

Stephen & Marina Bennett

John Bell
Chair, Transportation and Public Safety Committee
Grey County
595 9th Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON
N4K 3E3

Dear Mr. Bell

Construction to Grey Roads 119 and 31

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. In January 2015, we purposefully purchased a home in Redwing because it provided a number of excellent cycling routes right on our doorstep. Our friends have spent many a weekend with us cycling and visiting the local shops and restaurants. Grey Road 119 and 31 are two busy roads and the safety of cyclists should be given extra consideration.

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. Also, please provide additional consideration to the importance of paved shoulders on all roads. This is critical infrastructure to facilitate cycling going forward. This county has long been known for its active lifestyle and our infrastructure plans should continue to encourage cycling.

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,

Marina and Stephen Bennett