



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 13, 2024
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Removal of Roadway Bollards on Fellowes Crescent (PW24026) (Ward 15)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 15
PREPARED BY:	Adrienne Kupchanko (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5516
SUBMITTED BY:	Carolyn Ryall Director, Transportation Division Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

On March 26, 2014, the Planning Committee Report 14-004 provided the following direction:

Whereas the residential development on Fellowes Crescent, Waterdown is an existing mature neighbourhood built in the 1980's; and

Whereas there are significant traffic and parking issues on the existing section of Fellowes Crescent; and

Whereas the proposed extension of Fellowes Crescent to connect with the new Mattamy development will result in increased traffic from 71 new units having access into the older neighbourhood;

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That the interface between the existing Fellowes Crescent and the proposed extension of Fellowes to the new development to the East remain closed to vehicle access and allow only pedestrian access, to be monitored once:
 - (i) The residential construction and abutting land use is completed;

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- (ii) The proposed supporting transportation infrastructure i.e., Parkside Drive improvements; Bypass corridor between Dundas Street and Parkside Drive are completed and functional.

- (b) Pedestrian access on the existing Fellowes Crescent through the extension will be constructed to include bollard barricades and maintained by the developer satisfactory to the city growth management staff.

Information Report PW24026 serves as an update and rationale on the removal of bollards.

INFORMATION

At the Planning Committee meeting in 2014, a motion to have developer Mattamy Homes install and maintain temporary bollards on Fellowes Crescent in Waterdown, was put forward and approved. The purpose of these bollards was to prevent the existing portion of Fellowes Crescent from being used as a vehicular pass through during the development of the Fellowes Crescent extension (Appendix “A” to Report PW24026 for location map).

In 2016, the bollards were installed. Development works by Mattamy Homes (referred to as UpCountry Phase 1A and 1B) were subsequently completed in 2016 and 2018, respectively.

Regarding supporting infrastructure, Avonsyde Boulevard (between Dundas Street to Parkside Drive) was constructed by a developer in 2018 and is fully functional. Avonsyde Boulevard serves as a connecting minor arterial road between Dundas Street and Parkside Drive to move relatively large volumes of traffic at medium to high speeds, circumventing circulatory roads within subdivisions. The City is also planning to widen Parkside Drive from Avonsyde Boulevard to Centre Road, beginning as early as 2025 as part of a capital reconstruction program.

Preliminary conversations with the Engineering Services Division indicate that there will be partial and/or full lane closures depending on the works to be constructed. This reconstruction work will result in a detour; however, Fellowes Crescent is not a logical detour route, nor is it a convenient cut-through route. Detours will be monitored and adjusted accordingly to ensure drivers adhere to the designated route.

Due to ongoing operational concerns and this being the only residential street in the City of Hamilton with bollards across the street to stop through traffic, the Transportation Division issued a letter informing abutting homeowners on Fellowes Crescent of the planned removal of bollards on October 4, 2023. The letter was met with concerns from residents regarding perceived increased traffic and safety issues related to the removal

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of the bollards. As well, some residents do not agree the terms of the motion have been satisfied. The removal of bollards, which were slated to be completed in November 2023 was placed on hold to allow time to review and address public concern.

The Transportation Division believes all terms of the motion from March 26, 2014, have been satisfied as:

- The residential construction of Mattamy Homes (UpCountry Phase 1A and 1B) is complete; and
- The bypass corridor between Dundas Street and Parkside Drive (Avonsyde Boulevard) is complete and functional.

The existing temporary bollards introduce operational challenges for City maintenance vehicles. The vehicles are unable to proceed through the subdivision and need to reverse out of Fellowes Crescent. Reversing large vehicles increases safety risks since the driver's field of vision is limited when backing up due to blind spots. Additionally, reversing around corners requires the use of a back-up spotter to ensure safe operations, which is not always available. It is best practise to avoid reversing large maintenance vehicles as much as reasonably possible.

Snow removal operations on Fellowes Crescent has also required additional resources because of the bollards. Specialized snow clearing equipment is required to maneuver the constraints created by the bollards, rather than utilizing traditional snow clearing methods. Therefore, removing the bollards would simplify winter operations, provide cost efficiencies, and improve safety.

On February 6, 9 and 21, 2024, the Director of Transportation had conversations with residents on Fellowes Crescent to discuss future potential safety measures to be installed with the bollard's removal, including but not limited to:

- Installation of a temporary dynamic speed sign(s)
- Placement of speed cushion(s)
- Extension to "no stopping" and "no parking" areas along Fellowes Crescent (in consultation with residents and Parking Operations)
- Painting of pavement markings (i.e. hatch marks in no stopping/no parking areas)
- Additional signage per Ontario Traffic Manual

The Transportation Division does not anticipate any negative impacts on traffic operations or safety with the removal of the bollards. However, staff will monitor the location once the bollards are removed and should speeding and/or cut-through concerns occur, further mitigation options would be considered and implemented as needed.

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The Transportation Division plans to remove the bollards on Fellowes Crescent in second quarter, 2024. Residents on Fellowes Crescent and the Ward Councillor will be issued a letter with dates and details prior to their removal.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report PW24026 – Fellowes Crescent Location Map