

Dear Ms. Saunders, City Clerk, City of London

Attached is a petition from the home owners of East Afton Place opposing the installation of sidewalks during the reconstruction of East Afton Place this summer. Please forward this opposition to the Civic Works Committee for consideration and furtherance to City Council for decision.

Opposition to sidewalks on East Afton Place is almost unanimous. There are 12 homes on the street; 10 owners have voiced opposition (see attached petition), one is deceased with the property in estate probate, and the other is an absentee landlord who could not be contacted in time for this submission.

East Afton Place is a short dead end street. It is not a thoroughfare for vehicle or pedestrian traffic. Traffic is limited to the 12 residences on the street. Of the 12 residences on the street, the proposed sidewalk fronts on 5 residences on the south side of the street. Pedestrians from the other 7 residences would still need to use the street in order to access the proposed sidewalk. As a result, vehicle and pedestrian traffic would still need to coexist on the street, as it has for the past 60 years. Considering the negligible volume of local only traffic, many of those pedestrians might possibly continue to use the street for their journey instead of the sidewalk.

Properties directly affected by the sidewalk installation will have an approximate 50 percent reduction in driveway parking capability after sidewalk installation. This will cause periodic increases in on-street parking which creates additional vehicle and pedestrian safety concerns. There may also be an adverse impact to the value of the affected properties which will, in turn, adversely impact assessment value and tax revenue.

Since funds for capital works are always scarce, the money for this sidewalk can be better spent on other streets where vehicle and pedestrian volumes pose a far greater safety concern.

Regards,

Trevor McLeod  
16 East Afton Place