

PEER REVIEWER SATISFIED WITH NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLANS FOR PROPOSED PIT

The peer reviewer hired by the Region of Waterloo to study Capital Paving's Natural Environment Report has expressed satisfaction that his concerns about the proposed Shantz Station Pit have now been addressed.

The Natural Environment peer review is the last of the peer reviews of Capital's technical reports to be completed by either the Region or the Township of Woolwich. All the peer reviewers have indicated that their concerns with the pit proposal have been addressed.

In January, the Natural Environment reviewer noted three outstanding issues to be addressed by Capital:

1. Inadequate tree planting to compensate for the trees to be removed for the construction of an access road onto the site from Shantz Station Road. Capital responded by increasing the densities of tree planting.
2. Lack of design details of the access road. Capital directed

the reviewer to the design details provided in the Access Road Analysis, and Updated Ecological Enhancement and Compensation Plan (Management Plan).

3. The need to explore and construct ecopassages along the wetland section of the access road. Upon understanding that Capital discussed this issue with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), and a determination made that ecopassages would not be viable at this location, the reviewer deferred to the expertise of the MNR ecologist on significant wildlife habitat.

The next step in the Shantz Station Pit approval process is for the Region's planner to prepare a report on whether the proposal meets the applicable regulatory requirements, including allowing for the required rezoning and Official Plan amendment. This report will then be directed to the Township planner who will prepare a report for council's consideration on whether to approve the pit application.

CAPITAL WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION



Capital Paving's Wellington Pit rehabilitation.

Capital Paving has received a "Progressive Rehabilitation Award" from the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association for the progressive rehabilitation of its Wellington Pit. The pit, located on Wellington Road 34 in Puslinch, has been gradually converted back to agriculture since it opened in 1999.

In 2020, 20.5 acres of former pit lands were rehabilitated back to agriculture, and planted with soybeans and winter

wheat after the soybeans had been harvested. To date, 138 acres have been rehabilitated at this site.

Judges for the award included a representative of Ducks Unlimited Canada; a representative of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, a professor of Rural Planning at the University of Guelph; and a lecturer in Aggregate Resources Planning, Development and Management at the University of Waterloo.

Members of the community who would like more information – or have questions or concerns about – the proposed Shantz Station Pit are invited to call or email project manager George Lourenco, whose contact information is listed below.