

July 9, 2012

Dear Delegation,

My name is Mark Fenton and I am a White Oaks resident steering a project that has been in the works for a couple of years now. It began with a Safe Schools walk around the area led by Public Health Nurse, Denise Walsh, and a group of nursing students. A number of areas around the schools zone were high-lighted for improvement including this particular project, namely the tunnel that underpasses Bradley Ave. connecting White Oaks Public School and Rick Hanson Public School. The children and residents are reluctant to use the tunnel as it is dark and the victim of ill-use. I proposed in a meeting hosted by Councillor Usher that we "reclaim" the tunnel by creating a mural to help instill some neighbourhood pride and some community involvement. The idea was well received so we moved forward with it and we were granted approval with the assistance of the Manager of Municipal and Cultural Policy: Robin Armistead and Andrea Halwa of the Arts Council. An artist has now been selected for the project and work is set to begin in September.

The issue we are having is lighting the area. The current lighting is dim, in fact the lighting all along that road is very dim. We are asking that the Council revisit or request to improve the lighting at each end of the tunnel to highlight the mural and keep the area visible to deter vandals etc. \$20,000 was the proposed replacement cost for four lights. We'd like to ask a member of council or an appropriate representative to come to the area after dark and re-assess the situation. We feel this would protect the current investment in the project.

As some of you may know, White Oaks School has been selected to be the location of the Neighbourhood Family and Child Centre, so making this tunnel safer benefits that situation as well, by enabling safe access from the north side of Bradley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Mark Fenton