2002 report to the City as simply "the highest quality wildlife habitat".

Extensive information on these areas can be found at [www.theTMP.org](http://www.theTMP.org). On the menu in the LH blue banner, click on The Reach Portal. This will allow you to access information on the six areas described above, including customized and geodetically accurate drawings, reach descriptions, and a comprehensive set of aerial photos.

We have also created a composite aerial photo of the whole lower third of the Creek, first sent to you via e-mail dated March 31, 2010, and re-produced below. Warden Woods is the forest block on the right hand side, with the junction of the Creek to the rest of the Don System occurring near the Don Valley Parkway, visible on the left hand side.



We hope this letter will enable the City to consider adding these wonderful areas to its excellent initiative to expand the Greenbelt into Toronto.

Please let us know of any additional measures we should take, including deputations to any City committees, to ensure full discussion of our proposal.

Sincerely,

*Nancy Penny*  
Chair

cc Councillor Adrian Heaps  
Councillor Janet Davis  
Heather Harding, Environmental Defence  
The Task Force to Bring Back the Don  
The Don Watershed Regeneration Council