

Monster homes interim control bylaw getting clarity

By Kathryn Boyle
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Even though the Interim Control Bylaw regarding monster homes has passed, some Halton Hills councillors found some clarity was needed.

During council's regular meeting on March 21, Regional Councillor Jane Fogal raised her concerns.

According to the report, abutting properties of the possible monster homes will receive notification of the change, but Fogal couldn't identify what that meant.

Is that just the one on either side? Is it the one across the street? she asked.

Halton Hills executive director of planning John Linhardt then answered her question, defining abutting as the two houses on either side and the rear.

We did have some internal discussions on whether or not we should go to the other side of the street, and our con-

clusion was, based on all the dialogue we had at the previous council meeting we decided to focus on the lots there immediately adjacent to the side and to the rear.

I guess I disagree, because the people across the street get to look at the house across the street, Fogal said. Could we add in the house across the street?

Linhardt asked her to leave it with staff on how to best determine what qualifies as across the street.

It never hurts to add another house in, it's just notifying people of something that might happen, she said. If there's two houses across the street, send it to two houses across the

street. Fogal then put forward a motion requesting staff to look into what qualifies as across the street.

Ward 3 Councillor David Kentner then took the thought a step further to include the entire neighbourhood.



JANE FOGAL

Neighbourhoods are a very difficult situation to define, he said. In the end, the entire street or whatever area, they have an interest in. They may not have or may never have a legal right to file an objection that could stop you from putting an addition on your house, but they

certainly have a right to know what's going on.

Ward 2 Councillor Bryan Lewis then asked if they could follow a meter system, meaning notifications would be sent out to houses in a certain distance.

The motion then carried.

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