

Uniform Urban Developments 117 Centrepointe Drive, Suite 300 Ottawa, Ontario, K2G 5X3 March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Attn: Emily Meyers, Marketing Manager/Planning Coordinator

RE: 373 Princeton Avenue – Chimney Swift Assessment

## 1.0 BACKGROUND AND SITE DESCRIPTION

McKinley Environmental Solutions was retained by Uniform Urban Developments (Uniform) to evaluate the potential for Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) to be found nesting within three (3) residential homes that are scheduled to be demolished as part of the redevelopment of the 373 Princeton Avenue parcel. The three (3) residential homes are located within the 373 Princeton Avenue parcel, at municipal addresses marked 530, 534 and 540 Edison Avenue. Each of these residential homes has a single chimney. Figure 1 (below) shows the position of the chimneys within the Site.



## FIGURE 1: SITE OVERVIEW

373 Princeton Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario Chimney Swift Assessment



## 2.0 CHIMNEY ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Chimney Swift are a threatened species listed under the Ontario Endangered Species Act (ESA). Chimney Swifts may be found nesting in suitably sized chimneys in both urban and rural areas. Each of the three (3) residential buildings located at 530, 534 and 540 Edison Avenue have a single chimney. These chimneys were assessed following the methodology outlined in the Bird Studies Canada *Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica) Monitoring Protocol* (2009). As outlined by the protocol, prior to conducting a full survey to document nesting activity, chimneys should first be assessed to determine whether their characteristics and/or design would allow (or prevent) Chimney Swift nesting activity. The Site was visited on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in order to assess the suitability of the chimneys at 530, 534 and 540 Edison Avenue. All three (3) chimneys could readily be viewed from ground-level. Photographs of the chimneys are included below. The following is a summary of the characteristics of each chimney:

- **530 Edison Avenue (Chimney #1):** The chimney includes a ceramic liner and a metal cap that would prevent Chimney Swift nesting;
- **534 Edison Avenue (Chimney #2):** The chimney includes a ceramic liner and a wire mesh cap that would prevent Chimney Swift nesting.
- **540 Edison Avenue (Chimney #3):** The chimney includes a ceramic liner and a wire mesh cap that would prevent Chimney Swift nesting.

It should be noted that even if the wire mesh caps were removed from the chimneys at 534 and 540 Edison Avenue, these chimneys would likely remain unsuitable for Chimney Swift nesting, as Chimney Swifts will not typically nest in un-capped chimneys with ceramic liners (Bird Studies Canada 2009).

Due to the presence of ceramic liners and caps on all three (3) chimneys, Chimney Swifts would not be able to utilize any of the chimneys found within the Site for nesting. A follow-up Chimney Swift survey is therefore not required, and Chimney Swifts are not considered a significant concern for the proposed demolition of the residential buildings at 530, 534, and 540 Edison Avenue.





Photograph 1: 530 Edison Avenue (March 28th, 2017).



Photograph 2: Chimney #1 at 530 Edison Avenue. Note metal cap and ceramic liner (March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017).





Photograph 3: 534 Edison Avenue (March 28th, 2017).



**Photograph 4**: Chimney #2 at 534 Edison Avenue. Note ceramic liner with wire mesh cap (March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017).





Photograph 5: 540 Edison Avenue (March 28th, 2017).



**Photograph 6**: Chimney #3 at 540 Edison Avenue. Note ceramic liner with wire mesh cap (March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017).



## 3.0 CLOSURE

We trust that the above information is sufficient; should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned, at your convenience.

Sincerely,



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Senior Biologist, McKinley Environmental Solutions

