

RECEIVED
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HIGHWAY 26 GRAND EXPERIMENT

TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS
PER: _____

Town of the Blue Mountains

27 June 2016

Committee of the Whole

Deputation - Joseph Hayward

GOOD DAY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, AND THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. MY NAME IS JOE HAYWARD,

LIVING AT 209657 HIGHWAY 26, AND I WILL ADDRESS HIGHWAY 26 TRAFFIC ISSUES, WHICH ARE

COMMON CONCERNS FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF FELLOW HIGHWAY 26 RESIDENTS.

LET ME PAINT ONE OR TWO PICTURES TO BEST DESCRIBE THE CURRENT SITUATION.

HIGHWAY 26 HAS BEEN UNDER RE-CONSTRUCTION SINCE SPRING 2015, BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION.

UNKNOWINGLY, AT THE SAME TIME, THEY HAVE CONDUCTED A GRAND EXPERIMENT FOR BOTH THE TOWN AND

WE, THE CITIZENS. YOU WON'T FIND A FINAL REPORT OR NEWS RELEASE FROM M.O.T., BUT THE FINAL RESULTS ARE THERE, AND THEY ARE IN!!

THE EXPERIMENT, BASICALLY WANTED TO DETERMINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU CHANGED THE SPEED LIMITS

ON HIGHWAY 26 FROM 80 KM'S DOWN TO 60 KM'S BETWEEN THE INTERSECTIONS OF GREY ROAD 21 RIGHT THROUGH

TO GREY ROAD 40. ADDITIONALLY, THE HIGHWAY STRIPING WOULD BE A CONTINUOUS DOUBLE SOLID YELLOW LINE.

THIS CONCEPT HAS NOW BEEN TESTED ON AND OFF THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD. NOW, WHILE IT IS

OBVIOUS TO ALL THAT THERE WERE ALSO INNUMERABLE, PAINFUL, ONE-LANE CONSTRUCTION CLOSURES, THIS

ACTIVITY DID NOT BLUR THE EXPERIMENT'S FINDINGS.

ONCE THE CONSTRUCTION CREWS AND MACHINERY FINALLY LEAVE THE FINDINGS WILL BECOME QUITE CLEAR.

WE CAN PICTURE, ALL OF US, LIVING AND DRIVING IN AN ENHANCED SAFETY ENVIRONMENT FOR

HIGHWAY 26 GRAND EXPERIMENT

ALL HIGHWAY USERS

WHILE AT THE SAME TIME, TRAFFIC FLOWS WILL NOT HAVE NOT SUFFERED AND MAY HAVE ACTUALLY IMPROVED.

IT IS NOW TIME TO ACT, TO MAKE THE EXPERIMENT THE NEW REALITY.

NOW, DESPITE THE EXPERIMENT AND THE MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS IT REPRESENTS, WE ARE STILL SADDLED WITH

APPALLING ENGINEERING DESIGN FLAWS, (IN BOTH SAFETY AND TRAFFIC CONTROLS), THAT HAVE DOGGED HIGHWAY 26.

AS SUCH AFTER ALMOST TWO YEARS, AND MANY DOLLARS BUILDING A "FIRST CLASS HIGHWAY", WE ARE LEFT INSTEAD,

WITH A "LAST IN CLASS" ABORTION.

THREE PICTURES TO DESCRIBE ABOVE STATEMENT:

1. WHY DID THEY CHOOSE TO PUT IN A SIGNALLED INTERSECTION AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE VERY QUIET

GEORGIAN PEAKS SKI CLUB ENTRANCE AND 26, YET STILL FAIL TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR THE SAME

AT THE VERY BUSY, AND DANGEROUS, YEAR-ROUND INTERSECTION GREY ROAD 21 AND 26? SOME PRIORITY!

2. HOW ABOUT THE "UNRECOGNIZED INTERSECTION" OF HWY. 26 AND MAC'S MILK/ LCBO/ BEER STORE? ALL OF US CAN

GET THE PICTURE HERE: THERE USED TO BE A SORT OF TURNING LANE, BUT IT IS GONE. WHAT IS STILL HERE,

IS A NIGHTMARE OF EXTREMELY FREQUENT TURNS (WE DRINK TOO MUCH), COUPLED WITH A TWO-LANE HIGH VOLUME,

HIGH SPEED HIGHWAY. TO FINALIZE THAT PICTURE, JUST ADD SNOW AND NIGHTFALL!!

3. CYCLISTS ARE LEGALLY ENTITLED TO RIDE ON HIGHWAY 26, IN FACT WITH ONTARIO'S LATEST LAW, MOTORISTS

ARE REQUIRED TO ALLOW A FULL METRE CLEARANCE WHEN PASSING CYCLISTS! YET THAT SQUARES VERY POORLY WITH

WITH THE ON-GOING DESIGN REALITY, OF THE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS LACK OF REAL BIKE

HIGHWAY 26 GRAND EXPERIMENT

LANES. YOU DON'T NEED TO

TRY HARD HERE TO GET THE PICTURE!

THE TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS AND WE CITIZENS DESERVE BETTER. WE NEED ACTION TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION.

WHO IS LISTENING?

THANK YOU.