

Dear Mr. Van Meerbergen,

It has come to our attention that there is a proposal for the installation of sidewalks on Bartlett Cr., in Westmount. We are most concerned about the possibility of this occurring and would like to express our reasons for opposing this proposal.

First of all, Bartlett Crescent is a lovely street, with very little traffic. We have lived on this street for 25 years and we have never considered the need for sidewalks. Our children grew up playing ball hockey, tennis and other games on the street and they were rarely interrupted by traffic. Our neighbours and pedestrians feel safe walking on our street, without sidewalks.

Our second concern is the diminishment of the curbside appeal and the property value of our home. We have invested a great deal of time and expense in improving and maintaining our property and we take great pride in our accomplishments. Should a sidewalk be put in our yard, we would lose a beautiful cedar tree which stands over 25 foot tall and provides us with a great deal of shade. On our daily walks in Westmount, we often comment on how unfortunate it is that some properties have been severed in half by sidewalks and that we are so thankful that we do not have that situation, yet!

Thirdly, we are worried that with reduced parking in driveways, more cars will be parked on the street. This is a safety concern, especially when young children are playing on the street.

Another issue that may arise is the property damage that might occur because of sidewalk plows. We see the messes created on many of our neighbouring streets, when sidewalks are plowed. Often, the sidewalks are so poorly maintained that it is far easier for us to walk on the streets.

Our final concern is that the installation of sidewalks would require the removal of 9 trees on 13 properties on our little street. This would greatly impact the appearance of our street and its environment. Not great for our lovely forest city!

In conclusion, we are opposed to the proposal of sidewalks being installed on Bartlett Crescent. Surely, the city could find better use of funds being wasted on unwanted and unnecessary projects. We would appreciate information regarding whom else we should contact regarding this matter.

Yours truly,
Patti and Brad Traylen
40 Bartlett Cr.