

Jump In Kawartha Lakes

Speed limit reduction for part of Balsam Lake Drive

Dec 05, 2023 - Jan 04, 2024

Project: Online Petitions

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Petition Request: We the undersigned, petition the Council of the City of Kawartha Lakes to: 1) change the speed limit from 50KPH to 40 KPH on Balsam Lake Drive (BLD) from #142 to Stonegate Drive. 2) Add "KEEP RIGHT" signs at the bottom of "Kings Hill" each way between 142 Balsam Lake Drive and the bottom of the hill on the east side. 3) Paint a solid centre line on the whole of Kings Hill to help ensure all vehicles stay on the right side.

Petition Background: We are property owners along a section of Balsam Lake Drive in the City of Kawartha Lakes (#142 east to Stonegate Drive). We are looking to reduce the road speed limit and at Kings Hill, (blind slope) add signage and centre line to improve the safety of drivers, pedestrians and cyclists.

We understand that in the Kawartha Lakes "40 is the new 50". Many communities have seen this positive change over the past few years.

Attached is a diagram of the stretch of road for which we are proposing the changes. There are also photos of some of the areas we refer to in the text.

Our two proposals are as follows:

1. Speed limit change from 50KMH to 40KMH. 142 Balsam Lake Drive to Stonegate Drive.
2. Add "KEEP RIGHT" signs at the bottom of "Kings Hill" going both ways between 142BLD and the bottom of the hill on the east side. These signs were there in the past, however for some reason they are now missing. Paint a centre line through the same area to make clear to drivers to stay on the right side of the road.

The following are reasons why we feel the petition should be considered:

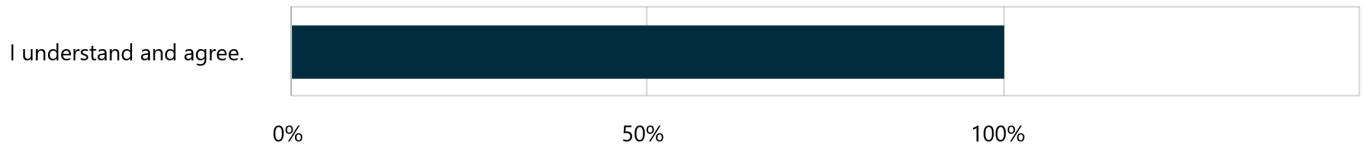
1. There are numerous hidden driveway entrances and blind curves along the route. There are no sidewalks.
2. There are numerous dwellings located on the opposite side from the lake where families must cross the road to access their property on the waterfront. Each year there are more of these lots being developed and built on.
3. There is a municipal public boat launch located on a very sharp curve (approx at #240). To add to the danger, vehicles and their trailers exiting eastbound must cross completely into the westbound lane even though traffic travelling west cannot be seen due to the sharp curve. This is because the entrance is on a sharp angle from Balsam Lake Drive.
4. There is a guardrail installed at Blanchards creek on both sides of the road. In places there is only 12 inches of shoulder for pedestrians to stand when traffic comes by. It is noted that because of the guardrails it difficult for pedestrians to exit or move to the side of the roadway when traffic comes around the corner.
- 5 There is a municipal public beach (Blanchards Beach) which borders directly on the road. Parking for the beach is only allowed on the opposite side of Balsam Lake Drive on Blanchards Road. Therefore pedestrian traffic including children often cross the roadway especially in the summer months. There is no crosswalk or stop sign on BLD at the beach.
6. Kawartha Lakes is actively promoting the Laidlaw Dry Stone Walls which line a large part of the referenced roadway. This historical feature attracts many visitors in vehicles, bikes and on foot. Having the traffic passing through at a slower speed is safer and therefore a clear benefit to the community.

Petition Organizer: Doug Paterson of Kirkfield, ON

Petition Disclaimer: The City of Kawartha Lakes does not support, endorse or detract from the Petition Request above until a formal resolution regarding this matter is adopted by City Council. The City of Kawartha Lakes also cannot attest to the factual accuracy of the background material, as it has been solely provided by the Petition Organizer.

5. Signatories to a petition waive any expectation of privacy as a result of the petition being created for review by City Council and the General Public in an Open Session of City Council. Your personal information will not be published on any Kawartha Lakes website, however will be made available to any member of City Council upon request, and may also be publicly released in a Freedom of Information Request. Questions about the collection and disclosure of personal information provided by me on this petition should be directed to the City Clerk's Office. Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 18 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
I understand and agree.	100.00%	18