

September 22, 2017

Civic Works Committee,  
City of London

I am a homeowner residing at 337 Regal Drive, the corner of Melsandra and Regal drive and opposite the back entrance to Hillcrest school.

Over the past several years your Committee ha been receiving reports from Environmental & Engineering Services about the Warranted Sidewalk Program. The most recent of these reports were prepared by the Transportation Planning & Design Division and was presented to and approved by your Committee on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

This is the plan which has been in the works for many years and would increase pedestrian safety as it connects to Fuller (Hillcrest School frontage) and Hillcrest Avenue. It is important to note that Hillcrest Avenue does not cross Regal Drive.

The Plan and accompanying maps with the sidewalk on the East Side of Regal, which you approved should remain in place.

We have received notices that Construction will begin September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The maps included with the Construction Notice places the Sidewalks on the West Side of Regal Drive. It will no longer connect with Fuller or Hillcrest and will end abruptly halfway down the block in a neighbour's driveway.

The relocation of the sidewalk is extremely concerning and although my neighbours and I have contacted the Transportation Planning and Design, Our Ward 3 Councillor and have had a meeting with the Project Manager, our concerns have not been addressed. Aside from the obvious safety concerns, the relocation of the sidewalk is an impediment to those with mobility issues, the destruction of trees which were planted prior to this area being annexed.

I do not know what agreement has been reached with homeowners located on Magnolia Gate to Regal and Fuller, but homeowners on the west side of Regal to Hillcrest want the plan to stop at Melsandra.

If we can provide you with any further information please let me know.

Regards,

Linda Purser-Conley,

P.S.

Please Do Not use the following Stock Answers as they tend to make us believe there is something more than what we, the homeowners are being told:

1. The survey group advised that it is better placement on the West Side. THE SURVEY GROUP WAS IN THIS AREA IN THE SUMMER OF 2016 WELL PRIOR TO KELLY SCHERR'S REPORT DELIVERED TO YOU IN FEBRUARY OF 2017.
2. The Street Lights are on the West Side. THE NEW STREET LIGHTS ILLUMINATE BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET. AS WE ARE MOSTLY RETIREES IN THIS AREA, WE HAVE TIME TO ASSESS THESE THINGS.
3. The London Plan calls for Sidewalks on both side of the street. THIS AREA WAS PROMISED SIDEWALKS 62 YEARS AGO. IF THAT IS THE CASE START WITH SAFETY IN MIND AND PUT THEM ON THE EAST SIDE. WHAT ABOUT THE STREET LIGHTS?
4. It is safer for the children walking to school. IN ORDER FOR HILLCREST STUDENTS TO USE A WEST SIDE SIDEWALK TO GO TO AND FROM SCHOOL, THEY WILL HAVE TO CROSS THE ROAD TWICE AT INTERSECTIONS THAT ONLY HAVE ONE OR TWO STOP SIGNS AND NO CROSSING GUARDS.
5. We will replace trees that are damaged. I HAVE TWO CITY TREES ON MY PROPERTY THAT I HAVE HAD PROFESSIONALLY FERTILIZED FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS. THE SIDEWALK WILL CUT THE ROOTS OF THE BLUE SPRUCE WHICH I WOULD ESTIMATE TO BE 50 YEARS OLD. IT WILL BE LOST. 11 OTHER TREES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WILL NEED TO BE REMOVED/REPLACED.
6. The sidewalk will be continued from where it abruptly ends in the middle of s driveway. TO CONTINUE THE SIDEWALK WILL RESULT IN THE REMOVAL OF A TREE WHICH IS PART OF THE ORIGINAL REGAL HOUSE AND IS WELL OVER 70 YEARS OLD.
7. Please do not quote the London Plan unless you are willing to give me a page number.
8. A student was involved in an accident last year. THIS STUDENT WAS PUSHED FROM THE SIDEWALK ON MELSANDRA.
9. The Planning and Design Department can change plans as "alignment". ALIGNMENT IS NOT LOCATION.