

City of London
Civic Works Committee

Re: Proposed Sidewalk on St. Anthony Road

We are contacting you regarding our opposition to the proposed sidewalk on St. Anthony Road. Although this sidewalk does not affect us directly as our home is not situated on this strip of St. Anthony, we are unclear as to how this sidewalk meets the criteria identified under the City of London Prioritization Factors for Warranted Sidewalk Program listed on your website.

This is a mature subdivision connected by five small local roads. Those of us who have purchased homes in this neighbourhood did so knowing that there are no sidewalks and recognizing that traffic volumes are low. St. Anthony Road does not provide any "short cut" to any other destination as there are no schools, bus routes, retail or any other community centres or services that would require vehicle traffic from outside the neighbourhood. We recognize that the issue of accessibility is an important one but there is no indication that any of our neighbours do not feel safe walking on either side of the roadway. It is my understanding from talking with neighbours with mobility issues that they in fact have more safety concerns utilizing sidewalks which can be uneven or unlevel, causing issues of tripping or slipping.

It does appear from the information we have obtained from the city, that this sidewalk is one small strip, does not connect to any other sidewalks and would not really solve the issue of insuring that our neighbourhood would be "safer" for walking as it would only increase the proposed "safety" for eighteen homes. If the cost of installing the sidewalk during the warranted road construction is the City's attempt at being fiscally responsible, we question how fiscally responsible it is to be asking the tax payers of this neighbourhood to fund something that they do not want or feel would benefit their accessibility or safety in the neighbourhood.

Sincerely
Gary O'Neill
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