

June 21, 2020

To: Newmarket Town Council

395 Mulock Drive

Newmarket, Ontario

L3Y 4X7

From Rick Warner and Martina Drover

304 London Road

Newmarket, Ontario

RE: Counsel Report 2020-43

Mayor Taylor. Member of Newmarket Town Council:

I am extremely upset with the Town Council proposal to put in bicycle lanes thus removing parking and reducing lane width on London Road. I have lived on London Road for more than 30 years and observed so few bicycles going up and down London Road that I question the wisdom of putting in bicycle lanes on both sides of the road. The report to counsel is lacking any factual information that would suggest a need for bicycle lanes on the road. Better still, money would be better spent on enforcing road safety impacting bicycle riders. I have observed that bicycle riders do not stop for stop signs on the road, do not indicate in what directions they are turning, do not wear helmets and travel down the hill on London Road at great speed. A better alternative for safety reasons if the Town is looking to provide bicycle lanes would be Bristol Road which does not have such a steep incline.

Also removing all parking spaces on London Road would impact family members who get together for special occasions like Easter, birthdays and Christmas. A lot of our homes do not have sufficient parking to accommodate 4 or 5 family members' cars and the few allotted parking spaces on side streets off London Road is not enough. What are we to do at such times for parking? Will there be an exception to the rules of no Parking on London Road?

We received the letter dated June 12th, 2020 on Friday, June 19th in our mail boxes with a date of June 21st (Father's Day) to submit our objections with forms from the Town's website which is not easy to navigate to find the forms. How can the Town of Newmarket give such a short time line for anyone to respond and voice their objections especially during this time of COVID when most services are closed and suspended which is understandable due to the ongoing pandemic.

Please reconsider the Town's proposal for bicycle lanes on London Road and look for another safer alternative than going down and coming up a steep incline on our road.

Thank you,

Rick Warner