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It has come to our attention that Grey County is planning to complete road construction projects on a number of County Roads in 2016. We understand that paved shoulders with a width of only 0.25 metres are being proposed for Grey Road 119 from Banks to Ravenna and Grey Road 31 from 0.5 kilometres north of Simcoe Road 91 to Grey Road 2. These roads represent very popular and heavily utilized cycling routes in our area. Furthermore, Grey Road 31 is used for both the Centurion Cycling and Grey County Road Race events, which attract a large number of people to our area each year.

We feel that paved shoulders with a width of only 0.25 metres along these two roads is insufficient and not reflective of the volume of cyclists using these roads. Cycling is an activity that is growing rapidly in Ontario and a large number of cyclists are travelling to and spending money in Grey County and surrounding areas.

Given the long-term implications of this decision to only provide 0.25 metre paved shoulders on these roads, we respectfully request that the TAPS Committee reconsider the proposed width of paved shoulders on these two particular roads slated for construction in 2016 and that additional consideration be given to the importance of paved shoulders as critical infrastructure in facilitating cycling going forward.

Moreover, this is a very important issue for us, as we bought property for ourselves and our family specifically because cycling is such a significant part of our recreation. Toronto is not safe and Grey County is an ideal place for this sport. Please reconsider how this impacts upon us.

We understand there are deputations scheduled before the TAPS Committee on January 21. Please also consider this letter as support for these deputations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Eva and Bernie Smith

Thornbury, On