Turn Lane Problems on Bath Road West of Collins Bay Road

Martha Reid

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To:O'Connor,Christine <cloconnor@cityofkingston.ca>

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Hello Ms Connor,

I have already spoken to my city councillor with regard to this issue. She suggested I also contact you with this concern because the new housing development off of Station Street would also be affected.

I have been concerned about the multi-use turn lanes west of Collins Bay Road for many years. However, this week I was almost in a head-on collision on Bath Road in front of our home at 4068. I was in the left turn lane for our driveway, facing west, when I saw a car coming east move into this shared turn lane for Collins Bay Road. He hadn't even passed the last entrance to Edith Rankin Church. He either didn't see me or chose to believe he had the right of way until I lay on the horn and braced for a possible impact.

His body language showed that he was incensed that I hadn't moved out of the way for him. I couldn't have simply veered to the right; there were cars in the through lane and I didn't know exactly where they were in that split second. He was so enraged (pounding on his steering wheel and yelling) as he passed me, that I wondered if he would turn around and come into our driveway for a confrontation. And if we don't move into the left turn lane for our driveway, we have angry drivers behind us who don't appreciate having the through lane blocked. We've had other close calls with the turn lanes before, but I was never closer to being in a serious accident than I was that day.

As you probably know, the cars generally move along Bath Road at 60 km or higher. There is a school zone indicated, but very few drivers heed the reduction in speed to 50 km. There are multiple possibilities for turns in this short area - private residential driveways, Edith Rankin Church (three entrances), Collins Bay Public School (entrance on Station Street), and the adjoining nursery school. In addition, we have noticed an increase in traffic with growing community programming at Edith Rankin church. The majority of these participants are seniors. I feel very strongly that these short, two-directional turn lanes have a high potential for serious accidents.

Perhaps the city could install additional signage for the area, such as "Do not enter the turn lanes prematurely," and/or "Caution, multiple driveways using turn lanes." Other suggestions might be to use flashing light signage to clearly indicate the school district; reduce the speed even more through the school district; or install a traffic light at Station Street. In my opinion, multiple actions need to be taken to ensure safety.

With the discussion of the new 227-unit housing development off of Bath Road at Station Street, there will be the potential for an additional 250-400+ vehicles in this area. During the work week, the majority of these cars will be trying to turn left onto Bath Road from the subdivision as they head east toward their workplaces. To ignore the implications of increased traffic in this area would be, in my opinion, reckless, if not negligent.

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Would you please share my concerns with the other members of the planning committee prior to the meeting on April 4, where the 4085 Bath Road development application will be discussed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Martha Reid