

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Aberdeen Ave

From: Pat Devlin

Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:12 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

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Hello,

I am writing to you with concerns about the plans to reduce Aberdeen Ave down to 2 lanes. I live just above the Queen st access on Price Ave and use Aberdeen almost on a daily basis for access to the 403, West Hamilton, Dundas etc...

I have the upmost respect for safety and safe roads but the idea that moving Aberdeen down to 2 lanes will make it safer does not make sense to me for many reasons, some which are:

- As a driver, driving past a line of parked cars and worrying about kids or even adults stepping out into traffic scares me much more then having 4 lanes of traffic with full sight lines to pedestrians. The logic that 2 lanes of parked cars makes the street safer just doesn't add up.

- The idea being pushed that Aberdeen in it's current state is a "dangerous rd" is simply untrue. In terms of collisions, accident injuries and fatalities it does not even rank in the top 500 streets in the Hamilton area. As mentioned, I drive almost daily on the street and if I am being totally honest, at times I get frustrated sometimes with how slow people drive.

- How are you planning to keep massive backups and more importantly cars from cutting through all the side streets to the south of Aberdeen? These streets are narrow and currently you can only get 1 car by when a car is parked on the street. They are not meant for commuters and this, not current Aberdeen, is actually dangerous.

Even if you banned right hand turns onto the Queen access from Amelia and Glenfern cars will simply cut through the south streets until Spruceside, Mapleside or Kent and cut their way back into the line-up. There is no way to stop that.

- Large numbers of drivers are not going to stop using Aberdeen which is what I assume the folks pushing this change believe. Sure a few residents that are close to half way between the 403 and mountain brow may choose to use the 403 then Mohawk/Garth exits, but the reality is the majority of the Queen access traffic are people heading to Mohawk, St Joes West 5th, Hillfield etc. You cannot manipulate GPS systems to route people away from Aberdeen, they will still use the rd. People will always use the quickest route and if they get stuck in long lines of traffic, which they will, a quick rip through side streets will become the preferred choice.

- I should mention that I understand that the move to 2-way traffic on Queen st should re-route some 403 bound drivers down Queen to King but I can't imagine that will ever be seen as a quicker route given that you will need to cross over the 2 busiest arteries in the city. The lights at Main and King simply will not be able to be green for long periods of time to handle the mass influx of cars.

- There are already multiple lights on Aberdeen to stop people from barreling through at high speeds (like Main st & King st) and allow pedestrians safe crossing. My suggestion would be to install 2 of the digital traffic speed signs that show drivers how fast they are going. These have been proven effective to slow down drivers and bring instant awareness to the speed limit.

Knowing that the "dangerous rd" theory is fiction I can't help but wonder who is behind this push for change.

My fear is that it is either folks who live or own rental property directly on Aberdeen and who just want A) Less traffic or B) More parking for rentals. Either of those reasons are inexcusable and ignore the greater good of the community.

I hope that during this process the facts and common sense are used to make a decision, not political influence from the minority.

Thank you

Pat Devlin