

Pilon, Janet

Subject: FW: Aberdeen Road Diet

From: Steve Johnson

Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 2:24 PM

To: Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Aberdeen Road Diet

Good afternoon Maureen,

I felt compelled to write an email, thanking you for leadership, concise responses and information, and balanced approach in addressing the ongoing safety issues on Aberdeen Avenue. I've lived and worked on and around Aberdeen for almost 25 years and in my estimation, the potential for dangerous accidents and speeding has steadily risen over the years.

I work as a Rehab Therapist and Service Coordinator in the field of Acquired Brain Injury rehabilitation. Several years ago, one of the residential rehab homes I worked at near Aberdeen, housed young persons with significant disabilities. Several of our young residents were involved in near misses while walking on Aberdeen and sadly one of the youngest residents was badly injured in a car accident (walking as a pedestrian) at Aberdeen and Spruceside.

I personally live on Aberdeen, have two young school-aged children and it's become common knowledge in our household that our children are not allowed to walk to and from school on Aberdeen due to the danger posed by speeding cars. The change in parking rules, allowing cars to park on Aberdeen between the hours of 4pm-6pm, has at least provided some type of safety buffer. I'm a 46 year old man and even I won't walk with our family dog on Aberdeen, as I've experienced several close calls with speeding cars, literally centimetres away from walking on the sidewalk by the Chedoke golf course area.

My neighbour, while parked on Aberdeen several weeks ago, had their car obliterated due to a young man, street racing, didn't notice the parked car until too late, and totalled both his and my neighbours parked car. I have been picking shattered glass and debris out of my front garden since.

Another terrifying encounter occurred while taking a short walk with my 9 year old daughter, to Big Bear convenience store several months ago. A man in a large pickup truck turning right onto Aberdeen ploughed into us as we walked across Linwood and Aberdeen. I ended up on the truck hood while my daughter ended up under his bumper, miraculously okay, missing his front tire by a hair.

I don't mean to go on and on. What I do wish to do is provide concrete examples and an illustration of how bad things have gotten on this residential street. I've lived in Hamilton my entire life and have seen similar Road Diets on Upper Paradise, Mohawk/Rousseau road and others. Each change has not resulted in increased congestion and angry drivers, instead has allowed for a safer, free flowing commuter design.

I can't thank you enough for the work you do for our community and particularly the attempts to make our local streets safer.

Kind regards,

Steve Johnson