

October 6, 2020

Dear Town Council,

I would like to take this opportunity to send my input on a proposed residential expansion in my neighbourhood. I have been a resident on Stella Street for over 22 years. My husband and I chose to purchase our home when our children were young based on many details of Stella Street. These details are what makes our neighbourhood so unique and sought after by many families. I would like to raise my concerns regarding the proposed residential expansion.

As a resident of Fonthill for my whole life Stella Street has always been a family oriented, walkable neighbourhood. Many people use Stella as a safe path to walk their dogs, bike with their children and a route to get to the school at the end of our road or walk downtown. Running parallel to the busy Pelham Street and ending at the school yard it is an optimal, safe route. Pelham Street has become an extremely busy, main thoroughfare. Having only a sidewalk on the north side of this fast moving street most people will choose to venture down Vera or John Street to Stella Street to safely walk.

The proposed subdivision plan has one exit onto Stella Street funneling a large concentration of traffic onto a road that is not sufficient to deal with the increase safely. The vehicles will be entering Stella close to the path open to the school yard. Travelling west on this quiet street and up Vera Street. Attempts to get up this small street and enter South Pelham safely will be cumbersome. On a normal day in the winter entering Pelham Street from the hills of Vera and John Street can be unsafe. Adding that amount of daily traffic seems unfeasible. There is no sidewalk on the north side of Stella or a crosswalk at any of these soon to be intersections. I worry about the safety of the children walking to school. This will no longer be an optimal route for them.

I cannot speak to the appropriate infrastructure requirements; however, I am concerned that our aging neighbourhood will be negatively impacted by such a large residential plan. I am confident that the town will ensure this is in place and completely investigated prior to approval.

I am urging the Council to not approve this proposed residential expansion. Fonthill has a charm that is built on neighbourhoods such as ours. They are based on walkability and safety. I am saddened to think I will no longer see children biking and walking to school, dogs being walked and people walking by with chairs heading to the Band shell and market. The street would become a main thoroughfare destroying what has attracted many to move to streets like Stella. We must be cautious not to allow such expansions destroy what makes our town unique.

Thank you for sharing my input and concerns. I truly hope Town Council will give this proposal due process and consider all aspects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie Monger".

Leslie Monger-resident of ■ Stella Street