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London  
CANADA

November 23, 2011

Chair and Members  
Civic Works Committee

**Re: Street Lighting Request, Lord Nelson School Area – Crime and Safety Concerns**

The corner of Garland Crescent and Royal Crescent, in front of Lord Nelson Public School, including the walkway and surrounding neighborhood, is **extremely dark** at night.

The only method of current lighting in this area, are the "street lamps" which were installed on front lawns in the 60's and 70's, when the neighborhood was developed. However, some property owners do not keep their lamps lit for whatever reason and some have removed them altogether.

Residents have expressed concerns about frequent vandalism and crime in the area. They are also concerned about the safety of their public school aged children and high school youth, who regularly travel the street, walkway and school property after dark, especially during the time change. Some residents have complained that just getting fresh air, or walking their dog, they are in danger of being hit by a car, as it's so dark they can't be seen by vehicles, some of which have been frequently running the stop signs.

I approached the Thames Valley District School Board, asking that they consider sharing the cost of installing 2 to 3 lights on the corner of Garland and Royal Crescents, in front of Lord Nelson Public school. They do not agree the lighting is insufficient, therefore they are not interested in sharing the cost with the City.

Further, I asked City staff about the possibility of installing 2 to 3 lights on that corner, at no cost to the residents. I was informed that residents would have to follow the 'Local Improvement Process'. And, that installing just a couple of lights, may cause more problems than they solve. The lights would improve the visibility at the intersection, but it would hinder the driver's visibility as they leave the lit area. That driver's eyes take time to adjust to light-dark-light-dark areas and during this time, their visibility may be reduced. To eliminate this problem, they usually install lights along a longer stretch of road, so the light is more uniform. They suggested that lights be installed from Castle Drive to Wexford Avenue, using the Local Improvement Process.

Therefore, as a result of frequent crime and safety complaints from residents in this area, due to little or no lighting, I respectfully request staff investigate and consider the installation of proper, safe lighting, from Castle Drive to Wexford Avenue as soon as possible, **AT NO COST** to the local residents.

Respectfully,

Bill Armstrong  
Councillor, Ward 2