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Ottawa, ON
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July 23, 2004

Mr. Brian Ruck
Consultant Project Manager
TSH Engineers Architects Planners
300 Water Street
Whitby, Ontario L1N 9J2

Mr. David Lindensmith
Senior Project Engineer
Planning and Design Section
Ontario Ministry of Transportation
355 Counter Street
Kingston, Ontario K7L 5A3

Dear Mr. Ruck and Mr. Lindensmith,

This letter is in regards to the Ottawa Queensway Preliminary Design and Environmental Assessment Study, specifically the impact on the Richmond Road ramps. I am representing the views of the residents of Qualicum-Graham Park.

Generally the preferred alternative changes to the Queensway and the ramps are better than the alternatives that had been dismissed. For example, the alternative that would have significantly impacted the residents on Queensline was rightly dismissed.

The main concern we have is in regards to the intersection at Richmond/Nanaimo/Holly Acres. With the proposed alternative, northbound vehicles on Richmond Road would be required to make a left-hand turn to access the Queensway. If the left-hand turn lanes are not adequately sized or there is significant rush hour traffic, many drivers may decide to make a right turn onto Nanaimo and cut through our community to access the Queensway at Pinecrest. This may be especially true of drivers wanting to go eastbound on the Queensway.

This situation may be similar to the situation that occurred when Holly Acres and the Queensway were changed during the construction of the Highway 416 interchange. When these changes were implemented, there was a huge problem of through traffic in our community as people tried to avoid traffic jams on the Queensway. We spent a lot of time and effort to have the Richmond Road/Nanaimo intersection reconfigured and the signals changed so that it was, and still is, illegal to enter the community from Holly Acres Road in the morning rush hour.

We are requesting a "no right turn" sign for the morning rush period. This is similar to the current sign on Holly Acres. If this is not implemented when the changes are implemented to the ramps, then the situation should be closely monitored and quickly changed if it becomes a problem. As well, we are requesting "No thru traffic" signs at the Nanaimo entrance to the community.

We also have other concerns including:

- We would like to better understand the noise impact to the community. Will the bigger intersection at Richmond Road increase noise pollution? Would noise barriers be built to help shield properties that are impacted?
- Does your study show the potential impact of vehicles originating south and east of Baseline cutting through our community to access Holly Acres? We are very concerned about the

amount of through traffic in the community and have requested traffic origin studies from the City. However, we haven't yet had a response to the request.

- Is there a possibility that traffic on Nanaimo travelling to Holly Acres could be backed up due to the traffic signals not being properly timed?
- Will the intersection at Richmond/Holly Acres/Nanaimo be re-configured to make it more user friendly and safe for pedestrians and cyclists? As well, can the pedestrian crossing for Richmond Rd. move to the other side of the intersection? This would also help safety. There is no need to wait for the Queensway changes to implement this change.
- As the on ramps will be removed from the Queensway overpass, could sidewalks be installed that to directly reach Bayshore. As well, will sidewalks be installed to reach the new Transit station?
- Will the westbound off ramp at Richmond Road be properly signed so that drivers understand which lanes lead to the Bayshore Shopping Centre?

I trust you will seriously consider the concerns of the citizens of this community. I must also note that the TSH Engineers Architects Planners and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (Planning and Design Section) have been very professional in the handling this assessment project.

Sincerely,

Leo Paoletti (on behalf the Qualicum-Graham Park Community Association Executive)

CC: Rick Chiarelli, City of Ottawa Councillor