

REPORT TO: Heritage Kitchener

DATE OF MEETING: May 6, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Garrett Stevenson, Director of Development and Housing Approvals,
519-783-8922

PREPARED BY: Michelle Drake, Senior Heritage Planner, 519-783-8909

WARD(S) INVOLVED: Ward 3

DATE OF REPORT: April 11, 2025

REPORT NO.: DSD-2025-185

SUBJECT: Interim Draft Heritage Impact Assessment – East Side Lands Trunk Sewer

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

REPORT:

The Development and Housing Approvals Division is in receipt of an Interim Draft Heritage Impact Assessment dated August 2024 (Updated April 2025), regarding the detailed design of the East Side Lands Trunk Sewer (ESLTS). The purpose of the proposed ESLTS is to service anticipated growth in the eastern part of the Region of Waterloo (parts of Cambridge, Woolwich and Kitchener). The Region of Waterloo completed a Class Environmental Assessment, which identified the need for the ESLTS and identified a route through the City of Cambridge, City of Kitchener, and the Grand River valley terminating at the Kitchener Wastewater Treatment Plant on Mill Park Drive. The scope of work will include open cut and micro-tunnelled construction to install the sewer and a new service bridge over the Grand River to take the sewer to the existing wastewater treatment plant. The ESLTS has three main sections:

1. An open-cut section that runs through the Pioneer Tower Road and Lookout Lane Cultural Heritage Landscape (CHL) and terminates in an underground section in Kuntz Park in the Pioneer Tower West & Historic Ridge CHL.
2. A new service bridge across the Grand River southwest of the Waterloo Pioneer Memorial Tower within the Pioneer Tower West & Historic Ridge CHL, the Grand River Corridor CHL, and the Walter Bean Trail CHL.
3. A section that connects to the existing wastewater treatment plant influent channel located on the west side of the Grand River, adjacent to the Grand River Corridor CHL.



Figure 1.0 Location Map – Approximate Location of Sewer Shown in Red

The proposed methods to install the sewer and the proposed construction of a new service bridge have the potential to impact Cultural Heritage Resources (CHRs), including the following:

Built Heritage Resources

- The Waterloo Pioneer Memorial Tower (300 Lookout Lane)
- The Samuel Betzner Farmstead (300 Joseph Schoerg Crescent)
- The Joseph Schoerg Farmstead (330 Joseph Schoerg Crescent)

Cultural Heritage Landscapes

- The Grand River Corridor CHL
- The Pioneer Tower West & Historic Ridge CHL
- The Pioneer Tower Road & Lookout Lane CHL
- The Walter Bean Trail CHL

The interim draft HIA outlines impacts and mitigation recommendations for each CHR in Table 1 starting on page 102. The mitigation recommendations include, but are not limited

to: developing a vibration monitoring plan to monitor the Waterloo Memorial Tower and the Betzner/Schoerg Cemetery before, during and after construction; restoring Lookout Lane to pre-construction conditions in accordance with the Pioneer Tower West Design Guidelines; designing the new service bridge to be well-proportioned, visually light and compatible with the surrounding context of the Grand River Corridor CHL and the Pioneer Tower West & Historic Ridge CHL; and, documenting views to and from the Pioneer Memorial Tower for archival purposes.

At this time, Heritage Planning staff are seeking input and comments from members of the Heritage Kitchener committee, which will be considered as part of staff's review of the HIA and coordination with the Region on the final detailed design and recommended conservation and mitigation measures to be implemented before, during and after construction of the ESLTS.

A copy of the interim draft HIA is available as Attachment A to this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report supports the delivery of core services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Capital Budget – The recommendation has no impact on the Capital Budget.

Operating Budget – The recommendation has no impact on the Operating Budget.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

INFORM – This report has been posted to the City's website with the agenda in advance of the Heritage Kitchener committee meeting.

PREVIOUS REPORTS/AUTHORITIES:

- *Environmental Assessment Act*
- *Ontario Heritage Act*

APPROVED BY: Justin Readman, General Manager, Development Services Department

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Interim Draft Heritage Impact Assessment – East Side Lands Trunk Sewer