

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CouncilAgenda](#)
Subject: Agenda 15.2 Councillor Stevens - Opening of College Avenue to Connect with Hansen Boulevard September 23, 2024
Date: Friday, September 20, 2024 2:15:38 PM

To the Mayor and Council and Town Staff:

We have been promised for years, by 3 Councils with 3 different Mayor's, that our neighbourhood is a priority and to get Hansen Road finished and opened up. It has yet to happen, and no one knows when this will even happen at this point in time. Veteran's Way has only one way into and out of the neighborhood and it gets very difficult at certain times of the day to get onto County 16/Veteran's Way then to turn left onto Broadway at the lights, which takes very long to change.

It takes us all here, 4x longer to get to the other side of Hansen. This causes more traffic, more emissions, more time which is costly and bad for us all. It takes Emergency vehicles when called to get to our community 4x as long as well.

All council, except for Major Sandy Brown and Councillor Peters, since my living here for over 8 years, have refused to open College Avenue for us and to be finally joined to the rest of the Town and to give us all another way into and out of our neighbourhood. The barriers that the Town have put on Hansen, to block the access to College Avenue, can easily be removed to give us better access to our Town and for Emergency Services to get here. We have asked repeatedly, last time was at the Town Hall meeting by the Mayor with 2 Councillors present, why they refuse to open it. They refuse to answer why and only say they will not open it and that they stand by that. College Avenue is designed to be a collector road and designed to handle the traffic. There is no reason why it cannot handle the expected traffic to which it was designed for. Hansen Road is stalled yet again to be finished. It's been promised for 10 years now that it would be opened. We were promised that we would be a priority and yet here we still are, in Orangeville Island (a name given to our area by Mayor Post), not having another access road into our community, yet there is one readily available which is College Avenue.

We have no bus service that the rest of the town has. The walking path leading across Broadway which was new and now dug up because of Avalon, is no longer an option as well as it is closed. It is time to fix our neighbourhood to be joined finally with the rest of our Town and to have the fastest way possible to have EMS and Fire and even get bus services here by opening College

Avenue.

Mayor Brown had brought this to Council Meeting on May 16, 2022, and the staff brought forward Staff Report INS-2022-038 "which included the findings from Triton and a recommendation to remove the barricades on College Avenue and open the road to allow vehicular access".

Both the Fire Chief and Ambulance Chiefs, at the time, recommended that the road be open as well Town Staff also recommended that it be opened.

Also from the Town of Orangeville Official Plan - December 31, 2020 the following issues are being ignored by Council and the Town for our area in Veteran's Way by not giving us access through College Avenue / Hansen Road:

G2.3 Council will develop an anti-idling by-law and education strategy to discourage the unnecessary idling of motor vehicles.

G5.2 Council supports the creation of a well-connected network of streets in order to facilitate the orderly circulation of traffic and in order to reduce congestion by offering motorists multiple choices for the route to take to a given destination.

G5.4 Council supports the development of a transportation system that minimizes impact on the environment and aesthetic character of the Town.

G8.3 Council will consider the impact of land use decisions as they may impact the movement of pedestrians and bicycles.

G9.2 Council will strive to ensure that every resident has desirable proximity to public transit routes with a target of 500 metres maximum (straight-line) walking distance to travel to a bus stop.

Schedule E Map, Roads Plan clearly shows that College Street IS designed to be a collector road and can handle the traffic.

People trying to get to the other side of Blind Line, to get to work or bring their children to school, deserve this access to be opened. Emergency_Services, EMS, will also be more effective by removing the barriers to get them into our neighbourhood faster!

Did you know that a man did die in our neighbourhood of a heart attack and his wife was told had they, the Ambulance, gotten here quicker he could have been saved? Were you aware of a mother who called 911 while her toddler was choking, she said it felt like eternity for them to arrive? Had we had College Avenue as an access opened long before these events happened, it would have been quicker and LIFE SAVING. It's been right there and ready to be opened all these years except it's been restricted to happen only by council voting NO.

In conclusion;

College Avenue needs to be opened to the residents in Veterans Way. I repeat again the reasons that include why are; time, inclusion to be no longer isolated from the rest of our Town, emissions saved to get around, and **SAFETY** to get EMS here faster. (as per Town Official Plan stated above)

I hope that our Town Council and Staff do the right thing this time and finally open up College Avenue NOW before something tragic happens yet again here in our neighbourhood.

Thank you

Brenda Chioma

█ Wardlaw Avenue

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