

Councilor Paul VanMeerburgen

I received a hand delivered notice from a neighbour on Feb 13 warning us of the proposed sidewalk construction on Bartlett Cr in the upcoming 2021 road reconstruction. I also received a hand delivered notice (from you?) on Saturday Feb 13 providing additional information on the proposed Bartlett Cr sidewalk works.

I wish to express my strong objection to the proposed Bartlett Cr sidewalk whether it is on the east or the west side(s) of the street. Sidewalk on Bartlett Cr was never contemplated in the original design of the subdivision back in 1973 and, in my opinion, is not needed in 2021.

My reasons for objecting are as follows:

- Sidewalks are not needed for pedestrian safety or access - vehicular traffic is very light. There is little to no connecting traffic between Viscount Rd and Barclay Rd via Bartlett Cr or Kinnear Cr.
- There is already an existing sidewalk connection between Viscount Rd and Barclay Rd via the existing sidewalk on Kinnear Cr.
- Access to existing sidewalk from any house on Bartlett Cr is, at most, 160m which is less than many cul-de-sac locations in the city where no sidewalk is contemplated under the CoL overall planning guidelines.
- The construction of new sidewalk in this neighborhood will negatively impact existing trees and landscaping. Tree planting, landscape grading and hard landscaping have all been carried out on the assumption that the original road layout would not be changed. Sidewalk construction will result in removing a number of mature trees and would create some difficult landscape grading issues - particularly at the SEC Bartlett/Kinnear intersection and the corner lot, east side, on the Bartlett Cr curve. These houses will have significant grade issues if the sidewalk/boulevards are constructed as per City of London standards and will lose a significant portions of their overall lawns to new sidewalk/boulevard construction.
- The construction of new sidewalk along Bartlett Cr will cause great hardship for a number of homeowners whose homes were originally constructed with no expectation of future sidewalk across their frontage. The removal of 3.0m-4.5m of usable driveway parking space will create parking issues and likely reduce the value of their homes if only 1 car can be parked on site. A 1 car parking limitation may be acceptable in new construction as the purchaser is aware of the the limitations of what he is contemplating. Unfortunately if serious limitations that reduce the utility or value of a home are imposed afterwards, homeowners are blindsided with little ability to adjust.

I am a long time resident on Bartlett Cr - 46 years from the time it was initially serviced and the roadway originally constructed. **I strongly object to the proposed sidewalk installation** that, in my opinion, is not needed or wanted and whose costs and downsides far outweigh any perceived benefits.

On a side note I am a little disturbed that, on Saturday, Ugo deCandido definitely states that the Construction Notices were delivered to all residents on Friday afternoon when,

in reality, the official notices were not delivered until 3 days later, around noon, Monday Feb 15. 59 Bartlett Cr has a clearly visible and accessible mailbox and the delivery person had no issues in delivering the official CoL notice on Monday. I question whether the notices would have been delivered at all if homeowners had not contacted you to intervene on our behalf.

Thank you for being concerned with the wishes of the Bartlett Cr residents and for standing up on our behalf. Should you have any questions on my position or would like to discuss this matter further please contact me via phone or email.

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