

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Proposed changes to Aberdeen Avenue

From: Sandra Levy

Sent: August 11, 2020 4:45 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

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To: The Mayor and Members of City Council

For many of us who live in the South West of Hamilton and live on the streets that run North/South of Aberdeen Avenue we have been concerned about the proposed changes to the structure of traffic on Aberdeen Avenue. The councillor of Ward 1, Ms. Maureen Wilson is recommending parking on Aberdeen with the flow of traffic being reduced to one lane each way.

Aberdeen is an important access from the 403 bringing people in and out of the community.

It also links the South West to the mountain and the rest of the city. There are three important institutions on Fennell Avenue which access Aberdeen and Queen Street. The institutions are Hillfield Strathallan College, Mohawk College and the West 5th Campus and Hospital of St. Joseph's. Has the councillor consulted with the above institutions about the changes that are being proposed?

Living on a north/south street it will be virtually impossible to make a turn onto Aberdeen Avenue if cars are parked there with only one lane of moving traffic and especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours.

Emergency vehicles will have difficulty getting through the traffic as cars will be parked in one of the lanes and drivers will not be able to pull over to the right to make way for the fire trucks, EMS and police. Public transportation will also have to negotiate their way around cars as well as school buses.

If it is about traffic calming there are stop lights at Queen Street, Kent Street, Locke Street, Cottage Street, Dundurn, Chedoke Avenue, Studholme and Longwood Avenue. It allows safe crossing for pedestrians at multiple points. There are school crossing guards who are also on duty for the various neighbourhood schools.

Anecdotally last winter the traffic was diverted along Glenfern Avenue a number of times. It was bumper to bumper from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The smell of exhaust while the cars idled was horrific compounded by the fact that we couldn't access our driveways. It will only get worse with the proposals.

What I see as a good COMPROMISE and what would be rational is NO PARKING ON ABERDEEN FROM 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and similarly NO PARKING ON ABERDEEN AVENUE from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. We also have the issue of snow removal.

Many of us have jobs to get to Hamilton and if there is only one lane each way on Aberdeen, this will further exacerbate the driving situation when and if they start digging for the infrastructure of an LRT! More street closures!

In Toronto the construction of the LRT on Eglinton Avenue started around 2011 and it won't be completed until 2022. It has caused road rage on the side streets with people driving on the sidewalks.

Let's find a sensible solution. We don't live in a "gated community", nor do we want to. People choose to live in this neighbourhood because it is urban. We are part of the City of Hamilton and need to have viable streets that connect our community in an efficient manner.

Sandra Levy
Ward 1 resident