

February 11, 2017

Dear Reeve and Councillors of Limerick Township,

On behalf of the Steenburg Lake Community Association, I regret to advise you how surprised and disappointed we were to learn that the reconstruction project for Steenburg Lake North Road was not tabled for discussion at your upcoming February meeting this coming Monday. Given that this is most likely the single largest budget item of this year, and one that has generated great concern within the community, surely this matter deserves at least an update. Most certainly the good members of this community are entitled to know what is happening and how their concerns are being addressed.

We have asked repeatedly to be kept aware of any significant changes that may be made to the preliminary plan, or to be sent updates, recognizing that this is a work in progress, and as such, may not be complete. We can only assume by the lack of any evidence to the contrary, that no substantial changes have been made or are planned, despite the many legitimate safety concerns that have been raised. This is a very troubling thought, but the only conclusion we can draw given the lack of information to date.

We are of the understanding that the project is slated to go to public tender in March. We would suggest that an update to the plan before going to tender could go a long way to allaying these fears.

The SLCA would like to stand as partners with Limerick Township in helping to deliver the best and **safest** solution for the community though many would argue that it would be better to live with the current substandard road, than to risk the safety and enjoyment of all users of that road by introducing significant and unnecessary safety hazards. Given the large body of evidence, and concerns that have already been introduced into the public record, it would be very difficult for the Township to defend against any legal action that might arise as a result of the deficiencies that have been identified. Hoping that such an unfortunate situation never arises is not the same as managing risk or exercising due diligence.

We hope that in its wisdom, Council will recognize the legitimate concerns of our community, and not force through this project without first openly disclosing to the public, the final design plans showing how the identified concerns have been addressed. Let's work together to ensure that a tragedy is averted!

Sincerely,

Pat Stallaert

President – Steenburg Lake Community Association

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