



Councillor Justin J. Di Ciano

Ward 5 Etobicoke-Lakeshore

April 25, 2016

Councillor Jaye Robinson
Chair, Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
100 Queen Street West,
Toronto Ontario, M5H 2N2

Chair Robinson and Members of Committee,

In the past few weeks, my office has been contacted by all of the 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.

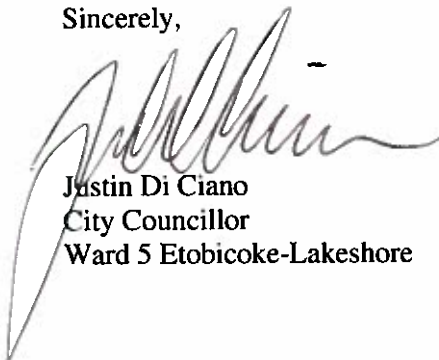
I have received a petition demonstrating that all of the homes affected on Usher Avenue are opposed to the installation of sidewalks.

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.

Given the feedback I have received, I am asking Committee to reconsider the installation of a sidewalk on Usher Avenue. Should Committee not agree, I ask that Committee request Transportation Services staff provide alternate sidewalk options - including monolithic sidewalks - with a report back on their findings.

Your consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Justin Di Ciano
City Councillor
Ward 5 Etobicoke-Lakeshore