

**Delegation to City of Burlington**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**Monday, January 8, 2024**  
item 6

By: Lawrence Stasiuk  
Linwood Crescent  
Burlington, ON

**RE: No. Sidewalks on Bromley Road, Linwood Crescent and Maureen Court  
in response to Staff Report TS-01-24, agenda item 12.2**

(Title Slide 1)

Chair and Members of the Committee of the Whole  
City Staff and members of the public

Good morning,

My name is Lawrence Stasiuk. I am delegating today with my wife, Sue Stasiuk. We have lived on Linwood Crescent since 1995 - 28 years. I am a Landscape Architect by profession. I want to thank you for the opportunity to address you this morning.

(Slide 2, Introduction)

In your agenda under item 12.2, you will be deliberating staff report TS-01-024 for Proposed sidewalk infill on Bromley Road, Linwood Crescent and Maureen Court. I am here today representing the impacted residents who reside on these streets that have signed 3 petitions opposing all new sidewalks on these streets.

Report TS-01-24 is flawed. The staff report does not provide a balanced perspective of the issues. Sidewalks are not required. I will speak to the threats this proposal poses to our neighbourhood and the points not mentioned in the report.

Citizens are opposed to the sidewalks  
Threat to the Environment  
A huge waste of taxpayer's money  
I will ask you to Please vote NO to the recommendations

### (Slide 3, Points of Opposition)

We are opposed to these sidewalks on substantial points

- Sidewalks are NOT supported by any evidence
- NOT required by any regulation
- NOT wanted by residents on these streets
- CHANGES the character of the neighbourhood
- Removes and/or injures mature trees
- ELIMINATES required on-street parking
- Does not properly consider other City policies
- the Public Engagement process has been insulting
- Unnecessary and wasteful expense

### (Slide 4 - Character of the Neighbourhood<sup>5</sup>)

Our streets form part of Elizabeth Gardens Neighbourhood in south-east Burlington. The community was constructed around 1961. All of the subject streets, as well as many others not part of this proposal, have not had sidewalks for over 62 years. The neighbourhood is characterized by mature trees, large driveways, and established landscapes. People share the roadway with bicycles and vehicles and have done so for over 60 years. We have observed traffic slowing down and giving way when seeing pedestrians on the street. We are a walkable and desirable community with established landscapes.

### (Slide 4 - Public Engagement)

First of all, I want to acknowledge the support of Ward 5 Councillor Paul Sharman and his staff who have always answered our questions and met with us in-person. We thank you.

We feel the City of Burlington Public Engagement Policy has not been properly followed. In fact, it has been insulting.

- Report TS-01-24 fails to mention the 3 petitions in opposition
- Fails to state 94% of impacted residents do NOT want the sidewalks
- Does not state over 60 people attended the PIC who voiced their opposition
- Report does not include an appendix of all letters, emails and comments sent in by area residents
- Option 4A was NEVER presented to the residents
- There was NO PUBLIC CONSULTATION about removing on-street parking

- Does not include an “Option 5 – Do Nothing” as requested by the Ward 5 Councillor at the PIC

#### (Slide 6 - Petition Results)

For your benefit, I have prepared a chart summarizing the 3 petitions opposing these sidewalks. As you can see, 100% of residents on Linwood Cres, 94% of residents on Bromley between Linwood & White Pines, 100% on Maureen Court and 88% on Bromley Road do not want these sidewalks. In aggregate, the opposition is 94% opposing the sidewalks. The results are overwhelming. Never reported to City Council.

Prior to and following the PIC of October 25, 2023, citizens sent in comments, emails and letters to city staff and elected officials. None of these were acknowledged or responded to in this report as per the policy. I am disappointed that all of the correspondence submitted by the citizens were not attached to this report so that each of you could read and make your own assessment of our concerns and desires.

#### (Slide 7 - Option 4A -Fundamental Change)

Sidewalk Infill Option No. 4A was never shown to the public. I received the plan just 4 days ago from our Councillor. Staff have narrowed the road from Linwood to White Pines. The narrowing results in a loss of 70 parking spaces on Bromley Rd. and 4 on-street parking spaces on Maureen Court. These impacts were never presented to the public and we were not consulted on these impacts. The report states "Staff do not anticipate vehicle trips to the park." This is NOT true. Residents frequently drive to the park, particularly after they pick up children from school.

This is a fundamental change from what was represented at the PIC. This action is disingenuous, cynical, sneaky and quite frankly, extremely offensive to the citizens of Burlington.

#### (Slide 8 - Sidewalk warrants)

We have asked for and not received any evidence of traffic accidents affecting pedestrians. In Table 4 of the staff report, the Warrant Recommendations state sidewalks are NOT warranted on Linwood Crescent or Maureen Court.

The warrant suggests placing sidewalks on one side of Bromley Rd, however, the number of dwellings can be debated. Staff have used 90 dwellings on Bromley. We have identified 18 dwellings on Bromley between Linwood and White Pines and 23

dwelling on Bromley between White Pines and Cheltenham fronting the street currently without sidewalks. Each section does not warrant a sidewalk, however, it is possible staff have counted all dwellings including those currently with sidewalks in their analysis.

#### (Slide 9 - Trees Under Threat)

This sketch from the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation Department shows how extensive tree roots can be and that they provide three main functions - anchor, transport and feeder. Construction activity can sever or crush these roots affecting the health of the tree. Concrete sidewalks create impervious layers that deny plants water. These actions are in Contravention of the Tree Protection and Enhancement Policy.

#### (Slide 10 - Environmental Impacts)

The City of Burlington has declared a climate emergency in 2019 and requires all initiatives be reviewed through the lens, in part, of reducing greenhouse gases and mitigating negative impacts on the environment.

Losing mature trees and replacing with 2" trees would change the character of the neighbourhood for 2 generations.

Loss of shade, bird and squirrel habitat and air purifying properties are some of the impacts.

Increases storm runoff to sewers

#### (Slide 11 - Integrated Mobility Plan - Misapplied)

- The Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP) is cited as the reason for creating these sidewalks
- The IMP principles have been misapplied to our local streets
- The Preferred Integrated Network shows the focus areas are on arterial roads and areas of high urban growth with significant vehicular activity. None of which occur on our local streets
- The Plan is "silent" with respect to any need for changes to our local streets
- The list of top 100 priority capital projects under the IMP does NOT include any improvements to our local streets.

(Slide 12 - Preferred Integrated Network)

The local streets of Elizabeth Gardens were not identified for improvements in the IMP  
No capital projects are identified in the list of top 100 priority projects

(Slide 13 - Financial Impacts)

This brings me to the financial impacts of the sidewalks proposals.

Financial Impacts include

- initial capital costs
- on-going snow removal and sod repair costs
- life-cycle replacement costs
- reduction in property values
- 

These sidewalks are discretionary and, as such, not an essential expenditure of taxpayer funds. It is a waste of money that is better applied elsewhere.

(Slide 14 - Summary)

To summarize our key points:

Sidewalks are NOT wanted by the residents

Sidewalks are NOT necessary

This is a WASTE of money

We ask you to Vote NO to sidewalks on Linwood, Bromley & Maureen

(Slide 15 - Thank you)

Thank you for your attention and this opportunity.