

## Trafalgar Chartwell Residents' Association advocating for our community

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July 5, 2021

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Town Clerk at the Town of Oakville 1225 Trafalgar Road Oakville, Ontario L6H 0H3

## Lakeshore Road West Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Update

Staff Report, June 22, 2021

Town of Oakville Special Council Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 6:30 pm

To Mayor Burton and members of Council,

The Trafalgar Chartwell Residents' Association (TCRA) opposes staff's recommendations

- a. that the Lakeshore Road West Environmental Study be concluded and
- b. that the Preferred Solution concept proposed in the EA be approved and taken to detailed design.

We understand that in opposing staff's recommendations we are challenging professionals whose knowledge and experience are indisputable and for whom we have the utmost respect. Nevertheless, we feel compelled to register our discomfort with a chain of logic which takes us to a place where we are considering radical changes to six kilometres of Lakeshore Road West. In our opinion, these changes will result in the permanent loss of something very precious to the whole of Oakville.

Lakeshore Road West has been designated by the Town as a Heritage Scenic Corridor. It connects Oakville's Heritage Downtown and the historic Bronte Village. It is a popular and calming route for motorists, cyclists and walkers. It is precisely because it curves and is full of mature trees and looks like a country road that it is so popular.

It is an old road. Maintenance is required in places. Since we are planning maintenance we should take the opportunity to improve safety at some intersections, and while we're at it, perhaps we should respond to the demand for continuous cycle lanes along its length. And what about storm water management upgrades? And then, since we are now doing major reconstruction we must comply with Ontario's Accessibility Act and make the whole thing accessible and safe for wheelchairs, which means curbs and a 3 metre-wide multi-use trail. So, step by step, we arrive where we are, considering a project which will transform Lakeshore Road West into an urban thoroughfare like Rebecca, scenic no more; a project which will remove about 60 trees just when the public is beginning to understand the value of trees. What are we about?

The TCRA respectfully asks that Council direct reconsideration of the necessity of the separate elements of the Preferred Solution, such that we may retain our scenic Lakeshore Road West and its trees.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors, Trafalgar Chartwell Residents' Association