

From: Geoffrey Pyne
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 2:22 PM
To: Clerks Public <clerkspublic@markham.ca>

Subject: Development Services Committee Meeting March 28, 2022

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Reference: Carlton Road Sidewalk Petition.
Please circulate this e-mail to the DSC members.
Thank you,

Geoff Pyne

Regrettably, I am unable to attend the meeting, so please accept the following points in opposition to the proposed sidewalk installation on the north side of Carlton Road.

My name is Geoff Pyne and we have been residents at 44 Carlton Road for over 20 years.

We have tended the grass on the City property diligently even when the City and Utility Services leave the ground in a poor state after digging it up for various reasons.

We have a large Norway maple tree just on the City side of the property boundary, with roots extending in all directions - the sidewalk construction would clearly interfere with the roots, possibly endangering the life of this mature tree.

The distance from the tree trunk to the curb is about 20 feet.

Typically, the sidewalks along the south side of Carlton Road are set back 15 feet from the curb and are 5 feet wide. Further east on Carlton sidewalks are set back 7 feet from the curb.

Hence the proposed sidewalk would probably end up about 8 feet from the tree. (20 - (7+5))

In addition, we have three (!) utility boxes on the City side of the property line

- a large green electrical utility box, on a concrete base, (about 15 feet from the curb) which has been partially hidden by a large mature yew bush.
- a smaller, but tall plastic cable junction box (about 10 feet from the curb)
- a small concrete mounted green box (6.5 feet from the curb), which was installed when the City introduced new lighting on Carlton Road several years ago.

All of these are in direct line for a proposed sidewalk and would necessitate removal and/or relocation of all these services - very expensive.

There is also a lamp-post 7 feet from the road side with wiring presumably going to the new small green box.

And incidentally, there is a fire hydrant on my neighbours property which would impinge on a proposed sidewalk.

I am aware of several other "obstructions" on other properties along the roadway.

The City has already paid contractors to mark out the locations of many of the services along the front of the property and going to and from the Utility boxes. Most of these markings have disappeared as they were sprayed onto snow, which has now melted, taking the markings away. Many of the spray marks on the grass, made before the snow fell, will also disappear when I start to cut the grass. Some of these markings will presumably have to be repeated, adding to the cost and waste already involved with this project.

Having lived here for 20+ years we have seen little need for a sidewalk on the north side of Carlton. Very few people choose to walk on this side and since the proposed sidewalk would be on the outside of the curve of the road, most people would choose to take the shorter south side path.

The City has previously wasted a large sum of tax-payers money trying to "calm the traffic" along Carlton Road, having installed the original calming measures, modifying them and then subsequently removing them altogether.

The installation of an unnecessary and expensive sidewalk along the north side of Carlton would fall into this same category - waste of tax-payers money.

Perhaps the money saved could be used to install a STOP sign at the junction of Braithwaite/Liebeck and Carlton to slow the speeding traffic along this part of Carlton.

The DSC and Council says it always "listens to the residents", so I believe the petition presented to DSC establishes a solid block of opinions from the local residents in opposition to the proposed sidewalk.

Please reconsider the requirement for an expensive and unnecessary sidewalk along this part of Carlton Road and vote against this proposal.

Geoff Pyne