

Shantz Station Pit UPDATE

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A newsletter for the community about the proposed Shantz Station Pit

CAPITAL PAVING TAKES SHANTZ STATION PIT APPLICATION TO THE ONTARIO LAND TRIBUNAL

Capital Paving has decided to take its Shantz Station Pit application to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT), based on Woolwich Township Council's non-decision of the application during its meetings on June 22 and July 13, 2021. Capital had requested that Council approve applications for re-zoning and an Official Plan Amendment to enable the pit approval process to move forward.

The company believes it has satisfied all municipal and provincial regulatory requirements in its pit application. This includes having eight of its technical reports peer reviewed by either the Township or Region of Waterloo, as well as reviews by agencies including the Grand River Conservation Authority; Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; Ministry of Transportation; and Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries. In addition, the re-zoning and Official Plan applications were recommended for approval by Township planning staff.

Capital's position is that council members' and local residents' concerns – as well as those which had earlier been raised by the peer reviewers – have been addressed through the application process, with revisions made to the pit's site plans. This includes implementing prescribed conditions of the pit operations and specific monitoring programs.

Since the application must also be approved by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF) under the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA), and since a number of citizens have submitted formal objections to the ministry about the pit proposal, the OLT will also address these objections during its hearing into the pit application process.

To this end, within the next few weeks Capital will be sending letters to people who registered objections with the NDMNRF asking if those individuals wish to continue their objections.

It's expected to take several months before the application goes before the OLT, which will decide whether to approve it based on compliance with municipal and provincial regulations.

While the decision on the pit application is now in the hands of the tribunal, Capital will continue to work with Township Council and concerned citizens in an effort to address all outstanding concerns.