

Subject:
Date:

RE: Updates?
July-27-15 11:00:35 AM

Note From Ed Voogt, Singhampton, Ontario

Hello, I am following up to the Transportation report from the July 23, 2015 meeting. The report indicated after further review that Grey County still does not put up any "Please Refrain from Engine Brake Usage in Residential Areas" signs.

I implore council to reconsider this report for many reason. #1 would be as a courtesy to ALL Grey County residents. I want to remind everyone that the residents of Singhampton that signed the petition presented to council in May of 2015 are well aware that there is nothing enforceable about these signs. There was never intention to have something of that nature. It is merely a request for signage to remind drivers that there are residential areas that would prefer not to be disturbed by noisy engine brakes. Everyone is well aware that there are those that will ignore the signage, and that will be that. I am fairly certain that many other towns in Grey County would appreciate the same signage for their towns. Since Grey County allows these trucks to use our roads, should they not be asked at least to respect the residents wishes? I have since learned also that it was suggested residents write down license plate numbers of trucks using engine brakes, and submit them to the transportation department. I am not sure exactly how this is even possible unless 1 was to sit on the side of the road, snap photo's and try to figure out the plate numbers.

#2 would be to remind everyone that engine brakes are NOT required by law in Ontario. For insurance to be called into question does not ring true with many I have talked to. Once again, in Ontario, trucks must have working brakes (be it air or hydraulic) to be able to successfully stop their trucks. Engine brakes are a convenience designed to assist the trucks actual braking system while going down hills. For a trucker to say that engine brakes are necessary to slow a truck down anywhere in Singhampton would make no sense. Consider my neighbor who drives a transport truck. He has indicated there is zero requirement for engine brakes in Singhampton. I know I keep referencing Singhampton, but lets be clear, I truly believe that this would benefit the well being of ALL Grey County residents.

#3 would be why Grey County thinks that truckers should be treated differently in Grey, vs anywhere else in Ontario? I have found it difficult to find a precedent being set elsewhere for no new signage to be put up with regards to this issue. In fact, travel anywhere in Ontario, and you will see these signs prevalent upon entering almost every small town in Ontario. Even in a large town such as Barrie, Ontario.

I appreciate your time, and really hope that you can reconsider putting these signs up throughout Grey County, as a courtesy to ALL residents

Thanks

Ed Voogt