

Michele Buist
4108 New St, Burlington ON

May 30, 2018

Mr. Jack Dennison
Ward 4
City of Burlington Councillor
426 Brant St, Burlington ON

I am happy to see that the speed limit on New St is on the agenda for the June 5, 2018 Council meeting. I am writing to you in support of reducing the speed limit on New Street to 50KM maximum.

Understanding that this is an arterial road, so too are Lakeshore Rd, Walkers Line and Appleby Line, all of which are mostly posted 50km/hr maximum limits south of the QEW. I have downloaded a map from the City of Burlington website and included it here for reference regarding arterial road classification. Unlike Mainway or Upper Middle Rd and other like arterial roads, New St is largely residential with driveways emptying onto it. New St has some of the highest proportion of residential frontage among all of our 60km/hr maximum streets. Other arterial streets with this degree of residential frontage have already been posted as 50km/hr maximums.

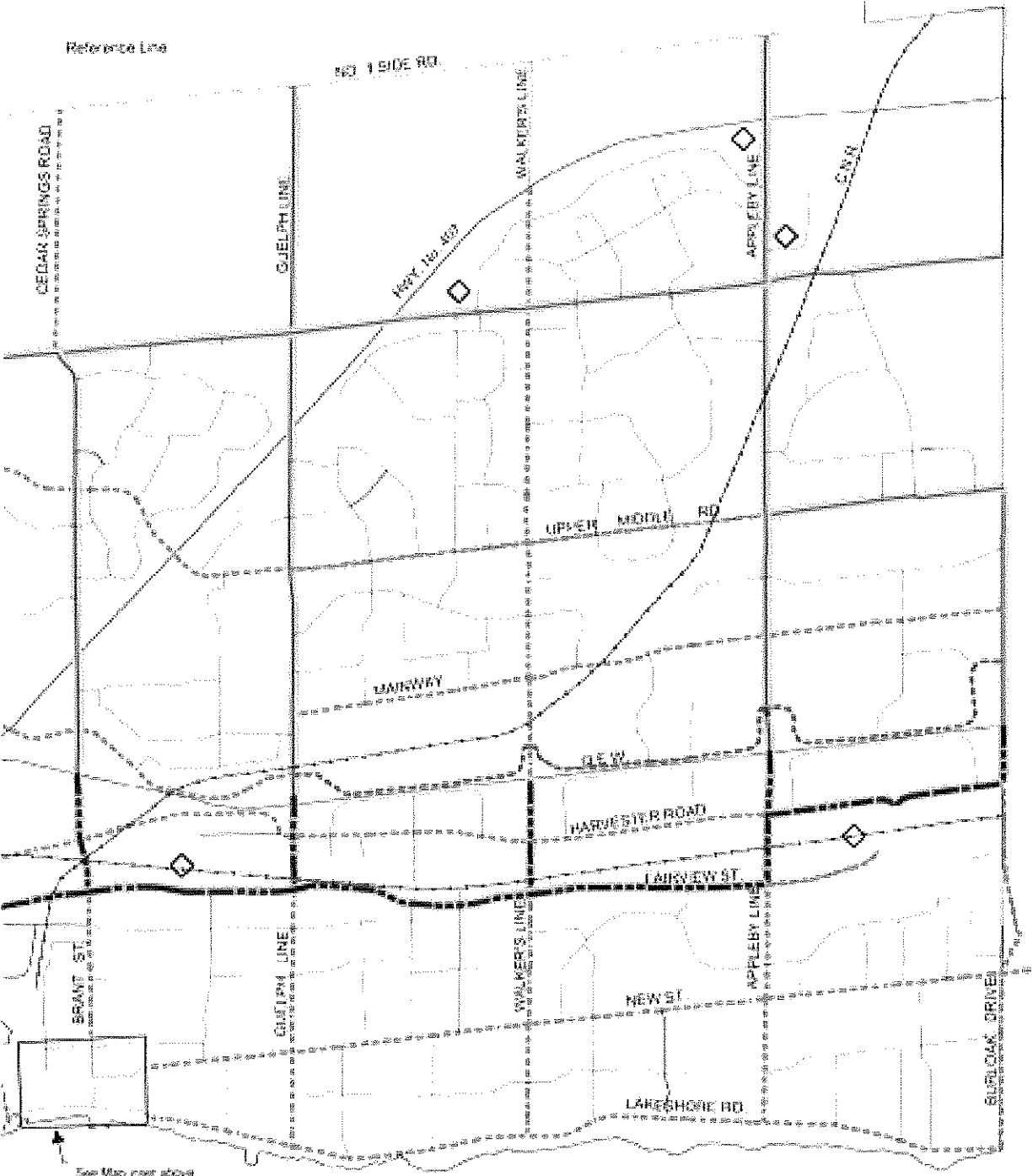
I also understand from speaking with someone in Burlington Transit that New St is under capacity in terms of the volume of traffic it is able to support compared to the volume it is handling today. A fact that I am certain will change as we realize future residential intensification downtown.

This road way is shared by residential homes, schools, recreational and community centres, churches and small businesses. These are the anchors of our community in many ways. And make no mistake, this an active pedestrian neighbourhood. For example, school classes out for daily walks around the block or to the park, kids from Nelson and Robert Bateman walking to and from the plazas mid day for lunch, people out walking and cycling, and so on. In our case, our daughter is in a wheelchair and we greatly value the proximity of some of these businesses and schools as it enables her to participate actively in her neighbourhood as a pedestrian where she can wheel about with her friends.

However, safety is a factor as we have witnessed high speeds, blown traffic lights, inattentive drivers, and even drivers passing her school bus despite the flashing lights and bus stop sign deployed as she boards the wheelchair lift onto the bus. While there are traffic violation complaint measures we can initiate, our goal should be to proactively support actions that help make our street safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Safety for the residents of New Street should be the primary concern for the City of Burlington.

Sincerely,





LAKE ONTARIO