



Councillor Paul Ainslie
Toronto City Council
Scarborough East - Ward 43

Chair, Government Management Committee

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Date: December 16, 2014
To: Planning and Growth Committee Members
Re: Driveway Widening Policies for Large Lots in Scarborough

Recommendation:

1. The Planning and Growth Committee recommend Toronto City Council to direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and the Chief Building Official, Executive Director, City Building and the General Manager, Transportation Services to allow owners of large lots (lots greater than 50 feet wide) permission to widen driveways beyond the current standard allowed in the current by-law similar to the by-law already in place in North York.

Many residential communities in Scarborough have residential lots greater than 50 feet wide. Some of these properties have driveways which have been in place for over 50 years, and are wider than the current bylaw allows for. As these lots are wide the driveway width accommodates the property giving ample green space for drainage as well as being visibly appealing. Residents who are now repairing their old driveways are being advised that if they choose to make the repairs they will be forced to reduce the surface to accommodate the current bylaw. The residents are being penalized for making improvements.

The new city wide planning by-law unfortunately does not resolve this matter for Scarborough residential lots exceeding 50 feet in width. The community of North York however has always been accommodated allowing for wider driveway widths for lots exceeding 50 feet in width.

I am asking for this same accommodation to be extended to the community of Scarborough. In speaking with Scarborough Transportation Services in the Right of Way Division, staff have indicated they would support this accommodation and it would be straightforward to implement.

Therefore, I am asking the Committee to recommend Transportation Services allow owners of large lots (lots greater than 50 feet wide) permission to widen driveways beyond the current standard allowed in the current by-law similar to the by-law already in place in North York.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Councillor Paul Ainslie
City of Toronto
Scarborough East Ward 43