

From: [Erwin Dreessen](#)
To: [GA List](#)
Subject: [GA List] FW: What city councillors think Walton is up to | Ottawa Citizen
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2013 6:44:07 PM

Stung by Ken Gray's claim to have uncovered a huge scheme hidden from the Official Plan review that is going on, David Reevely dug into the story and talked to various Councillors, especially Planning Committee chair Peter Hume:

<http://blogs.ottawacitizen.com/2013/03/15/what-city-councillors-think-walton-is-up-to/>

(It includes a link to a very nasty blog entry by Ken Gray and several comments berating him for being so nasty.)

My comment:

Thanks for digging further into this story, David. It's re-assuring to hear confirmation from Hume, and Walton, that the urban boundary in the current review will stay where it is... for residential development. Their statement makes clear that they're in the game on the discussion about employment lands. Part 3 of Walton's grand plan is about employment lands (consistent with their aim to build "complete communities").

For the long-to-very-long term, earlier comments are interesting but the arguments are all looking back. If there is a future for the human species, does it include continuing to gobble up agricultural land near cities? I think Walton's investors made the wrong bet here. In the long run there'll be more money in sustainable agriculture.

There also is a link to a Nov 2008 article by Randall Denley about Walton's ideas that gives some historical perspective:
<http://blogs.ottawacitizen.com/2013/03/15/waltons-plans-circa-2008/> . Denley notes: "Walton ... talks about "sustainable design" and "cutting-edge technologies" Natural and "cultural heritage areas" will be protected, of course. I always grit my teeth when I hear developers talk about protecting a natural area by surrounding it with a subdivision. Farmers' fields never qualify as a natural area, apparently."

And you can read what Walton itself has to say about the brouhaha:
<http://blogs.ottawacitizen.com/2013/03/15/what-walton-says-its-up-to/>

Finally, it was amusing to read Rainer Bloess' comment that the outcome of the last debate about the urban boundary amounted to "a comedy of errors." Some comedy! Ref.: <http://www.ofnc.ca/conservation/City-EDreessen.pdf> .

Erwin

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-----Original Message-----

From: fca-members@googlegroups.com [<mailto:fca-members@googlegroups.com>] On

Behalf Of James O'Grady
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2013 9:01 AM
To: fca-members@googlegroups.com
Subject: What city councillors think Walton is up to | Ottawa Citizen

FYI - David Reevly's blog response to Ken Gray's attack on his integrity over the Walton Affair:
<snip>

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