

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

### 3.10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Application – Lambeth Area Community Improvement Plan (O-9044)

- C. Guimond, 3256 Maidstone Lane – stating that he lives in Talbot Village in the newer part of Lambeth; indicating that he has been a resident there since 2005; stating that he has three children, one is 25 one is 12 one is 10; expressing thanks to Council for hearing him and to Mayor Ed Holder and to all of the other community members here tonight; indicating that to give some context, he is just like most people here, he is a community member and he has a family; stating that his son went to Lambeth, his oldest son, and his two sons now play sports there; stating that he is quite grateful for all the infrastructure money that has gone into this and thank you very much for all the planning and hard work that he has seen to date; indicating that he thinks that it has been a long road and much appreciated; noting that he thinks there is still work to do and we got a ways to go; stating that he has a major concern about the intersection at Campbell Street and Wharncliffe Road, as it comes in and turns into a main street; stating that for years it has been four lanes all the way through and with this change now four lanes to west bound to east bound turns into three lanes; indicating that there have been two people have gone to hospital because of an accident that has happened there and one of the community members that is with him tonight was also staring; stating that those who live there kind of know what is supposed to happen but he was sitting in the middle lane waiting to take a turn and somebody was coming in hot and swerves to avoid him and he saw his life flash before his eyes; stating that his big issue that he wants to have addressed as soon as possible is for everybody's safety is to implement some sort of a change; indicating that he has written down a couple of suggestions do something about or increase the signage in at that intersection, he is not sure exactly what that would look like but he is sure that the city planners would have some good input; noting that speed signage, as you are heading into Lambeth down Wharncliffe, that shows you how fast you are going so that people can slow down; indicating that the posted limit now is around eighty kilometers an hour or at least seventy so he thinks that it would be helpful; stating that he knows it is affective when he is traveling through the city and he sees those signs flashing at him; indicating that maybe having traffic heading into Lambeth slow down sooner, maybe as early as Bostwick Road, and then, maybe, in conjunction with these changes, have frequent police presence just to get people to note take note; indicating that he does believe that this is quite important; that that his kids are going to be cycling around, they go to school in Lambeth, they are going to be cycling around; stating that he walks across that intersection and he commutes there and he travels through there and he does business there; stating that he thinks that is the most important one that needs to be addressed; indicating that at South Routledge to Main Street there has been a concrete planter that was put up in the middle, he believes that is what is going to be in there, and he thinks it has a good traffic calming measure, but where it is placed is causing major disruption with the traffic going in and out of that parking lot; stating that there is a post office there, there is an LCBO, there is an ice cream shop as well and he thinks a coffee shop, so it gets used frequently and just how people can enter and exit that he thinks needs to be better controlled; noting that he does not know what would have to happen there but that is another point of concern so maybe change the way that island is extended, maybe make it block more of that parking lot so that you can only enter it if you are heading east and probably signage as well, because right now it is signed to be a one way out and one way in and people are using both the exit of the parking lot they are using it to go in and out of which, with the signage the way that it is; indicating that he would like to know what the next steps are or feedback is about making these changes; *(Councillor A. Hopkins suggesting that he take some of his concerns to the Civic*

*Works Committee and there are staff here from Transportation, as well, making notes on the concerns.)*

- Mark Drew - indicating that he is local president of the Lambeth B&B group and he also owns a business within the proposed community improvement plan subzone for the Main Street and Colonel Talbot area and is also a resident of the Talbot Village neighbourhood, which is also within Lambeth and he has a few comments, concerns, questions for both the Committee and the planners involved; expressing thanks to everybody for taking the comments, this is a lot of work and sometimes it feels like not a lot of reward; stating that he will not harp too much on the Main Street issue as, like it was said, it is not a part of it but his one comment is that when I look at the community improvement plan and what it is suggesting, and he looks at the actual work that has been done so far on the main street construction, it does not add up as being something where the city necessarily is focused on improving the community, so to speak; indicating that he feels that a lot of issues that were brought up in that planning from the community were not addressed in now we do have those issues and if we are being expected to get involved with the city again in a way to develop our community that we all care about, and the Main Street construction is the first introduction to Lambeth residents as what it is going to be like to work with the city, he does not think you will be surprised if you find there is a lot of push back and negative feedback on some of the ideas that come forward because he thinks the general consensus is that Lambeth was its own community before London annexed it in 1993, so it did develop its own culture and its own type of identity and up for a lot of residents when the CIP is coming in and the city is essentially making a pitch to that community to work with them, it is going to be difficult to convince them if the work that is being done, like the Main Street construction, is the way to introduce that; indicating that in his opinion, the issue with that work is that there was nobody held accountable for problems that happened during that construction; stating that for him it is hard to trust the city to do other projects in that community when something happens on another job in that community and nobody takes accountability, either through the city or through the contractor that was making the mistake; noting that he would also like to suggest, with the CIP, is essentially, if it is approved tonight and city goes to do these things, engage with the community, is to start with a non-major project or small sub-project within any of those areas because it will give you an opportunity to work with the community; stating that he is suggesting something along the lines of a park the, plaque for the London airport does make sense to put at the Cenotaph because it is already a monument to World Wars and to the veterans of that community and since the airport, itself, has a connection to the World War II and the industry and Lambeth community, it makes sense to put that there and he thinks it would provide an opportunity for the city and for the people that they are hiring to do the work to have a non-major, non-threatening start and then he thinks the city will learn through those types of interactions what the community of Lambeth really prioritize and values and then with the CIP he thinks there is enough flexibility built in that you can take the ideas of the community on the ground and put them into practice by putting the things people actually want to see and essentially you will have the opportunity to learn more about what Lambeth this is like in a format that is not standing up here in meetings and holding committees at events where the city is set those things up; stating that he thinks there is a lot of value to going to the community events in a “non-formal” way, as a city official or community member or something like that, because you will meet people in the community that go to those events and care a lot about the community but are not necessarily the kind of people that show up to these types of meetings and put their comments in that way; indicating that there is a lot of value to those types of people's comments in that community and he thinks that if the CIP goes forward and works with that in mind that is probably the most positive way to start a relationship with the veterans and the old Lambeth guard.
- Cathy Melo, Member, Lambeth Community Executive Association, 1538 Thornley Street - indicating that they found the Lambeth Community Improvement Plan very vague and she has some questions about what is not in the Plan; stating

that they have been asking for a number of years for a crosswalk on Colonel Talbot Road as they have a unique situation where the houses are on one side of Colonel Talbot Road and the facilities such as the arena, the library and the splash pad are on the other side; advising that Colonel Talbot Road is going to be a four lane highway and they do not have any way of getting across so that is a concern that they have; pointing out the other thing about the Lambeth Community Improvement Plan is that it talked about connections and they have been asking for years for a sidewalk from Main Street all the way down to Diana Crescent in Southwinds; noting that Southwinds has never been connected to the main part of Lambeth; mentioning that the gentleman that was over there that was talking about the corner of Campbell and Main Street, what the corner actually needs is an advanced light because there is a bit of a curve there in front of where the daycare centre is and that is why there are so many accidents is that they need to get the left hand vehicles out of the way so that people can see, it has to transition.

- Joy Bevin, 15-7222 Clayton Walk – expressing concern that their community is a fair distance away from the shopping districts and what she sees or does not see is comprehensive system planning in terms of increasing traffic flow within the area; advising that they have so many developments being built up in this surrounding area that are going to affect long-term ability for people to be able to get around; noting that there is a lot of focus on bikes and walking and that is great, they love the walking paths but many of them are senior citizens and they are not going to be able to bike to the Foodland or to the No Frills; asking for better road systems to improve flow; expressing frustration when she hears that that is not part of the Lambeth Area Community Improvement Plan because she thinks we need, as a city, to look at it systemically.

- Arlene Carroll, 6720 James Street – indicating that she has been a member of the Lambeth community for over fifty years and over this time she has found that, especially since they have become part of the city, Lambeth has been neglected and now with this Improvement Plan, it does not even seem to touch on what really needs to go on in our town; believing that if they are going to be part of this city, and they pay their property taxes as part of this city, they need busing for the kids, they need more things for their kids to do; noting that her daughter does not live in London anymore, she lives in Toronto but all these younger kids need something more to do in our community, there needs to be more done for them; advising that she lives where the new Campbell Street is being pulled through, where they are putting the houses between Pack Road and James Street and we need to make sure that there is a safe way for the kids coming from the Lambeth new Beattie Street when they walk to school that one side gets pulled through, there is a safe way for them to cross the street; pointing out that you do not know how many times they have seen kids almost hit, people blow through the sign at the baseball diamond, especially the construction workers, they blow through that stop sign and she does not know how many times they have had near misses, people getting hit, car accidents and something needs to be done about that right away; expressing agreement with the gentleman who spoke about the flower boxes on Main Street, other than once the flowers are established, they might look pretty, but number one, they are an eyesore and the one he spoke about near the liquor store, there have been accidents, somebody is going to lose their life trying to turn into that area, it is too dangerous, it needs to come out; indicating that she has been driving that road for approximately thirty-five years and with that in the way, it is hard to see, it really is; something needs to be done, even if it is lowered or made longer, but the height it is at really blocks people seeing oncoming traffic; outlining that it is mentioned in the Community Improvement Plan about drainage and sewers; indicating that this is all new to her because they have been fighting for the twenty-five years that she has owned a house in Lambeth, for sewers and they keep being told there is no room, there is no room, there is no room; advising that in the meantime they are building all these new subdivisions around them and they are all on sewers but she still has a septic tank; indicating that she pays her taxes like everybody else; wondering why she has to have a septic tank and they have proper sewers; indicating that her

basement floods because of the topography, the land has changed over time of all this new construction, it is going to flood even more; something needs to be done, all of these things need to be kept in mind for all of use that live in the older part of town.