

March 6, 2024

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk
Office of the Regional Clerk
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Sent via email: Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca

**Re: Reconstruction of Regional Road 87 in Port Dalhousie (Main Street, Lock Street and Lakeport Road)
Our File 35.11.2**

Dear Ms. Norio,

At its meeting held on March 4, 2024, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Niagara Region is planning to reconstruct Regional Road 87 which includes Main Street, Lock Street and Lakeport Road in Port Dalhousie, some time after the 2024 World Rowing Championships; and

WHEREAS the Region's preferred alternative diverts busy, two-way, throughfare vehicular traffic from the established route on Lock Street an extended distance which would force drivers and cyclists to navigate two steep slopes and two "blind" corners around tall buildings already approved in the commercial core, on widened two-way sections of Lakeport Rd., Main St., and the road connecting to the Lakeside Park parking lot, which are currently one-way streets; and

WHEREAS this will increase risk to the safety of pedestrians, riders and drivers as cars, bicycles, trucks, and buses would be compelled to negotiate these unnecessary additional hazards and create more direct conflict between traffic and people on foot, including local residents, people attending Lakeside Park and the beach, those visiting to go for a stroll on the pier, or to patronize restaurants and shops; and

WHEREAS the Region's current preferred design alternative, which was selected despite concerns raised by both Port Dalhousie Councillors, also calls for the paving over of green space and would result in encroachment onto the Harbour Walkway; and

WHEREAS the Region's preferred alternative may also result in significant loss of the remaining mature trees and also some current parking along the residential section of Main St.; and

WHEREAS this alternative will eliminate existing parking on Lock St., Lakeport Rd. and Main St., resulting in the loss of at least 34 convenient parking spots in Port Dalhousie's commercial core, where parking is already a challenge, and this reduction would have a major negative impact on local businesses and cause further intrusion of vehicles into local residential neighbourhoods; and

WHEREAS there is already a large volume of traffic which flows in and out of this area daily and this traffic will increase very significantly when already-approved developments are completed yet, this plan overlooks the simple geographic reality that there is no safe or viable alternative route for this traffic should wheeled forms of transport be denied access on Lock Street;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council requests that the Niagara Region develop a new reconstruction plan for review by City Council for the area including Lock St., Lakeport Rd., Main St., and Lakeside Park that: will not result in the loss of ANY current on-street or Lakeside Parking Lot parking spaces, retains current One-Way streets as such and addresses all the issues identified herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as per City Council's motion passed on November 15, 2021, City Council again urges the Region to work with the utilities involved to consider burying the utility lines as part of the reconstruction within Port Dalhousie's heritage district, in order to help beautify Port Dalhousie and preserve and enhance what is left of the tree canopy and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council request that the Region also consider installing heritage-appropriate, lighting in the reconstructed streets.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Kristen Sullivan, City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
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