

Comment

Fourth Line solution on the way shortly

In the recent days and weeks, we've received many letters on the contentious Fourth Line closure — some for it, but many more against the move.

While we know closing this section of road from Derry Road to south of Main Street East has caused inconvenience for those trying to get from the new subdivisions to Hwy. 401 and the new Crossroads shopping centre, and has potentially increased traffic in other areas of town, we need to keep in mind that with pain comes progress.

Within about 18 to 24 months, a new portion of James Snow Parkway is scheduled to open and will fill the void for the much-needed north-south connection from the Derry Road/Fourth Line area.

As Halton Transportation Services Manager Ed Soldo previously explained in Milton Council Chambers, the Fourth Line closure is necessary for a CP Rail underpass to be constructed at James Snow Parkway.

So, to those impatient or angry with the Region's move — which the Town supported — to close the section of Fourth Line, we say hang in there and try to be patient.

A solution to the situation is on its way.



Our Readers Write

Thanks to all who supported 30-Hour Famine

Dear Editor:

On Friday and Saturday the Youth Group from Knox Presbyterian Church completed the 30-Hour Famine.

Young people go 30 hours without food in order to raise awareness and money for some of the world's poorest children.

During the 30-hour time period, all participants were able to consume water and drinks, which were supplied by Loblaws. Afterward, we finished with a special meal donated by Quinzo's Subs.

On Saturday we went door-to-door collecting non-perishable food items, stuffed animals, personal care products

and monetary donations that we delivered to the Salvation Army.

We're pleased to report that we collected 375 items, or about \$300 worth of merchandise.

All of Milton helped make this a success. In particular, we'd like to thank our adult supervisors, Maria Grobler and Jim Langese, as well as organizer and supervisor Mike Luyckx, without whose efforts the event wouldn't have been possible.

**Jennifer Allore and
Jessica Gordon
30-Hour Famine Organizing
Committee**

Closing Fourth Line will increase traffic and safety concerns in surrounding areas

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to the March 29 letter to the editor entitled 'Closing Fourth Line a good thing'.

In my opinion, closing Fourth Line won't eliminate safety concerns in the area, only reassign them to another part of town — namely, to residents in the Thompson Road area.

Closing Fourth Line may make that particular stretch of road calmer, but children in the new developments crossing Thompson Road will now have to contend with heavier traffic with a serious lack of crossings.

Cars trying to merge with traffic on Thompson Road from side streets will have to take more chances trying to pull out, which

may lead to more accidents. Furthermore, increased pollution — with motorists needing to travel further to and from their homes — will affect the air quality in the area.

A smarter decision would have been to keep Fourth Line open and make it a 'Community Safety Zone', like many other areas in Milton, where police radar traps and overhead barriers to eliminate heavy transport traffic could be installed. Then once Thompson Road was widened and traffic lights were installed, Fourth Line could be safely closed.

Once again, I believe, Milton's traffic co-ordinators have shown their lack of intelligence in terms of traffic planning.

This 'Not In My Backyard' solu-

tion from those that were affected by Fourth Line traffic won't make the area safer for anyone other than those on Fourth Line.

If anything, this will make everyday travel by car and foot more dangerous for the multitudes of people in other areas.

I believe Fourth Line should be reopened until such time as proper traffic planning can be implemented, making all residents safe in all traveling corridors of town. The longer planners sit on this issue, the more dangerous it will be for residents forced to deal with another area's concerns.

**Daniel Rehburg-Larrivee
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by Steve Nease

