

February 16, 2021

Councillor Steve Lehman
London City Hall,
London, Ontario

Councillor Lehman:

Please find attached, a petition against the installation of a new sidewalk on Tarbart Terrace during the watermain replacement project. This petition contains 62 homeowners' signatures and clearly demonstrates the overwhelming support for the cancellation of the proposed sidewalk.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of those who have signed the petition.

William S. Yovetich PhD
Richard B. Tribe, P Eng

Cc:

Mayor Ed Holder
Project Manager, Gage Gonyou

PETITION

PROJECT NOTICE:

TARBART TERRACE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT DATED JANUARY 25, 2021

The proposed work detail includes a new sidewalk on Tarbart Terrace where one did not exist before. In discussion with Mr. Gage Gonyou, Project Manager, we have now learned that the sidewalk will be on the side of the road with even house numbers, crossing 32 homes. The sidewalk will be located approximately 1.5 meters in from the inside of the curb and will be approximately 1.5 meters wide making the inside edge of the sidewalk (house side) 3 meters from the curb.

The following are concerns with regard to the construction of a new sidewalk:

1. **Safety.** There is very little traffic on Tarbart Terrace therefore safety concerns are not an issue. Most students use the path through the park to get to school. Those walking dogs or out for exercise use Tarbart Terrace because it is safe.
2. **Environmental assessment.** The Federal Government continues to promote the planting of trees yet the construction of a sidewalk would require the removal of many mature trees which could not be replaced. In addition, many trees would suffer damage to the root structure leading to potential problems down the road. Surely the objective should be to preserve as many trees as possible.
3. **Streetscape improvements.** One of the objectives on the proposed work detail was streetscape improvements. With the removal of shrubs, trees and substantial regrading, the overall streetscape of Tarbart Terrace would not be improved. Most homes have installed curbs or retaining walls at the edge of the driveway. In many cases the wall is used to facilitate elevation difference between the driveway and the lawn or neighbouring properties. Any installation of a sidewalk would require substantial rework and grading.
4. **Construction timeline.** With the addition of a sidewalk, the project would take longer, adding further frustration to home owners and result in an increase in cost.
5. **Other.** There are many streets in the area that are far busier than Tarbart Terrace which do not have sidewalks.

To proceed with installation of a sidewalk when it is not necessary and not supported by the homeowners would be, in our opinion inconsiderate if not irresponsible. Therefore, we would strongly request that the installation of a new sidewalk on Tarbart Terrace be cancelled.

We the undersigned are in agreement with this petition.