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November 19, 2018

Mayor and Council  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
26 Francis Street  
P.O. Box 9000  
Lindsay, ON K9V 5R8

Re: Paving Zion Rd from Simcoe Rd. to Valentia Rd.

Dear All Members of Council,

As you are all aware of, Zion Rd is a dirt road. The residences of Zion Rd call it a dirt road because it is in fact mostly clay. It's not even gravel on its best days. It's also very disheartening to see Eldon Rd, a perfectly good road be repaved this summer while our road sits as dirt. Over the years the residents of Zion Rd have had many discussions with various members of council & the mayor about the need for bringing Zion Rd into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and the response we have received in the past is plain and simple – being ignored.

We're all sure that there have been many intelligent debates & gathering data to justify whether its more cost effective to maintain the road as "dirt" vs paving the road. Cost factors such as grading, repairing pot holes, applying calcium just to name a few are costs borne to the city that are recouped via resident's taxes. But what I am almost certain of what has not been considered when making a business case to pave the road are the additional individual costs to the residences aside from paying taxes. The additional cost to maintain our vehicles, equipment and machinery have not been considered in your calculations.

A good example came up about a month ago when I personally was questioned by Enterprise Car rental on Kent St. as to why after a 1-week rental on a brand new car with 4500km, why the exhaust tip at the back of the car was completely pitted with rust after a rainfall during the time I had it. The calcium that is applied to our dirt road certainly keeps the dust down, but it is corrosive. It rots out vehicles and the mud and stones that make up the road cause us all to frequent repairs especially to vehicle braking systems. The clay sticks to everything and we are not able to keep a vehicle clean unlike residences in town as when you drive home your vehicle is covered in corrosive mud, despite being just washed. Overall, we go through vehicles faster than others who don't have the side effects of living on a dirt road.

I personally own two farms in the area and driving my farm equipment on the road also poses a challenge. If equipment is not washed within a few days, doing so later reveals rust spots where the mud was. My farm equipment costs are not something to be dismissed. Machinery is very expensive, and consideration is placed when buying new vehicles and equipment now due to the limited lifespan, shortened by the need to operate on a dirt road. Believe it or not, there is an economic impact to our community when folks like myself, don't buy a brand new car, a brand

