

From: Paul Sandor
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2024 5:59 PM
To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>
Cc: Trosow, Sam <strosow@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Connector streets in ward 6

As residents in a heritage district on Waterloo Street in Old North, we would like to understand more about whether the city of London will hold developers to the same standards that maintain the character of the neighbourhood as current property owners are held. Taxpayers within the heritage district require approvals and permits to maintain the exterior of our homes and are held to heritage standards that most often result in higher costs. Furthermore will developers be given easements to build beyond property lines to the edge of the boulevard, and be given permission to remove mature tree canopy as has been seen in recent developments in the city of London. As you may be aware, the impact of such development is in conflict with the stated goals of London's own Climate Emergency Action Plan. It reduces air quality and increases flooding through reduction of available drainage. This kind of short-sighted development is causing climate related problems in many urban centres, most notably Toronto. We should learn from the mistakes of others.

We would also like to learn more about what plans will be considered to manage increased traffic flow, being mindful that this is a pedestrian intensive neighbourhood including children from three elementary schools and many seniors from the nursing home. What steps will be taken to protect these most vulnerable citizens? Already drivers can be seen daily failing to stop at many intersections. And bike lanes have emboldened more cyclists to follow suit without stopping for pedestrians throughout the neighbourhood. Will planned increases in the volume and flow of traffic on these connector streets be made with due consideration to put pedestrian safety first?

We recognize that there is a need for more housing, but any plan needs to be thoughtful, informed, and consider the long term impacts for all.

We give consent for this letter to be in the public agenda.

Paul and Sharrone Sandor