

To whom it may concern, I would like this to be made part of the public record.

I received the recommendation of the Planning Committee regarding the property at 8076 Longwoods Road. While i know my comments will probably have no influence on Councils decision, I feel I have a responsibility to voice them anyway.

While on paper , the recommendation looks reasonable, there are other factors that need to be considered.

The applicant has been in violation of the zoning bylaws for years. He has blatantly ignored the health and safety of neighbours, and motorists travelling on the highway. He has ignored the damage his livestock have caused to neighbouring crops, and properties. He is an opportunist, not a farmer. He has far too many animals on a small plot of land. He has not managed the issues with the manure. He has allowed live animals to live and feed amongst dead carcasses. He has invited coyotes to the area. He has had eight years to comply and fix fences, half of which consist of old pallets set on edge. He has infested the area with flies and odour. The livestock have been transported in enclosed trailers with no ventilation. A farmer would never do this.

He has been fined, and still not complied. After the last council meeting he cleaned up the property and removed the livestock, pending an inspection. He has since restocked the property with sheep. If this zoning change is allowed this bad behaviour will only continue. Regardless of what laws are put in place, why does anyone think he would start to comply now? Past behaviour is the best indication of future behaviour. If I were to apply for a bank loan, I would expect that they would look at my past financial behaviour. This should be no different.

I understand the “official plan” is encouraging agriculture in our area. i believe there is one essential component missing from the planning committees recommendation. Common Sense! Just because something can be done, doesn't mean it should be. The buffer numbers etc. may look good on paper, but common sense is missing from this equation!

What if the adjoining neighbour to the applicant, decided to put an addition on his home? He could only build toward the applicants property, as his house sits on the far border. What does that do to the buffer numbers? Would he then not be allowed to build on his own property? Or, what if something happened to his current home, and he decided to rebuild in a more central area of his property? What would happen to their numbers then?

The properties around the applicants were all severed from farms years before the “London Plan”. They are mostly 1 to 5 acre plots. They will never return to being farms. They are residential in nature. I can understand the city not allowing anymore farm land to be severed, but these are established residential areas. The corner of Longwoods and Murray Road is more rural settlement than agricultural, and has been for years! While there are crop farms around us, there are certainly no livestock operations.

I implore Council to apply some common sense in this situation. It is sorely missing from the Planning Committees recommendation.

Sincerely,

**Arlene Bulgin
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