

January 28, 2026

Good afternoon,

At today's City Council meeting, Council ratified the decision of the joint Committee of December 17, 2025, meaning, my motion on the Southern Corridor lands was approved unanimously.

This is the second battle won within the month to defend, protect and publicly amplify the importance of these critical public lands – not just for the public's enjoyment, but their ecological importance as well.

The Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw Review is now over. This caps a multi-year process, following the 2022 provincial approval of the City's revised Official Plan. How can the City accommodate 400,000 more residents over the next 30 years has been a driving question. It will yield many changes that will impact every neighbourhood in Ottawa.

The engagement across River Ward was significant, included all six community associations, condo and tenant groups, businesses and individual residents. More recently, with the zoning bylaw review and proposed changes to the Southern Corridor lands, I wish to acknowledge and thank the Hunt Club Community Association, Riverside Park Community Association, the Greenspace Alliance, CAFES Ottawa (Community Action for Environmental Sustainability), OSEAN (The Ottawa South Eco-Action Network) and other local community and environmental focused groups.

The National Capital Commission never accepted any request to meet and discuss their push to have these critical lands rezoned. This is beyond disappointing. It is my expectation that they will continue to focus on these lands and I will defend them (with your assistance) and will continue my efforts to sit down with them to better understand what lands, when, for what (development) purpose.

Thank you to everyone who reached out to me, attended various public events and meetings over the years and stood up for what you believe in and what is important to you, your family and our community. You make me proud.

Sincerely,
Riley

Riley Brockington
City Councillor, River Ward