

Safety First - Say No to Proposed Road Access for ATVs in Lindsay (submitted by: Darryl and Robyn James)

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

17 June 2019 - 29 August 2021

PROJECT NAME:

Online Petitions

Petition Request: We, the undersigned, petition the Council of the City of Kawartha Lakes to maintain the status quo, and to make no changes to Bylaw 2019-077 which would allow ATVs on the proposed route or any municipal roads in Lindsay for a pilot program or permanently.

Petition Background: Despite serious public safety concerns and expert advice, Council is considering a recommendation to allow ATVs on municipal roads in Lindsay for a pilot program.

North on Logie Street to King Street
King Street to Lindsay Street
Lindsay Street North to Wellington Street
Wellington Street to Victoria Avenue
Victoria Avenue to Elgin Street
Elgin Street to Angeline Street North
Angeline Street North to Thunder Bridge Road

Thunder Bridge Road to Trail Head

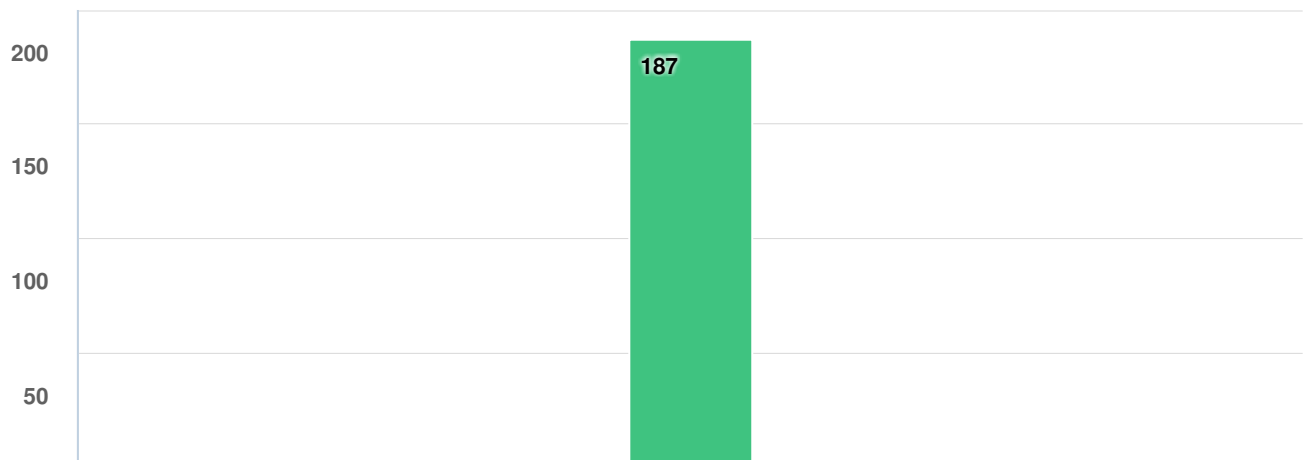
The proposal would allow ATVs to travel on city roads with children, pedestrians, commuter traffic, school buses, strollers, scooters, bikes, and in close proximity to dance studios, gyms, parks, schools, youth music studios and residential areas, putting vulnerable members of the community and others at risk. All ATV

Manufacturers warn that ORVs are for "OFF ROAD USE ONLY". ATVs were not designed for road use. ATVs pose a risk to others on roadways. ATVs are NOT crash tested for roads like other vehicles. ATVs are not built with safety equipment such as airbags, or turn signals. ATVs do not legally require specific training or license testing like other vehicles.

Dr. Bocking, the Medical Officer of Health, advised Council "Restricting ORVs to trail use only would be the preferred best practice" and said that "design characteristics of these vehicles, particularly ATVs, make them unsafe on roadways". She warned that when off-road vehicles are allowed on roads, there are "higher rates of fatalities and serious injuries for ORV riders on roadways compared to off-roadways" (Source 1: Oral Presentation to Council, Committee Of the Whole June 1, 2021 via Youtube @ 16:06) Kawartha Lakes ATV hospitalization rate is 5 times greater than the Ontario rate (Source 2: Health Unit Report on ORV TF Recommendations, page 1) Kawartha Lakes hospitalizations increased from 30 to 60% of HKPR total between 2015-2019 (Source 3: Health Unit Report on ORV TF Recommendations, Table 7) Children and young males are most likely to be injured. Head and neck injuries are the most common cause of death. Rollovers are the most likely cause of injury. Almost all ATV accidents are due to recreational use in the evenings and on weekends (Source 4: The Epidemiology of All Terrain Vehicle and Snowmobile-Related Injuries in Ontario - 2019 Public Health Ontario) and (Health Unit Report on ORV TF Recommendations, page 2) City staff have raised many concerns and noted that public safety must be managed as a priority. "As always, public safety should be considered paramount" , Bryan Robinson (Source 5: Public Works Report for ORV task force, April 2, 2021, page 2). Bill 107, otherwise known as the "Getting Ontario Moving Act" does not impact the City of Kawartha Lakes, as confirmed by the Public Works department head Bryan Robinson. (Source 6: Oral Presentation, Committee of the Whole, Bryan Robinson, May 4, 2021 via YouTube @ 21:50) This is important because there is no need to make any changes to this bylaw required by the Province. "It was clarified that there is no requirement for the City to amend the current By-law to Regulate the Operation of ATV's and ORV's on Municipal Highways." Bryan Robinson. (Source 7: Committee of The Whole meeting Minutes dated May 4, 2021, page 8 of 15). "Incidents on municipal roads would increase." (Source 8: Public Works Report for ORV task force, April 2, 2021, page 2) There will be extra costs to the taxpayer in The City of Kawartha Lakes. "Due to the City's high self-insured retention (deductible), the costs incurred to investigate and defend any such claim(s) would largely be the responsibility of the City. (Source 9: Insurance Risk Management Report on ORV TF Recommendations, page 4, Jolene Ramsey, April 14, 2021) A pilot program which will result in more ATV incidents, injuries and possible deaths is not acceptable. It's Council's responsibility to protect public safety first and foremost. Council should vote against this proposal, leaving the current ATV access unaffected.

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Signatories to a petition waive any expectation of privacy as a result of the petition being created for review by City Co...



Question options

- ☒ I understand and agree.

Mandatory Question (187 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question