October 24, 2014

City of London
300 Dufferin Ave., P.O. Box 5035
London ON N6A 4L9

Regarding: Street Light on Hyde Park and South Carriage Roads

To Whom It May Concern:

The Hyde Park Business Association is supporting the community in its’ request for a streetlight to be installed immediately at the corner of Hyde Park and South Carriage Roads.

As such, we are requesting that this matter be placed on the Civic Works Committee Meeting taking place on November 3rd to gain a motion from the committee and Council for a supporting motion.

In the interest of public safety, residences, businesses, cyclists, pedestrians and motorists want a streetlight before a life is taken or seriously altered. This corner is an accident waiting to happen.

This matter is strongly supported by way of a petition that circulated throughout the community garnering over 600 signatures in just three weeks. In addition, on October 22 a “rally” was held at this corner by over 50 people to raise awareness of this situation. There were many honks in support of a streetlight. The strong voices of so many community members, and taxpayers cannot be ignored.

The Hyde Park Business Association formally began advocating for lights at this corner, along with the North Routledge / Hyde Park corner back in May 2013, well before the road widening commenced and continues to support this issue.

While the City of London Transport Planning Department has told us that traffic patterns as tested in March 2014 did not meet the minimum standards for a warrant as set by the Province, we question the true validity of the study. Most motorists avoid getting onto Hyde Park Road by way of South Carriage Road as it is typically impossible and dangerous – reverting to a longer, alternate route by way of Coronation over to Gainsborough. The traffic patterns that did meet the warrant for a light at this (Coronation/Gainsborough) intersection, we suggest, would have been directly impacted by this situation.

The reality is that with the Hyde Park Road widening, the traffic volume has actually dropped as motorists use alternate routes such as Wonderland Road. As soon as the construction winds down for the winter, the traffic volume will only increase again.

Accordingly, we understand that the only way to bypass the warrant is by way of Council support, and so we are respectfully requesting that the City of London Civic Works Committee recommend to City Council to direct staff to, in the interest of public safety and overwhelming public support, to immediately take steps to install a traffic light at the corner of Hyde Park and South Carriage Roads.

Thank-you for reviewing this recommendation and subsequent action taken.

Respectfully,
Donna, Szpakowski, President
Hyde Park Business Association