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Thornbury, Ontario  
N0H 2P0

October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Mayor and Members of Council  
Town of the Blue Mountains

**RE: Staff Report – Peel Street Reconstruction Public Information Centre Report CSOPS.19.065**

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

I am writing to you with regards to the above report that is being presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

I attended the Public Information Centres (PIC) on July 11 and July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and I not only asked questions but I took extensive notes at both of these meetings. I would like to point out that there was no note-taking on behalf of the Town. So the comments in the Staff Report do not represent all those who attended both PIC's, which was unfortunate.

We were told at the July 11<sup>th</sup> PIC that the design drawings were concept and only at 30% completion and subject to change. We were also told that the PIC was an Environmental Assessment- A/A+ , which after doing some research found out that it meant preapproved. I find this extremely troublesome as it negated any input from the taxpayers living in the Peel and Cameron Street area prior to the PIC's. This is not the first time the residents in this area have been blindsided by EA's or completed designs before being consulted.

At the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 PIC it was clearly stated by a Town Engineer "that there is nothing in law that says we have to do it that way" after being asked about alternative designs such as a Hybrid/4.5 option.

It should also be considered that the Town, OMB and Developer considered pedestrian traffic in reaching Trailwoods Minutes of Settlement. Specifically, lands were dedicated to the Town for them to complete pedestrian connections from sidewalks on Timber Lane and High Bluff to the Georgian Trail. It should be considered that the Town, OMB, Developer NEVER envisioned sidewalks on Peel Street and accounted for that in the above.

Council should also consider the design of two very good examples of roadways (Beaver Road/33<sup>rd</sup> side-road to Tomahawk and Wensley Drive at Georgian Peaks) that were mentioned not only in my comments but were discussed at the PIC's as options for the Peel Street Reconstruction.

I also attended the Transportation Committee Meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup> were a neighbour from Cameron Street did a deputation before the Committee asking them to consider a 4.5 option that

was clearly defined. Subsequent to the deputation, Deputy Mayor Odette Bartnicki presented the following Motion:

“Moved by: Odette Bartnicki Seconded by: Bill Abbotts

THAT the Transportation Committee suggest Council direct staff to consider inclusion of Option 4.5 as presented at the August 13, 2019 Transportation Committee meeting into the Peel Street Reconstruction project, and include additional urban and rural road cross section options into the Town Engineering Standards;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee request Council to direct staff to make additional outreach to the residents and stakeholders within the Cameron Street, Peel Street, High Bluff Lane, Timber Lane, and Pheasant Run catchment area, Carried.

Councillor Uram thanked Mr. Johnston for his presentation”.

Given the fact that our Deputy Mayor presented this motion at the Transportation Committee Meeting, it failed to appear in the Staff Report being presented to Mayor and Council on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

As a property owner, taxpayer and contributor to this community for many years, I and my neighbours will be affected by this reconstruction and will have a potential loss of value to our properties.

I ask that you direct staff to include option 4.5 as requested by the owners on Peel and Cameron Streets.

As taxpayers, we deserve this.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine A. Sholtz