

Martin, Carrie

From: "Holz, Monique (MCSCS)"
Date: June 9, 2015 at 9:14:03 AM EDT
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Subject: **Weston Downs Turning Restrictions**

Dear Chairman and Members of Regional Council,

I understand that the issue of turning restrictions for the Weston Downs community is on the agenda for the upcoming York Region committee of the whole meeting on June 11th, 2015.

I am writing to express my support for the turning restrictions being proposed for the community of Weston Downs, which were designed to address the traffic infiltration problem that exists because of a poorly designed road network in the community and because of the traffic congestion caused by the intersection at Rutherford and Weston Road, which is over capacity and cannot deal with the existing traffic volumes.

The Weston Downs Ratepayers Association has spent two years working with the City of Vaughan Local and Regional Councillors and Transportation staff as well as the York Region Transportation staff to develop the proposed solution. They have also had numerous community input meetings and have also sent me a flyer to inform me of the solution. They also conducted a telephone campaign to ensure I had heard about the solution.

Our community is not like others in the City of Vaughan, or in York Region for that matter. Our road network was improperly planned and now our community is paying the price. There is only one road (Santa Barbara Place) that connects the streets in the south with those in the north. Therefore, any traffic congestion that occurs outside of our community and filters within, must travel through this one road. This creates spillover effects and causes problems on many streets in the community. Most other communities have a north/south and east/west grid patterned road network that allows arterial road traffic to filter through communities without creating unsafe environments for those who live there.

I have 2 very young children (a 17 month old and a 3.5 year old), who love to go outside to play, but with the amount of traffic on Santa Barbara it makes it a very unsafe environment for them. The other problem with the traffic congestion on Santa Barbara is in the afternoon when I'm home and I have to leave to pick up my children from daycare. It literally takes me 10-15 minutes to exit my driveway as the traffic is so busy at that time and none of the cars that are trying to pass through will slow down or stop to allow me to exit my driveway. Also, my father-in-law, an 82-year old, who was involved in a car accident right in front of my house, now suffers high anxiety when trying to exit our driveway. Santa Barbara is not a major street like Weston Road, it shouldn't take me 15 minutes to exit my driveway because of traffic.

The proposed solution is designed to minimize the impact to residents who live in the community and disrupt the pattern for those who cut through our community. Please help us reduce the risk of injury to our children. Please support the proposed restrictions.

Respectfully,

Monique Holz