

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Support for Aberdeen traffic calming/changes

From: Verhovsek, Madeleine

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 10:35 PM

To: fred.eisenberger@hamilton.ca <fred.eisenberger@hamilton.ca>; mayor@hamilton.ca <mayor@hamilton.ca>; maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca <maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca>; jason.farr@hamilton.ca <jason.farr@hamilton.ca>; nrinder.nann@hamilton.ca <nrinder.nann@hamilton.ca>; sam.merulla@hamilton.ca <sam.merulla@hamilton.ca>; chad.collins@hamilton.ca <chad.collins@hamilton.ca>; tom.jackson@hamilton.ca <tom.jackson@hamilton.ca>; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca <esther.pauls@hamilton.ca>; john-paul.danko@hamilton.ca <john-paul.danko@hamilton.ca>; brad.clark@hamilton.ca <brad.clark@hamilton.ca>; maria.pearson@hamilton.ca <maria.pearson@hamilton.ca>; brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca <brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca>; lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca <lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca>; arlene.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca <arlene.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca>; terry.whitehead@hamilton.ca <terry.whitehead@hamilton.ca>; judi.partridge@hamilton.ca <judi.partridge@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca <clerk@hamilton.ca>

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Dear Mayor and City Councillors;

As a parent, cyclist, pedestrian, and car driver in Kirkendall, I can say with certainty that Aberdeen - from Queen St to Longwood Ave - is a frightening stretch of road. The street design encourages drivers to go fast; even while speed limit signs kindly request that they go no faster than 50km/hour (or 40km/hour during designated school times), speeds 70km/hour and higher are common.

Along its length, Aberdeen is lined with residential dwellings. Aberdeen bisects the neighbourhood of Kirkendall which is full of young families and residents of all ages and abilities seeking to safely access schools, places of worship, parks and businesses on the north and south sides. However, all too often the street design - narrow sidewalks that abut 4 lanes of fast-moving traffic - makes a journey as pedestrian or cyclist a harrowing and dangerous experience. Personally, I have attended to an elderly neighbour after she sustained serious injuries when hit by a car at Locke and Aberdeen. Additionally, I have seen numerous collisions and innumerable near misses. Last year while walking my young children to school, I witnessed the crossing guard narrowly miss being run down by a vehicle racing through a red light.

As a community, we have been asking for the design of Aberdeen to be reconsidered; to take into account the diverse needs of all users of this road. In 2015, a group of local residents, fully supported by the Kirkendall Neighbourhood Association, delegated to City Council, requesting traffic calming measures along this stretch of Aberdeen. Our community welcomes the approved pilot introduction of curb-lane parking, which will provide a buffer for pedestrians and will reduce opportunities for dangerous vehicle speeds. It is my understanding that this plan has been studied and vetted by city staff, and that its impacts will be carefully reviewed after implementation, including impacts on congestion and traffic on side streets. As a resident and homeowner on Undermount Avenue, I look forward to seeing these modest changes implemented as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Madeleine Verhovsek