

Changes to road caught in regional red tape

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stakeholders might be opposed," said Ballaro, who added the bends in the roads in that area help to make Terra Cotta a nice place to live.

Ballaro said he also doesn't know if paving the section of the road north of the curve will have the desired effect.

"If anything, a paved road would lead to people being more comfortable on the road," said Ballaro, adding it could result in increased traffic.

Nurse has also suggested that some trees be taken down to improve her sightline when exiting her driveway.

Sandy Lovisotto, Peel Region Project Manager, Transportation Program Planning, said that is something that could be addressed with the NEC. The area falls within the Niagara Escarpment Plan area.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) of the road (from 300 metres north of Ballinad Rd. to 1,200 metres south of Ballinad Rd.), north of the S-bend, is currently being done to determine

what to do to rehabilitate the road.

The Town of Halton Hills is not contributing any money to cover the cost of that EA, because Lewis said Halton Hills Town staff has said it isn't necessary.

"Money spent on this could be better served with some immediate road maintenance and a better base coat of hard surfacing applied," said Lewis.

However, Thompson said Peel Region had to do the EA.

"In order to hardtop, we have to go through this process. The Region would love to have it done now," said Thompson, who has received numerous complaints about the condition of the road there.

He estimates that section of road won't be paved until the fall of 2009. There are also plans to level off the grade of the road there.

"It will take that long because we have to appease the (Credit Valley) Conservation Authority and Niagara Escarpment Commission."

Thompson said the S-bend is a safe-

ty issue and he has been pushing for changes but, "the reason nothing is being done there is the NEC is adamant that nothing is changed."

"When are we going to get the NEC's attention, when someone is killed?" asked Thompson.

He said NEC's reason for not wanting the road straightened is that it will increase traffic speed into Terra Cotta.

He is suggesting the S-bend remain for southbound traffic only and a new northbound lane be constructed east of the current road alongside where the hydro line. He said that land is owned by Peel Region.

"I have not had a written no, but I have been told by staff to forget about it," said Thompson, who plans to continue to press the issue with NEC anyway.

Nurse stressed the problem with the roadway needs to be solved now.

"With the law of averages it (a serious accident) is going to happen. We've had too many alms. They've got to do something before someone gets killed," said Nurse.

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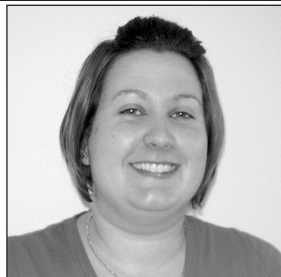
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