



Councillor Justin J. Di Ciano

Ward 5 Etobicoke-Lakeshore

May 10th, 2016

To: Chair and Members, Etobicoke York Community Council

In the past few weeks, my office has been contacted by residents on Usher Avenue who were frustrated to learn that a sidewalk would be constructed on the south side of the existing road on Usher Avenue from Royal York Road to the Kingsway.

I have received a petition demonstrating that all of the homes affected on Usher Avenue are opposed to the installation of sidewalks.

Despite the City's policy to build a physical environment which supports walking and accessibility, the City's policy also states that any proposed sidewalks can only be installed on an existing local street after the Ward Councillor completes a consultation of the neighbourhood and receives consensus to support the installation. Although Usher Avenue is a collector road, the residents have been overwhelmingly clear that they do not support the installation. Note that The Kingway to the south – a street that is far more heavily used – does not have sidewalks as the residents of the area have historically opposed their installation. It is also my understanding that there have been no formal studies by staff to examine a need for a sidewalk on Usher Avenue.

I was initially instructed to put forward this motion at Public Works & Infrastructure Committee on April 25th. At Committee, it was indicated by Clerks that the procedural bylaw requires that local and collector road sidewalks be dealt with at Community Council. It is with this direction that I am submitting this motion to Etobicoke York Community Council.

Recommendation:

Etobicoke York Community Council:

1. Request the General Manager, Transportation Services, to immediately cancel plans for the installation of sidewalks on Usher Avenue.

Alternate Recommendation:

In the event Etobicoke York Community Council does not adopt Recommendation 1 above, I would recommend that:

2. The General Manager, Transportation Services, be requested to report to the Community Council on alternate sidewalk options for Usher Avenue - including monolithic sidewalks; with no further work to be undertaken with respect to this sidewalk installation until Etobicoke York Community Council has considered the report.

Your consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Di Ciano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Justin Di Ciano
City Councillor
Ward 5 Etobicoke-Lakeshore

Attachment #1 – Map of Usher Avenue and surrounding area

