



Muncaster  
Environmental  
Planning Inc.

June 4, 2019

Mr. Vincent Denomme  
Planner, Claridge Homes  
210 Gladstone Avenue,  
Ottawa, ON  
K2P 0Y6

Dear Mr. Denomme:

**RE: 4725 Spratt Road**  
**Tree Conservation Report and Environmental Impact Statement - Updated**

This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Tree Conservation Report (TCR) assesses an urban residential development for an approximately 9.6 hectare site on the east side of Spratt Road in the southwest portion of Riverside South in the City of Ottawa. The municipal address is 4725 Spratt Road, with the southwest portion of 4623 Spratt Road included in this application. The site is in the southwest corner of Lot 22, Concession 1 (Rideau Front) of the Geographic Township of Gloucester, City of Ottawa. This report has been updated to include the findings of a May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 field survey and a butternut health assessment completed on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

***Proposed Development***

The proposed development will consist of 275 units, all townhouses. One major collector will run through the site from Spratt Road to the southeast, with crescents serving the balance of the site off the major collector. A public transit corridor is along the north edge of the site with a station proposed for the southeast corner of Spratt Road and the transit corridor. The road network and lot fabric has been planned to be consistent with the planned urban residential subdivision to the south, which is anticipated to be constructed in 2020. The development will be on full municipal services. Stormwater from the site will be directed to the Riverside South Pond 5 which is currently under construction to the west of the site, west of River Road (IBI, 2019). Stormwater quantity treatment will include a dual drainage system with a combination of direct conveyance with no ponding for frequent storms and on-site detention (surface ponding) with inlet control devices for the balance of flows during major events (IBI, 2019).

***Site Context***

The site is designated *General Urban Area* on Schedule B of the City of Ottawa Official Plan, with lands to the southwest, west of Spratt Road, designated *Urban Natural Features*. The Urban Natural Feature boundary reflects the core of the Spratt Road Woods, identified as Urban Natural Area No. 99 in the Urban Natural Areas Environmental Evaluation Study by Muncaster and Brunton (2005). The closest portion of the Urban Natural Area is approximately 50 metres

to the southwest of the southwest corner of the site, west of Spratt Road. This Urban Natural Area, which was rated moderate overall, is not identified for retention in the draft Riverside South Community Design Land Use Plan ([https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/default/files/riversidesouthcdp\\_draft\\_en.pdf](https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/default/files/riversidesouthcdp_draft_en.pdf)) and large areas of the forest have been cleared. There are no portions of the City's Natural Heritage System on the site, with the Spratt Road Woods to the southwest the closest portion shown on Schedule L2. No environmental constraints are identified for the site or adjacent lands on Schedule K of the Official Plan, with the site within the *Airport Vicinity Development Zone*. There are no Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest or Provincially-significant Wetlands in the general area, with the closest such features approximately six kilometres to the northeast of the site, as part of the Provincially Significant Leirtrim Wetlands. No unevaluated wetlands are mapped for the site, as shown on the 2011 geoOttawa layer, with much of the Spratt Road Woods to the southwest, west of Spratt Road, shown as an unevaluated wetland on this layer. No watercourses or municipal drains are shown on or adjacent to the site, with the Thomas Gamble Municipal Drain about 400 metres to the east of the east edge of the site. Intermittent ditches are mapped for the south portion of the site, but these ditches are not continuous and are not connected to features with aquatic habitat potential. IBI (2019) report that the site drainage is picked up by the Spratt Road side ditch where it is routed north to an existing storm sewer.

The site has been in agricultural use for an extended period. Between 2011 and 2014 the farmhouse, barn, and other structures in the southeast corner of the site were removed and no structures remain on the site. More recently the site has been left fallow. Deciduous hedgerows are common between the agricultural fields.

The site is becoming increasingly isolated from a natural environment perspective with new urban residential developments to the north and northeast of the site. Additional residential developments are under construction to the east and are planned to the west and south. In addition to the Spratt Road Woods to the southwest, agricultural land and regenerating woody vegetation are currently to the south of the southeast edge of the site. The Rideau River corridor is about 1.5 kilometres to the west of the west site edge.

### ***Methodology***

This report includes an assessment of the natural environment features, including the potential for specimen trees and Species at Risk and was prepared in accordance with Section 4.7.8 of the City of Ottawa Official Plan (2010) following the EIS Guidelines found at <http://ottawa.ca/en/development-application-review-process-0/environmental-impact-statement-guidelines>, with guidance from the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (OMNR, 2010). The Tree Conservation Report component has been prepared following the Guidelines for City of Ottawa Tree Conservation Reports, found at <https://ottawa.ca/en/residents/water-and-environment/trees-and-community-forests/protection#tree-conservation-report-guidelines>.

Colour aerial photography (1976-2017) was used to assess the natural environment features in the general vicinity of the site. A field survey of the site and adjacent lands was completed on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Weather conditions during the February survey from 10:30 to 14:20 (including the lands to the north) included a light to moderate breeze, an air temperature of 1° C, and overcast skies. Snow cover was extensive throughout the site. A field survey was also

completed on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 08:05 to 11:15 (including the lands to the north) under a light to moderate breeze, an air temperature of 18° C, and partly sunny skies. This report also references the results of EISs with field surveys during the growing season done immediately to the east (McKinley, 2017) and west of the site, west of Spratt Road (Muncaster, 2010).

The field surveys and this report were completed by Bernie Muncaster, who has a Master's of Science in Biology and over thirty-one years of experience in completing natural environment assessments. The purpose of the Tree Conservation Report component is to establish which vegetation should be retained and protected on the site and to assess adjacent trees. The owner of the site is Claridge Homes (River Road) Inc. It is proposed to remove the woody vegetation not identified for retention in 2019 after the breeding bird season.

### ***Potential Species at Risk***

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)'s Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas website was reviewed on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 ([www.giscopeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/web/MNR/NHLUPS/NaturalHeritage/Viewer/Viewer.html](http://www.giscopeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/web/MNR/NHLUPS/NaturalHeritage/Viewer/Viewer.html)). This site allows for a search of Threatened and Endangered species covered by the 2008 *Endangered Species Act*, as well as other species of interest. A search was conducted on the 1 km squares including the site and adjacent lands (18VR41 – 62 and - 63). No Species at Risk or provincially rare species were identified for these squares.

Species at Risk identified in the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas for the 10km square (18VR41) that includes the study corridor and general area of this portion of Ottawa were bobolink, eastern meadowlark, barn swallow, bank swallow, and chimney swift. Thicket habitats are dominant on the site where agricultural activity was present until the mid-2010s. The extent of woody vegetation regenerating on the thicket habitats is too great for suitable nesting habitat for eastern meadowlark or bobolink. The small portion of remaining meadow habitat in the southeast corner is less than 0.5 hectares and thus also are not potential nesting habitat for these grassland species. No bobolink or eastern meadowlark were observed or heard during the morning May 26<sup>th</sup> survey. Barn swallow nests on structures with open rafters such as barns, larger agricultural sheds and bridges, while chimney swifts use open brick chimneys and historically tree cavities. No structures are present on the site. Bank swallow is a colonial nester; burrowing in eroding silt or sand banks and sand pit walls, habitat not present on or adjacent to the site.

No Blanding's turtles were identified in the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas for the overall 10km square 18VR41 that includes the site and general area, with snapping turtle and northern map turtle, two species of special concern, listed in the Atlas. No turtle habitat is anticipated on or adjacent to the site due to the lack of flowing water, standing water or suitable marsh or swamp wetlands.

In addition to the above potential Species at Risk, butternut is known in portions of Riverside South and may be present in the on-site deciduous hedgerows. Many other endangered and threatened species have historically been reported in the overall City, including American ginseng, eastern prairie fringed-orchid, wood turtle, spiny softshell, Blanding's turtle, musk turtle, Henslow's sparrow, loggerhead shrike, little brown myotis, northern long-eared bat, olive

hickorynut, bald eagle, golden eagle, cerulean warbler, least bittern, eastern cougar, lake sturgeon, and American eel. No forests are on the site and the number of cavity trees on the site (three) was less than the 10 per hectare of forest threshold utilized by MNRF for potential summer maternity bat colonies

Based on the habitat present on and adjacent to the site, butternut is the most likely Species at Risk to be found on or adjacent to the site. Four very small butternut stems, each 1cm diameter at breast height (dbh), were observed on June 1<sup>st</sup> in the southeast corner of the site by Shaun St. Pierre, a butternut health assessor. As some of the stems displayed hybrid characteristics and are in immediate proximity to black walnut, genetic analysis will be completed on these stems. If the analysis indicates these stems are pure butternuts, their removal will be compensated for with off-site plantings of two pure butternuts for each pure butternut removed or the compensation process that is in place at the time of removal. No activities that may harm these stems is permitted in the vicinity of the butternuts until the genetic testing identifies them as not pure butternuts or the off-site planting compensation is registered.

### ***Existing Conditions***

Silty sand and clayey silt soils dominate the west portion of the site, with silty clays dominant in the east portion (Paterson, 2018). Paterson (2018) reports an overburden thickness of approximately 8 metres on most of the site, with the depth to refusal dropping to just under one metre in the southeast portion of the site. Grade raises up to 3 metres throughout the site were considered permissible by Paterson (2018). The topography of the site includes a gentle slope from east to west, with a change in elevation in the range of three metres (IBI, 2019).

Based on available geological mapping, the site is located in an area where the bedrock consists of interbedded sandstone and dolomite of the March formation with drift thicknesses of 5 to 15 metres (Paterson, 2018). Groundwater was observed in the test pits advanced by Paterson (2018) between one and 2.7 metres below ground surface.

The former agricultural fields are identified as cultural thickets on Map 1 (Photos 1, 2 and 3), with a small area of cultural meadow in the southeast in a former horse pasture (Photo 12). Common buckthorn dominates the cultural thicket woody vegetation, with red raspberry, prickly ash, slender willow, Bebb's willow, red-osier dogwood, common lilac, serviceberry, apple, and prickly gooseberry shrubs also present. Regenerating white and green ash, poplar, Scot's pine, grey birch, chokecherry, and white elm stems up to 10cm diameter at breast height are common along with a few white spruce saplings. In the southeast portion of the site, the trees were larger with white elm, green ash, and white ash up to 25cm dbh and a 45cm dbh Manitoba maple. White bedstraw, wild carrot, Canada goldenrod, tall goldenrod, reed canary grass, orchard grass, common brome grass, blue grass, purple loosestrife, sensitive fern, white-sweet clover, red clover, tufted vetch, lily-of-the-valley, field horsetail, garlic mustard, common burdock, tufted vetch, common ragweed, common strawberry, common milkweed, common dandelion, and chicory were representative of the ground flora in the thicket and meadow habitats.

There are several deciduous hedgerows on-site which are dominated by white and green ash, with the ash representing about 75 percent of the trees in the hedgerows (Photos 1 and 4). Many

of the ash trees, which are up to 70cm dbh, are severely impacted by the emerald ash borer (Photo 6). White elm is common in some of the hedgerows, representing up to 20 percent. The largest white elms are in the 40cm dbh range and many have extensive trunk and bark damage. Trembling aspens up to 30cm dbh are common in the hedgerows closest to Spratt Road, with bur oak and dead white ash also present (Photo 5). Fungus is common on many of the poplar stems. A couple of mature, 65cm dbh, bur oak in good condition are in the deciduous hedgerow along the south edge of the site, with 75cm dbh and a 110cm dbh sugar maples in the southeast corner of the site (Photo 13) and red maple cultivars up to 55cmdbh in the central deciduous hedgerow. A few white and Norway spruce up to 40cm dbh are scattered in the deciduous hedgerows in the east portion of the site. Wind throw is common in the hedgerows in the central and east portions of the site. Common buckthorn shrubs are common between the deciduous hedgerow trees, along with chokecherry, red-osier dogwood, slender willow, red raspberry, black currant, and hawthorn and regenerating poplar and grey birch stems. Wild grape coverage was common on many of the shrubs and the lower tree branches. Field horsetail, common strawberry, poison ivy, Canada goldenrod, reed canary grass, garlic mustard, and blue violet are other common ground vegetation among the hedgerow trees.

A short, about 60 metres in length, east-west coniferous hedgerow is in the southeast corner of the site (Photo 7). White spruce up to 35cm dbh is dominant, representing about 80 percent of the trees, with white pines up to 45cm dbh comprising the balance in the coniferous hedgerow. A shorter north-south coniferous hedgerow to the east of the east-west one includes white spruce and red pine up to 45cm dbh, and smaller white cedar up to 30cm dbh.

A mature, 90cm dbh, bur oak is along the east edge of the Spratt Road allowance, adjacent to the northwest corner of the site (Photo 9). A 44cm dbh white pine is along the west portion of the north shared property line with 4661 Spratt Road (Photo 10), with red maples and ash along the south shared property line. No trees of note are along the shared property line with 4729 Spratt Road, with white cedars less than 20cm dbh common, and a 30cm dbh Scot's pine a couple of metres south of shared property line and east of Spratt Road (Photo 11). The lower branches of the Scot's pine extend onto the site.

The deciduous forest to the south of the southeast corner of the site is young and dominated by trembling aspen, white ash, and green ash (Photo 8). The largest tree to the south of the south property edge is a 38cm dbh red pine, with smaller trembling aspen, green and white ash (in poor condition), and sugar maple.

The only Species at Risk observed during the field surveys was butternut. During several growing season field surveys, McKinley (2017) did not observe Species at Risk on or adjacent to the site immediately to the east. No currently listed Species at Risk were observed by Muncaster (2010) for the site on the other side of Spratt Road. Wildlife observed in 2019 on and adjacent to the site included American crow, black-capped chickadee, a mallard flying overhead, northern harrier, red-tailed hawk, red-winged blackbird, tree swallow, grey catbird, yellow warbler, common yellowthroat, song sparrow, chipping sparrow, American goldfinch, eastern chipmunk, grey squirrel, and white-tailed deer tracks. Three of the white ash trees in the deciduous hedgerows contained potential wildlife cavities. No stick nests or other evidence of raptor use were observed, nor were stone fence lines or exposed bedrock with fissures.



*Photo 1 – Cultural thicket in the northeast portion of the site. View looking northwest*



*Photo 2 – Typical cultural thicket habitat which dominates the site.  
This example is in the southwest portion looking west to Spratt Road*



*Photo 3 – Cultural thicket in the northwest portion of the site. View looking north*



*Photo 4 – Typical north-south deciduous hedgerow. This example is in the east portion of the site with view looking north from the south edge of the hedgerow*



*Photo 5 – East-west deciduous hedgerow in the northwest portion of the site.  
View looking west*



*Photo 6 – One of the largest white ash deciduous trees observed on the site, in a north-south  
hedgerow in the northwest portion of the site.  
Tree contains potential wildlife cavities and shows EAB damage*



*Photo 7 – East-west coniferous hedgerow in the southeast portion of the site.  
View looking southeast*



*Photo 8 – Young deciduous forest immediately to the south of the southeast corner of the site.  
View looking west*



*Photo 9 – Mature bur oak along the east edge of the Spratt Road allowance, immediately west of the northeast corner of the site. View looking northwest*



*Photo 10 – White pine near the shared property line with the north edge of 4661 Spratt Road, east of Spratt Road. View looking east*



*Photo 11 – Small white cedars and overhanging Scot's pine branches along the north edge of 4729 Spratt Road, east of Spratt Road. View looking east*



*Photo 12 – Small remnant cultural meadow habitat in the southeast corner of the site. View looking northeast*



*Photo 13 – Mature sugar maple in the southeast corner of the site. View looking northeast*

### **Significant Woodlands**

A forested area is now considered a significant woodlands in the urban area of the City of Ottawa if the forest is 0.8 hectares in size or larger and is 60 years of age and older at the time of evaluation. The deciduous forest to the south of the east portion of the site was farmland in 1976 and thus based on a young age would not meet the criteria for significant woodlands in the urban area of the City.

### **Significant Wildlife Habitat**

The potential for significant wildlife habitat was assessed using the guidance in OMNR (2010) and MNRF (2015). No flora, fauna or ecological conditions identified in the background review or field survey that would trigger a Significant Wildlife Habitat designation with respect to the ELC communities present were observed on the site or reported by McKinley (2017) or Muncaster (2010) for sites adjacent to the current site. For example, the cultural habitats do not support waterfowl stopover or staging areas, colonial nesting bird breeding habitat or other examples of seasonal concentration areas, rare vegetation communities as noted in MNRF (2015), or rare or specialized habitats including seeps or springs.

No forests are present and thus there is no potential nesting for species of special concern such as wood thrush and eastern wood-pewee or for deer winter congregation areas. No evidence of raptor wintering areas was noted and areas of broken and fissured rock for potential use by snakes were not observed on the adjacent sites and are not expected on the former agricultural land.

As discussed above, the site is increasing in isolation from an environmental perspective due to the extensive urban residential development to the north and northwest, with approved residential projects to be constructed to the east and west. Lands to the south are also proposed for urban residential developments and are currently in agricultural use.

### ***Impact Analysis and Recommendations***

#### Species at Risk and other Significant Natural Heritage Features

Butternut was the only Species at Risk observed on or adjacent to the site. No other Species at Risk were reported for the adjacent sites. The four small butternuts in the southeast corner of the site will be removed and compensated for with off-site plantings if the butternuts are not hybrids. The remaining meadow habitat is too small for grassland Species at Risk (none were observed during a morning late May survey) and no potential structures for chimney swift or barn swallow are present.

#### Tree Retention

Tree removal will occur as the deciduous hedgerows are removed. Although many of the trees are in poor condition there is still some ecological function provided such as local wildlife habitat and climate, air quality, wildlife, and nature appreciation benefits. Potential impacts during construction of the residential development and associated removal of trees and other vegetation includes impacts on wildlife, increased erosion and release of sediments and other potential contaminants from truck traffic and construction activity, harm to wildlife remaining in the work area during construction, and impacts associated with an increase in noise, dust and light. The following mitigation measures are designed to address these potential impacts.

As the Plan of Subdivision is designed to incorporate adjacent lands to the south, and residential development is already present or under construction to the north, west and east, there is no potential for connections to adjacent natural features. This isolation in combination with the dominance of ash trees results in very limited conservation value for the on-site vegetation. Removal of tree cover within the site is not anticipated to result in a significant negative affect to the environmental features and functions of the general area. As an existing woodland edge exists to the south of the east edge of the site and no forests are on-site, development of the site will not create a new forest edge. As the lands to the south of this site are proposed for urban development in the short term, with construction estimated to begin in 2020, no mitigation measures to protect and preserve the trees to the south of the east site edge are considered necessary. Co-owned trees or those with critical root zones that extend onto the site are not a concern to the south, east or north due to future development. Mitigation measures are presented below to protect co-owned or adjacent trees around the existing residences at 4661 and 4729 Spratt Road. The City should be contacted to determine its plans for retention of the mature bur oak adjacent to the northeast corner of the site. This tree would appear to be a safety hazard in association with traffic northbound on Spratt Road.

Due to the density of the development and required urban servicing and associated grading, both on and to the south of the site, no tree retention is anticipated for the site. Macro grading plans in IBI (2019) indicate grade raises in the vicinity of one metre for most of the site.

The follow important mitigation measures are to be properly implemented:

1. Prior to their removal, the four small butternuts in the southeast corner will be genetically tested and compensated for with off-site plantings as required. If they are pure butternuts, no activities are permitted that may damage the butternut stems until the compensation is registered or the process in place at the time of removal is followed;
2. To protect breeding birds, no tree removal should occur between April 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>, unless a breeding bird survey conducted by a qualified biologist within five days of the woody vegetation removal identifies no active nests in the vegetation to be removed. Tree removal should begin in the west portion of the site and extend to the east, allowing wildlife to relocate to the south and east. Prior to tree removal, the area should be pre-stressed by traversing the site with a loud noise such as an excavator horn. This will encourage wildlife to leave the area;
3. If any trees can be retained, they are to be protected with sturdy temporary fencing at least 1.3 metres in height installed from the tree trunk a distance of ten times the retained tree's diameter where possible. Signs, notices, or posters are not to be attached to any tree. No grading, heavy machinery traffic, stockpiling of material, machinery maintenance and refueling, or other activities that may cause soil compaction are to occur within three metres of the critical root zone of the trees to be retained and protected. The root system, trunk, or branches of the trees to be retained are to be protected and not damaged. If any roots of trees to be retained are exposed during site alterations, the roots shall be immediately reburied with soil or covered with filter cloth, burlap or woodchips and kept moist until the roots can be buried permanently. A covering of plastic should be used to retain moisture during an extended period when watering may not be possible. Any roots that must be cut are to be cut cleanly to facilitate healing and as far from the tree as possible. Overhanging branches from retained trees, including those adjacent to the site, that may be damaged during construction are to be pruned by a qualified arborist prior to construction. Exhaust fumes from all equipment during construction will not be directed towards the canopy of the adjacent retained trees.

All of the supports and bracing for the protective fencing should be placed outside of the protected area and should be installed in such a way as to minimize root damage. Also, since the desired effect of the barrier is to prevent construction traffic from entering the tree's critical root zone, the barrier should be kept in place until all site servicing and construction has been completed;

4. Where the critical root zones (ten times the trunk diameter) of the adjacent trees extend onto the site at 4661 and 4729 Spratt Road, where possible tree protection fencing as described above is to be installed along the outer edge of the root zone. If too much of the root zone will be damaged by excavations and grading for the development, the

adjacent landowner is to be consulted and the removed tree replaced with new plantings of native tree species in locations approved by the adjacent landowner.

5. In terms of planting sensitivities, in areas where the root structures may reach clay soils, tree and shrub species that have a high water demand are not recommended. These species include willows, poplars, and elm. Recommended native species for planting include a mix of coniferous and deciduous species such as sugar maple, red maple, basswood, red oak, white pine, and white spruce, along with nannyberry, elderberry, and native dogwood shrubs. Sourcing native species from local seed sources is strongly recommended to ensure adaptability and longevity;
6. Due to the silty clay soils, Paterson (2018) identified tree planting setback areas for the site (see Drawing PG4730- 3 in Appendix 2 of Paterson (2018)). The majority of the site (Area 2 on Drawing PG4730- 3) was considered to have a low to medium sensitivity to tree planting, while the northwest portion was assigned a high sensitivity (Area 1 on Drawing PG4730- 3). For the low to medium sensitivity areas, large trees (mature height over 14 metres) can be planted within Area 2 provided a tree to foundation setback equal to the full mature height of the tree can be provided (e.g. in a park or other green space). Paterson (2018) noted that the tree planting setback limits may be reduced to 4.5 metres for small (mature tree height up to 7.5 metres) and medium size trees (mature tree height 7.5 to 14 metres) provided that the conditions with respect to available soil volume, mature tree size, local grading, and reinforced foundation walls are met as outlined in Section 6.8 of Paterson (2018).

For the high sensitivity areas in the northwest portion of the site (Area 1 on Drawing PG4730- 3) large trees (mature height over 14 metres) can be planted provided a tree to foundation setback equal to the full mature height of the tree can be provided (e.g. in a park or other green space). Paterson (2018) noted that the tree planting setback limits may be reduced to 7.5 metres for small (mature tree height up to 7.5 metres) and medium size trees (mature tree height 7.5 to 14 metres) provided that the conditions with respect to available soil volume, mature tree size, local grading, and reinforced foundation walls are met as outlined in Section 6.8 of Paterson (2018).

7. The extent of exposed soils is to be kept to a minimum at all times. Re-vegetation of exposed, non-developed areas with native species is to be achieved as soon as possible to reduce surface erosion;
8. Silt fencing is to be properly installed around the perimeter of the work areas, including ensuring the fencing is well dug in to filter any surface water flows and isolate the work areas for wildlife. In addition, where required seepage barriers such as silt fencing, straw bale check dams, and other sediment and erosion control measures will be installed to OPSD requirements in any temporary drainage ditches, around disturbed areas during construction, and stockpiles of fine material. These control measures must be properly maintained to maximize their function during construction and will be removed at the completion of construction once the site has stabilized. Any dewatering of groundwater is to be properly treated before release or directed to the sanitary system;

9. The contractor is to be aware of potential Species at Risk in the vicinity of the site including butternut, bobolink and eastern meadowlark. Appendix 1 of City of Ottawa (2015) describes these species. The project biologist for this project is Bernie Muncaster (613-748-3753). Any Species at Risk sightings are to be immediately reported to the project biologist and the Ministry of the Environment, Culture and Parks and activities modified to avoid impacts on the Species at Risk until further direction by the Ministry;
10. As recommended in City of Ottawa (2015) prior to beginning work each day, wildlife is to be checked for by conducting a thorough visual inspection of the work space and immediate surroundings. See Section 2.5 of City of Ottawa (2015) for additional recommendations on construction site management with respect to wildlife. Any turtles, snakes, or other sensitive wildlife in the work areas are to be relocated to the Armstrong Road South Woods to the east. Animals should be moved only far enough to ensure their immediate safety. See Appendix 1 and the links in Section 4 of City of Ottawa (2015) for suggestions on how to effectively relocate turtles and snakes;
11. Recommend general provisions for proper site management include the following McKinley (2017):
  - do not harm, feed, or unnecessarily harass wildlife;
  - drive slowly and avoid hitting wildlife;
  - maintain a tidy site free of garbage and food wastes. Secure all garbage in appropriate sealed containers;
  - ensure proper site drainage so that standing water does not accumulate on site. This will reduce the likelihood that turtles and other wildlife may enter the site; and
  - any stockpiles should be properly secured with silt fencing to prevent wildlife from accessing areas of loose fill;
12. Municipal by-laws and provincial regulations for noise will be followed and utilities will be located in the vicinity of the site prior to construction;
13. Waste will be managed in accordance with provincial regulations. The contractor will have a spill kit on-hand at all times in case of spills or other accidents; and,
14. Snow removal is not to be directed to any retained trees or other natural features.

### ***Schedule of Proposed Works***

It is proposed to remove the woody vegetation not identified for retention in 2019 after the breeding bird period from April 15<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>. City of Ottawa staff (Forester – Planning) is to be contacted at least two business days prior to any tree removal so that staff have the opportunity to verify that any protective fencing, if applicable, has been properly installed. A Tree Cut Permit will be required for all trees greater than 10cm dbh.

## ***Conclusion***

A low density urban residential development is proposed for the site. The site has reduced natural environment features and functions due to former agricultural activity and dominance of generally non-preferred species in the deciduous hedgerows including ash, white elm, and poplar. With the exception of butternut (an endangered Species at Risk), no natural heritage features, as identified in the Provincial Policy Statement, are on or adjacent to the site.

Due to extensive grading and other urban servicing requirements no tree retention is anticipated for the site. Mitigation measures are presented above to protect co-owned or adjacent trees around the existing residences at 4661 and 4729 Spratt Road. Trees to the south of the southeast edge of the site are not considered sensitive as they are younger and will be removed as part of the proposed urban residential development with a similar timeframe as this application.

It is important that mitigation measures outlined in this report are properly implemented and maintained.

## ***References***

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McKinley Environmental Solutions. 2017. Environmental Impact Statement & Tree Conservation Report (Revised) - Riverside South Land Transfer Block. August, 2017. 30 pp & Append.

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Muncaster Environmental Planning Inc. 2010. Riverside South – Phase 9. Environmental Impact Statement – Revised. January 31, 2010. 15 pp & figs

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. 2010. Natural Heritage Reference Manual for Natural Heritage Policies of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005. Second Edition. March 2010. 233 pp.

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. 2015. Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria Schedules for Ecoregion 6E. January, 2015. 38 pp.

**4725 SPRATT ROAD**  
**TREE CONSERVATION REPORT and ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT - UPDATED**

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Paterson Group. 2018. Geotechnical Investigation. Proposed Residential Development, 4623 & 4623 Spratt Road, Ottawa, Ontario. December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Report: PG4730-1. 20 pp & append.

Please call if you have any questions or comments on this Environmental Impact Statement and Tree Conservation Report.

Yours Sincerely,  
**MUNCASTER ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING INC.**



Bernie Muncaster, M.Sc.  
Principal

\\4725 Spratt Road EISTCR



**B** - Healthy 1cm dbh Butternut  
(DNA analysis pending)

Prepared for: Claridge Homes (River Road) Inc.

Prepared by:



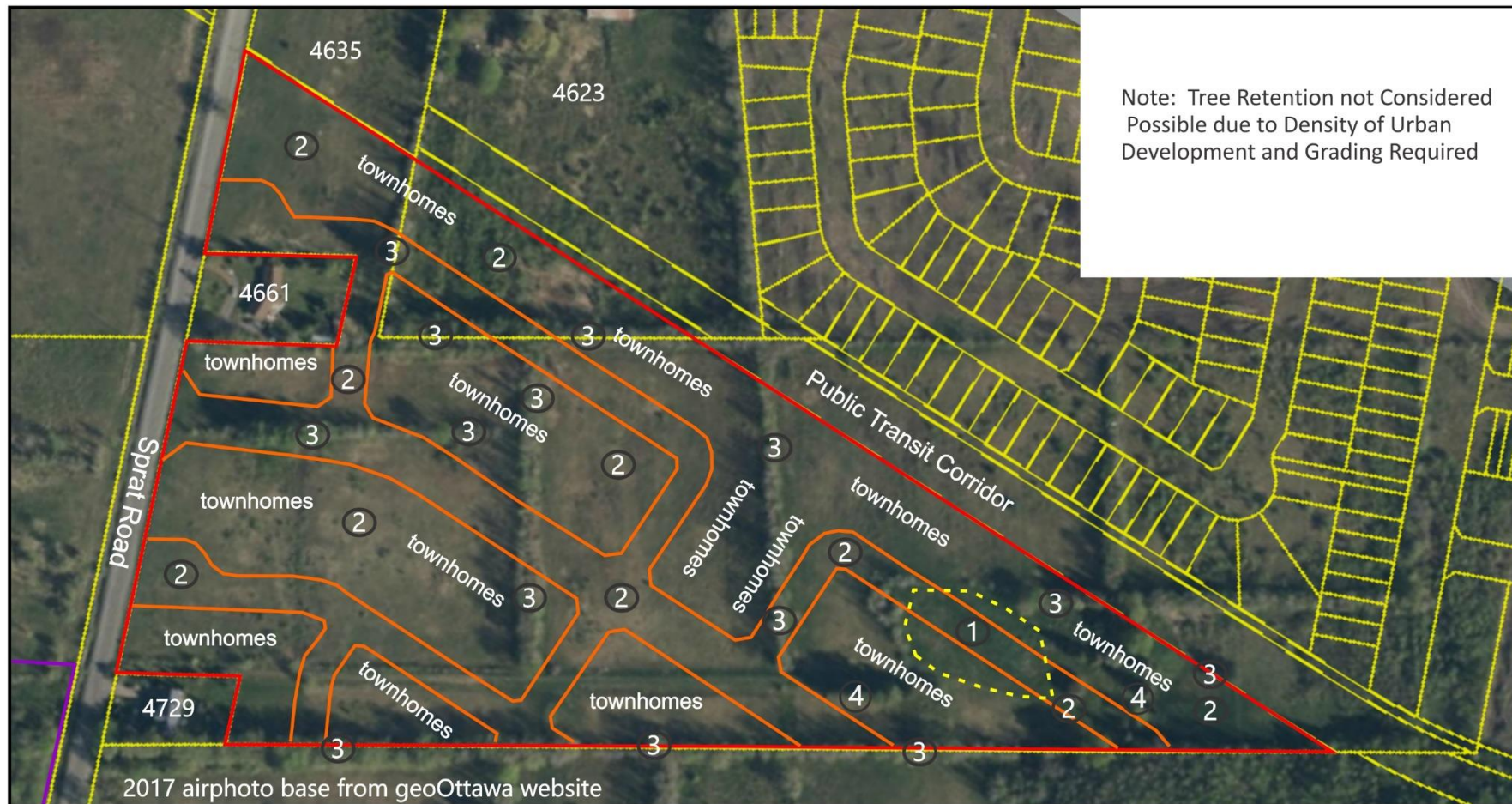
Muncaster  
Environmental  
Planning Inc.

**TREE CONSERVATION REPORT  
EXISTING VEGETATION**

**4725 SPRATT ROAD  
RIVERSIDE SOUTH, CITY of OTTAWA**

June 2, 2019

**FILE: 18 - 26**



Note: Tree Retention not Considered Possible due to Density of Urban Development and Grading Required

2017 airphoto base from geoOttawa website

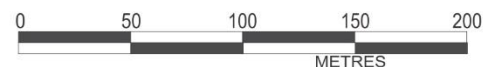
### Vegetation Communities

- ① Cultural Meadow
- ② Cultural Thicket
- ③ Deciduous hedgerow
- ④ Coniferous Hedgerow

### Legend

- Site
- - - Vegetation Communities
- Spratt Road Woods Urban Natural Area

Approx. Scale 1:3,200



June 2, 2019

FILE: 18 - 26

**Map 2**

Prepared for: Claridge Homes (River Road) Inc.

Prepared by:



Muncaster  
Environmental  
Planning Inc.

**TREE CONSERVATION REPORT  
PROPOSED CONSERVED VEGETATION**

**4725 SPRATT ROAD  
RIVERSIDE SOUTH, CITY OF OTTAWA**