Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Standing Committee Requested

Kindly indicate which Standing Committee: * Public Works

Requestor Information

Name of Individual: * Sheri Selway
Name of Organization: North End Neighbours
Do you or your organization represent a lobbyist (voluntary) ☐ Yes ☐ No
Contact Number: *
Email Address: *
Mailing Address: *
Reason(s) for delegation request: * NEN has been working for 3 years on a Citizens Advisory Group with traffic to study traffic calming in our neighbourhood. This issue is to be addressed at the Jan 19 meeting.
Will you be submitting a formal presentation?* ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Overhead projector required for the presentation
☐ Power Point required for the presentation

Requests to speak to Council are forwarded to the Standing Committee for consideration. Once considered by Committee, and approved, you will be notified of the date for your presentation. Personal information collected on this form is authorized under Section 5.10(2) of the City's Procedural By-law No. 03-301 for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before a Standing Committee and will be published with the Committee Agenda. The Voluntary Lobbyist Registry is a public document and will be available for viewing in the City Clerk's office. The Procedural By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the Municipal Act. Questions about its collection can be directed to the Manager of Legislative Services, 77 James St N, Suite 220, Hamilton, ON L8R 2K3 (905) 546-2424 ext. 5409
Dear Mr. Bratina and Committee Members,

I am excited to be able to attend this Monday’s Public Works meeting January 19. Please find a letter attached outlining a Proposed Resolution: North End Traffic Strategy and the rationale for why the North End is the perfect neighbourhood for this cutting edge pilot project.

Members of our Board and other community members have been working with the city staff for over 2 years as part of the Citizens Advisory Group to develop a traffic strategy for our community. We are confident that we speak for the majority of residents of the North End.

In brief, the attached resolution is that we, the North End Neighbourhood, be designated a "Child and Family-Friendly Neighbourhood" as part of our City’s vision to be "The Best Place to Raise A Child" including the establishment of a 30 km. per hour speed limit. Further, we are requesting that other traffic calming measures be referred back to Staff to work with stakeholders to be negotiated.

Thank you!

Sheri Selway, President
North End Neighbours
January 15, 2009

Bob Bratina, Chair
Public Works Committee
Corporation of the City of Hamilton
City Centre
77 James St. N.
Hamilton, ON. L8R 2K3

Re: North End Traffic Management Study
Child and Family-Friendly Neighbourhood

Dear Mr. Bratina and Committee Members:

Members of our Board and other community members have been working with the City staff and consultants for over two years as part of the Citizens Advisory Group to develop a traffic strategy for the North End. We welcomed this opportunity to work with the City and to find ways to resolve traffic issues that have been outstanding since they were first identified over 50 years ago in the North End Urban Renewal reports.

As one of Hamilton’s downtown urban family neighbourhoods and as the closest neighbourhood to the West Harbour waterfront, we welcome thousands of visitors to our neighbourhood every year. We have fully supported the addition of the new 750 housing units proposed by Setting Sail.

In that context, we have carefully considered the staff report which you have received and would ask for your help in bringing these issues to a speedy resolution.

We believe that if the Committee will resolve two issues, the remaining challenges can be resolved through discussion between the staff and the other stakeholders.

We would sincerely appreciate the Committee enacting the attached Resolution. Our reasons for believing this Resolution to be an appropriate step are set out in the attached note.

We are confident we speak for the vast majority of the residents of the North End and strongly urge you to approve the Resolution. Please help start the implementation of a strategy that virtually every stakeholder believes is timely and to bring this long process to an end.

Yours truly,

Sheri Selway, President, North End Neighbours
Proposed Resolution:
North End Traffic Strategy:

Be it resolved that:
1. The North End Neighbourhood, bounded by Wellington on the East, the CNR Tracks on the South and Hamilton Harbour on the West and North, be designated a "Child and Family-Friendly Neighbourhood", as a tangible implementation of the City’s mission to be "The Best Place In Which To Raise A Child";

2. The Committee approves a "Child and Family-Friendly Neighbourhood" pilot project for the North End neighbourhood for a period of three years, including the establishment of a 30 kilometres per hour speed limit on all streets in the neighbourhood; and

3. The issues of traffic calming and road closure and/or access be referred back to Staff to work with North End Neighbours, other stakeholders, and legal counsel for the City, to achieve resolution, through negotiation, of those issues as well as of the outstanding appeal to the OMB, in Setting Sail, relating to the North End.
Rationale for why the North End is a perfect neighbourhood for a cutting edge (in Canada) pilot project:

- The North End Neighbourhood has well-defined boundaries which makes the effectiveness of a Pilot Project easier to monitor

- The North End is itself, an historical neighbourhood with a widely-acknowledged and proud culture of its own

- The North End has a cohesive community identity, including schools, recreational, medical, and social facilities that support a large student population and a higher instance of resident extended families than probably any other neighbourhood in the City

- Enhancing the North End’s attractiveness to families with children makes sound economic sense, in terms of using City infrastructure and in terms of populating the downtown with families

- The North End has one of the highest densities of adult and child population in the City, but its streets and urban design are a century old, and not conducive to or safe for high volume traffic

- As one of Hamilton’s downtown family neighbourhoods, the North End provides a home for people who work in the downtown, walk to work, take public transit and it comprises a key group of stakeholders who have invested in the City core

- There are significant development pressures on the families in the North End, caused by the City’s interest in developing the West Harbour shoreline, including Pier 8

- Even without the future development anticipated for the West Harbour shoreline, there is now an unacceptably large volume of cut-through traffic through our residential neighbourhood.

- The causal connection between high volume traffic and urban blight has been well-established for over 50-years in myriad studies locally and World-wide

- There is overwhelming evidence of heavy traffic and vehicles traveling at substantially higher than normal speeds on the North End’s residential streets.