

Hello Members of the Civic Works Committee!

I grant the City permission to publish the following communication on the next CWC agenda!

**Topic** - Ill planned construction will cost more money than waiting for a more appropriate time

**History** - The following is a photo taken along Oxford Street East, between Industrial Road and Veterans Memorial Parkway.



It was around 1 1/2 years ago, when the sidewalk was installed along the south side of Oxford Street.

It is easy to see the 'joint' made on Oxford Street where the road was 'cut-back' to allow for the installation of sidewalk concrete forms!

I see two major problems here....

1) The 'joint' on the road surface runs exactly parallel with the right side tires of motor vehicles. If drivers try to avoid this 'joint' they are risking hitting the sidewalk or driving outside of their lane. Because of this, the 'joint' is receiving a lot of continuous stress. There are already many potholes along this stretch of road.... this photo is of the largest one!

2) The new road (that is from the 'joint' to the sidewalk) has so much stress on it that it has already warped along the entire road. This warping of the asphalt collects water that freezes in the winter (making the road a greater hazard for drivers) and this collecting water also helps to create more potholes!

**Discussion** - I may not be a supporter of sidewalks in areas where there is so little foot traffic that the sidewalk seems to be a waste of money and resources, but I am a supporter of better planning. Because the construction happened when it did, unnecessary stresses have been added to Oxford Street and this can only mean that this stretch of road will need maintenance sooner... costing Londoners more money! As mentioned.... there are already potholes in the road surface and therefore maintenance is already needed!

This sidewalk installation would have been more appropriately timed if it was scheduled to be built at the same time as this road was scheduled for repair or upgrading. It's that simple!

**Support** - Several months ago, I was communicating with a city staff member who wrote "As a Transportation Design Engineer, I would prefer to not see the road cut into anywhere!"

## Item 4.2

**Motion** - I would like the CWC to investigate this matter, more completely, with the hopes that a motion could be made, or a policy changed, that would ensure that road cuts for construction purposes are minimized. I would also like to see planning and construction schedules changed so that projects like this are embarked upon when the neighbouring road is in need of repair or maintenance thus eliminating all unnecessary road cuts!

Thanks for your time and consideration

Jim Kogelheide