

## Grant to aid flood victims deferred

BLAIR EDWARDS  
KOURIER-STANDARD

A plan to give \$1,000 to every Ottawa homeowner who has suffered three floods over the past 15 years has been put on the back burner.

The city's planning and environment committee voted on Tuesday, Oct. 27 to delay a decision for two weeks, asking its supporters: Kanata South Coun. Peggy Feltmate and Kanata North Coun. Marianne Wilkinson to revise the motion.

The motion was created to help victims of the July 24 rainstorm that flooded 1,200 west-end homes on July 24 – some of whom have experienced three floods in the past 15 years.

But Orleans Coun. Rob Monette said it excludes residents who have experienced multiple floods in other parts of the city.

"They feel if they support it this time then their residents should have had it," said Feltmate.

She said some councillors were also worried this would set an expensive precedent, with victims of future floods expecting money from the city.

"People are afraid with climate change how much this could rise to be in the future."

City staff estimate the plan will cost \$1.2 million to assist 1,200 flood victims, plus \$200,000 to administer the program.

Those numbers are inflated, said Wilkinson, who said it will only cost between \$200,000 to \$300,000 to help the 200 residents who were victims of three floods in the west end.

Councillors want the motion to be more inclusive, said Wilkinson.

"They want it so people in their areas (who have suffered multiple floods) get compensation," she said. "Some of them would like it back dated a bit."

The planning and environment committee will consider the revised motion during a meeting on Nov. 10.

**Peggy Feltmate**  
Kanata South  
Councillor

**Marianne Wilkinson**  
Kanata North  
Councillor

