

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Greenwood Estate - Greenbriar Road, Ancaster

Importance: High

From: Les Jagodich

Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 3:45 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Hall, Donal <halld@hwcdsb.ca>

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Good afternoon Hamilton Wentworth Regional Leadership

Just completed reading about this proactive & enlightened approach being undertaken by the Region of Peel.

Peel Region leadership are **actually listening to their constituents concerns.**

With the Master Truck Route initiative, the Highway #6 widening and other municipal initiatives (widening of Southcote Road, Ancaster) we as residents are being continually subjected to increased Health issues & concerns due to the very increasing noise levels.

The Region needs to take an affirmative position as YOU are the instigator & sponsor of all of these environmental changes to our environment.

It is time for ACTION. NOW!

Les

Private Noise Wall Conversion Program

We're rebuilding and relocating privately-owned noise walls on some Regional roads.

Privately-owned noise walls along Regional roads are built to lower sound levels in backyards. A noise wall must be continuous and solid with no gaps or gates.

As part of the Private Noise Wall Conversion Program, we're rebuilding and relocating private, pre-selected noise walls that are adjacent to a Regional road.

Private noise wall conversion factors

The Region will inspect all private noise walls every 3 years.

Replacement of a private noise wall is based on several factors, including:

- How safe it is to the public.

- How well it is reducing sound levels.
- How stable and structurally sound it is.
- Where it is located. The private noise wall must be backing or siding onto a Regional road. Homes fronting a Regional road do not qualify for the conversion program.

During a visual inspection, the noise walls will be rated according to their condition. A wall's rating helps us determine when it should be converted.

Other structures such as privacy fences and chain link fences do not qualify for the conversion program.

Construction and costs

If a noise wall conversion is happening in your neighborhood, we'll tell you at least one year before the construction date.

Generally, we will be replacing entire blocks or corridors at a time.

We'll also try to coordinate the noise wall conversion with other road work taking place in your area.

If a noise wall on private property has not been converted, the property owners must keep covering the cost of the wall's maintenance and repairs.

Once conversion has taken place, the new noise wall will become a Regional asset and **the Region will pay for any maintenance and repairs to the new noise wall.**

Noise wall replacement materials

The Region is considering cedar wood or concrete composite panels as replacement materials.

We'll determine the material type based on design standards and other environmental factors. For example, we would consider wood over concrete to avoid cutting down trees where possible.

Communication to the homeowner

We will be responsible for providing all general communication to the homeowners which includes Permission to Enter notifications prior to construction of the noise wall.

Material Comparison Chart

Category	Sub-category	Composite concrete noise walls	Cedar wood noise walls
Acoustical capabilities	Effectiveness for reducing noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both products have the same noise reduction effectiveness • Both have comparable noise absorption • Both products cannot have gaps or spaces • No noise reduction advantage of one over the other 	
Durability	How long will the material last?	Up to 40 years depending on environmental factors	20 to 25 years depending on environmental factors
		No maintenance required	Minimum maintenance is required (Restaining is required every few years)
Workability	Speed and ease of construction	Concrete panels are heavy and customizing to size is difficult, labour intensive and expensive	Wood panels are light and customizing (cut to size) can be easily done on site fast
		Installation is difficult and slow requiring use of larger equipment (crane) and labourers	Installation is easy and fast requiring use of small equipment and labourers
		Larger work space area is required for installation	Small work space area required for installation

		More difficult to maneuver equipment in constrained areas due to trees and utilities	Easier to maneuver equipment in constrained areas due to trees and utilities
		Damaged panel normally replaced not repaired, (a three month process).	Damage can be repaired easily and fast (new boards can be delivered and installed same day)
		Panels may not be readily available from the supplier	Wood fencing is a common material and is available from many local vendors.
		May need to keep a mold/form of panel (Panel Liner) to reproduce it.	
Environmental impacts	Installation and tree removal	Wall height approx. 2.8 meters (9 feet)	Wall height approx. 2.8 meters (9 feet)
		Standard post space of 3.5 to 3.6 meters (12 feet)	Standard post space of 2.5 meters (8 feet)
		Required removal of trees: approx. 110-120 out of 265 total	Required removal of trees: approx. 55 – 60 out of 265 total

		Require many trees (normally 2x the number of trees) to be removed and pruned since large equipment is required to install the footings and pre-cast noise wall panels	Some trees to be removed but mainly pruned to install footings and wood noise wall near a tree The impact is normally less than a concrete wall
		More ground restoration required due to disturbance caused by large and heavy equipment	Less ground restoration required due to disturbance caused by smaller equipment
Aesthetics	Visual appearance	Finish on a concrete wall can have a wide variety of architectural textures patterns and colours	Finish on cedar wood walls can be finished in different stains to blend in with a community's natural appearance
		Doesn't blend in with wood fences	Blends in with wood fences
		More trees require removal due to equipment and work space needed compared to cedar wood panels	Less tree removals as part of the installation compared to concrete panels
Cost* *There is no cost to the resident for replacement and maintenance		Installation and life cycle costs are similar to wooden noise wall	Installation and life cycle costs are similar to concrete noise wall
		Low maintenance costs as composite material lasts for long period of time	Higher maintenance cost as wood requires re-staining every few years

		and private side access can be difficult
	Prices vary based on noise wall height and selected design	Prices vary based on type of wood and fluctuating market rates



Before



After

Applying for a noise wall upgrade

The Noise Wall Conversion Program does not include replacement of deteriorating privacy fences; however, homeowners can apply for a noise wall upgrade as part of our [Local Improvement Program](#).

To determine eligibility, the Region will conduct a noise study along the affected stretch of the existing wall. This study will analyze daytime noise levels to assess if the noise levels are above 60 dBA.

If the stretch qualifies for a noise wall upgrade, the program will issue a petition to determine interest for a noise wall placement. To be successful, a petition requires that at least 3 properties benefit from the new noise wall being installed and that at least 2/3's of the affected property owners are in favour of the construction.

If successful, property owners would cover 1/2 of the project cost.

Questions about ownership?

If you are unsure if the noise wall belongs to you or the Region, call 905-791-7800.

If your property is not located on a [Regional road](#) and you have an issue with your noise wall or fence, please contact the municipality in which you live: the [City of Brampton](#), [City of Mississauga](#), or [Town of Caledon](#).

Les F. Jagodich
Ancaster, Ontario