

January 29th, 2021

Dear Mr. Mayor, and Members of Council

My presentation to you today is a follow-up to the original Public Comments virtual meeting for the Bayview Ave./Fieldcrest Ct./Lake Shore Rd. Wastewater Extension Project (Camperdown Wastewater Servicing Phase 1) that took place on January 11, 2021.

At the time, I was concerned about the poor response to an issue I know the majority of residents feel quite strongly about. The fact that only 19 of 83 property owners (14 opposed, 3 in favor, 2 no stated opinion) had responded at the time of that meeting led me to believe that many were not even aware of the Town's intention.

Once the Report regarding that meeting was issued on January 21st, with only a couple of new submissions in the public feedback section, my worst suspicions were confirmed. As such, I took it upon myself to reach out to as many of my neighbours as the current provincial lockdown and social distancing guidelines would allow, and developed and distributed (via their street mailboxes), a form soliciting their input on the Town's proposal.

Even with the ridiculously short timeframe to meet the 12 noon Friday January 29th submission deadline, I was still able to secure another 16 submissions – all OPPOSED, to add to the 15 opposed already contained in the Staff Report (including some who hadn't stated a position in the original feedback session), bring the total to 31 OPPOSED to 4 in favor. Of these, there were four as of Sunday January 24th, who still had not heard or received anything regarding the proposal from the Town, and only learned about it from neighbours, or the document I left in their mailbox. There were also 22 properties on Bayview where residents were not at their properties, and obviously had not been so since the beginning of the lockdown.

Considering the heavy financial burden this proposal would inflict on these property owners, the majority of whom are seniors on fixed incomes, not to mention other families for whom the costs exceed their modest incomes, we are requesting that the Town remove this project from its 2021 Budget until it does a better job of.....:

- Justifying why it is necessary at this time (considering the number of new septic systems on the street)
- Justifying why it is the most expensive(per property) of the 24 projects listed in the Town Plan
- Justifying the urgency of a punitive timeline in the middle of winter, in the middle of a Province-wide lockdown in the middle of a world-wide pandemic.

Many people commented in their submissions, including some construction company owners and managers, on the prohibitively out-of-line expensive of this project, compared to other similar capital projects they are familiar with. Other people questioned why they are being asked to bear the cost at all, since it is suspected the Town is pushing this project to facilitate building infrastructure that will be used to attract development along Highway 26.

I look forward to being able to address these property owner concerns during the meeting scheduled for Monday February 1st, 2021.

Sincerely,

Bill McKetrick