

From: Michelle Koch
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 8:25 AM
To: van Holst, Michael <mvanholst@london.ca>; PEC <pec@london.ca>
Subject: Unattended alley ways

Good Morning,

My name is Michelle Koch Denomme and I have resided at 24 Redan Street since 1996. This is a charming little street that has had its ups and downs. There is an unattended fire lane that runs north to south behind my house. This unattended lane has been the source of problems from the day I moved in.

Approximately 9 years a fellow neighbour and myself began a petition to have this alley way closed. We were successful in getting city permission to do so but because of a bylaw it fell through. Apparently it was all or nothing with all the neighbours on each side of the alley having to agree to the closure plus being willing to move fences and assume property. Some of the neighbours closer the Nelson street exit decided the lane was not a problem. Due to a city bylaw we were unable to move forward with the sale of the land.

I am here to let you know it most certainly is a problem. It is unmaintained by the city and has become overgrown with weeds and trees. This makes it a perfect haven for drug use, prostitution and squatting. The situation has been exacerbated by the rampant use of drugs in the past few years. There are many children that live in this neighbourhood. It is frustrating to have my child constantly coming to me saying "Mommy, there's someone in the alley behind our house again"

The area behind my house is strewn with garbage. It is littered with used condoms, dime bags and discarded needles. This is a hazard to every one. Not only does this occur but also prostitution occurs and other activity.

For example, in the last month alone I have witnessed not only drug use, but men receiving fellatio from women, intercourse, and most recently a gentleman lying on the ground with his pants around his ankles masturbating. These occurrences happen in broad daylight! There are also many other activities that occur at night.

Directly behind my house I have removed dirty mattresses, furniture, and sleeping bags. This is not an environment I want my child to see or grow up in.

I implore you to change the bylaw and allow for closure of this alley way. This is the only way this behaviour will stop. It is apparent the City of London has forgotten about this end of town and chooses to focus on other areas. I have been in contact with my city councilor to help get forward movement on this motion. If not the entire alley closed I would at least like to have the area closed close to Hamilton Road. I am more than willing to assume the property and move my fence so the alley is no longer passable.

This is city owned property that is not being maintained by the city. It is extremely frustrating to see and hear this behaviour ever day. I want my child and the other children of this neighbour to be able to play in the own backyards without fear of needles, discarded condoms and other items. One hundred years ago this was meant to be a fire lane. In today's society there is no way a fire truck would ever be able to get to through the alley to serve the purpose it was originally intended for.

Thank You
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Have Faith and Trust that things will work out in the End