

My name is Richard Tribe. My wife and I bought on Tarbart Terrace about 2 ½ years ago. At the time we were looking to down size because of age and health reasons. We were looking for a small house on a quiet street with very little traffic. The house on Tarbart suited our needs. The street is quiet with very little traffic. People do walk on the road and many have dogs. They walk on the road because it is a pleasant area to walk that is safe. Recently my wife was talking to young man walking his dog. He said that he walked on this street because it was a pleasant area and safe. He went on to say that he was walking on a sidewalk and fell and injured himself. He therefore, preferred to walk on the road.

About the first of Feb. we received a notice in the mail titled Tarbart Terrace Watermain Replacement Project dated January 25, 2021. Contained in the proposed work details were 2 words "New sidewalk" with no further explanation. I contacted Gage Gonyou, Project Manager, and was shocked to find that a sidewalk was to be installed for the entire length of Tarbart on the south side. This the first we had heard of the sidewalk although it had been planned for some time. As neighbours began to understand what was happening, they started to become concerned. Given the short time to respond, the fact we are in the middle of a pandemic and in the middle of winter the only logical action was to circulate a petition. That petition was delivered to your office on Feb. 15. As a participant in conducting the petition I was privy to many of the comments as we went around. Some of these comments can be summarized as follows:

- The sidewalk is not needed or required.
- Safety has never been and is not now an issue on this street.
- The installation of a sidewalk would significantly damage the overall appearance of Tarbart Terrace.
- Home values would be negatively impacted.
- It is a complete waste of taxpayers' money.

It is interesting to note that the only person that uses a wheelchair is **not** in favour of a sidewalk.

I recently asked Gage Gonyou why a sidewalk was to be installed when it is not needed or supported by the homeowners. He stated that it was a requirement under the Accessibilities for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. I searched the web for any such reference under the act and could not find any. If there is such a requirement, I would be interested in receiving a copy so I can understand it. I also asked how the installation of a sidewalk enhanced the streetscape. I did not get an answer to my question.

I used to live in Merrickville and have remained in touch with old friends. It is interesting to note that Merrickville is in the process of removing sidewalks on streets that are not busy. The reason given is to reduce cost, mainly for snow removal and improve appearance.

It is obvious that there is over whelming support for not installing sidewalks and that portion of the project must be cancelled. I understand that this is on the agenda for the March 2 council meeting. Because of COVID 19 I will not be attending as I am considered high risk {over 80 with type 1 diabetes}. I am, however prepared to discuss this matter with you or any other member of council. My contacts are as follows:

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