

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

To:

Mayor Steele and Members of the City Council
Curtis Dray, Manager of Roads and Parks Operations
By-Law Department



Concerns About Proposed Changes to Pleasant Beach Road Parking and Gate, and Amenities

We, the residents and supporters of Pleasant Beach Road, strongly oppose the proposed changes to the existing parking, gate arrangements, and the addition of amenities such as benches on our narrow, dead-end road. Increasing public parking on Pleasant Beach Road poses significant safety risks, especially for families with young children, pedestrians, and cyclists.

Key Concerns:

1. **Safety Hazards:** The road has no sidewalks and is flanked by ditches, making it dangerous for families, pedestrians, and cyclists. Parked cars would force people into the road, increasing the risk of accidents.
2. **Blocked Access:** Cars parked along the road would obstruct driveways, impairing residents' visibility when exiting their properties and making it difficult for emergency vehicles to access the area.
3. **Increased Traffic:** Increasing parking would lead to an influx of non-residents, worsening traffic congestion and putting unnecessary strain on the road's infrastructure.
4. **Lack of By-Law Enforcement:** During peak times, by-law officers do not adequately monitor the area, leading to illegal parking and other violations that exacerbate safety and congestion issues. Without proper enforcement, any increase in parking will only worsen the situation.
5. **Emergency Access:** Changing the existing gate to a smaller, locked gate could impede emergency response times, putting lives at risk. The current swing gate allows quick access, and altering it would be an unnecessary, misuse of taxpayer funds.
6. **Waste of Resources:** The proposed addition of benches is not only unnecessary but also an inefficient use of public funds. Furthermore, the placement of a bench could either face a sand pile or face a garbage enclosure, defeating its purpose.

Additional Concerns:

- **Environmental Impact & Inconsistencies:** There's a troubling disconnect between the regulations applied to Pleasant Beach and those governing the adjacent Sherkston Shores' Elco Beach. At Elco Beach, heavy machinery is used regularly for beach grooming, and vehicles are allowed to drive on the beach, despite the presence of endangered wildlife. Yet, these same activities are restricted on Pleasant Beach due to environmental rules. The heavy equipment used by Sherkston Shores to groom their beaches is not allowed on Pleasant Beach, yet similar actions are necessary to maintain this area, especially after winter storms. The city's decision to restrict such maintenance in our area leaves the

road and adjacent beach at a disadvantage, contributing to erosion and other environmental issues. These inconsistencies raise concerns about the fairness and effectiveness of the regulations.

- **Tourism Focus:** The road allowances should not be promoted as a tourist destination. Efforts to attract visitors should focus on designated areas such as Nickel, Centennial, and H.H. Knoll Beaches, which are better equipped to handle tourist traffic.

We urge the relevant authorities to prioritize the safety and well-being of residents by maintaining the current parking restrictions, gate structure, and avoiding unnecessary additions such as benches. Decreasing unnecessary traffic, rather than increasing accessibility for non-residents, is crucial for preserving the safety, peace, and environmental integrity of our community.

We, the undersigned residents and supporters of Pleasant Beach Road, strongly oppose the proposed changes as outlined above. By signing below, we express our commitment to preserving the safety, peace, and environmental integrity of our community.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
	5386 FL# 21 Sherkston	
	259 PLEASANT BEACH RD	
	5515 FL # 25	
	5501 Firelane 22	
	5551 FIRELANE #25	
	249 PLEASANT BEACH RD	
	258 Pleasant Beach Rd.	
	5352 Firelane 21	
	243 FIRELANE 26	
	5385 FIRELANE 24	
	239 Firelane 26	
	318 Pleasant BEACH	
	275 PLEASANT Beach Rd	
	5350 Firelane 24	
	5521 FIRELANE 22	
	5537 FIRELANE 26	
	5565 Firelane 22	
	5399 Firelane 21	
	5373 Firelane 21	
	249 Firelane 26	
	260 Pleasant Beach Rd	
	260 Pleasant Beach Rd	

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
	297 Firelane 23	
	307 Pleasant Beach	
	284 Pleasant Beach Rd	
	Pleasant Beach Rd.	
	5353 FL 24 Sherkston, Ont	
	5357 FL 24 Sherkston, Ont	
	5340 FL 24 Sherkston, Ont	
	5340 Fl 24 Pleasant Beach Rd	
	5384 Firelane	