

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I have lived on Penn Ave between Vincent and Denne for the past 7 years. We have two very young children and two dogs. We think this is a great area that has a lot of potential – close to Main St, Fairy Lake and Yonge St. Being older homes, we were hopeful that other young families would move into the neighbourhood as well. However, at this point, I would not recommend anyone with young children move here.

As the data has shown, speeding is a serious issue on our street. Every day I witness not just speeding but blatant reckless driving. Paired with poor visibility due to the hill, it's nerve wracking to walk along the sidewalk, never mind try and cross. Yet every day, I see young children having to run across to get to Maple Leaf Public. It is extremely concerning to me that the public school is displaying signs encouraging children to "walk to school" and yet there's nowhere between Main St and Maple Leaf to safely do so. While I understand it was YRDSB who displayed these signs, walking to school is a necessity for many. Frankly, I am disappointed that the Town of Newmarket hasn't previously seen the value in implementing safe crossing measures along Penn Ave and it makes me question if this is considered low priority because part of this neighbourhood is low income.

I am writing this today as a Penn Ave resident and taxpayer to request that the safety of the community, especially our children, be considered when recommending whether a stop sign be installed. We want to live somewhere that we can cross the street with our kids and dogs without worry.

Thank you,
Sarah Mitchell