

June 25, 2017

Members of Council:

At your next meeting, you will have an opportunity to revisit what I consider to be a very flawed decision by the Public Works Committee and I am not alone in that view. The Public Works Committee decided to ignore the wishes of the majority in favour of a very small minority. Allow me to explain.

On a number of occasions, citizens of Dundas came out to protest the blockage and paving of one of our public assets and to then celebrate when the fence was removed. We also marched to protest the sale, attended a local meeting by our councillor and met with the Public Works Dept to protest.

**Here are the numbers:**

**209 signed documents** the existence of which was ignored in the city report

**650 people** in the area on a list of opponents which the city report suggested was bogus by saying not verified by the city. 35 of the people on that list are neighbours of our councillor so she might have asked them where they stood.

**21 of the 35** households within a 400 ft radius of the alley are opposed to the sale.

**Who is in favour?**

Two people plus the person making the request and the councillor.

How can the wishes of the majority be ignored for the benefit of one?

As for the safety of children, a red herring as Andrew Dreschel said:

Safety only became an issue after there was opposition to the sale - not before to the best of my knowledge.

The so called study done by various officials was not a study but rather a walk about where it was decided that the lane was not safe. If it was any more than that, I have not seen it and I have asked for it a number of times. Professor Shannon has already pointed out to you that the so called study was inadequate.

After the city erected signs warning of the dangers of the alley, we did a survey and found that no children used the alley over that two day period. This report was presented to city officials but was ignored in the city report. **Why?**

Andrew Dreschel watched and noted that only a few children used the alley and they were accompanied by adults. In these days of hyper vigilance and helicopter parenting, most kids are accompanied by parents.

I think that you will agree that there is sufficient evidence that people want the status quo to remain and that the safety issue is a non issue.

Please do the right thing and vote no or, at the very least, support a motion to table the proposal to give the Municipal Heritage Committee an opportunity to consider the issue.

Marvin Ross

Dundas, Ont.