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Letter in support of Extending the Trail

April 7, 2021

Kristine Free
Michael Drive
Tecumseh, ON

Mayor Gary MacNamara, Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti and Honorable Town Councilors:

I am a Tecumseh resident, and I am writing to you today to voice my support of the extension of the trail.

A safe multi-use trail along Riverside Drive between Lesperance and Manning Road is something that has been needed in that stretch for a long time. When we heard that the town had proposed this extension we were thrilled. Ever since our children were young, my husband and I often took our kids for bike rides throughout town but we always tried to avoid Riverside Drive as there was no safe place to ride our bikes or to even walk with our children.

For the past three years, my husband and I have been proud members of the Tecumseh Slow Ride group, and up until covid rules prevented it, we rode our bikes with the group every Thursday night. One of the wonderful things about the Slow Ride group is that we follow different routes each week encouraging us to explore the town of Tecumseh as well as the outskirts of East Windsor. The Riverside Drive section (Lesperance to Manning) has always posed an issue with our group as we are unable to include this route due to it simply being unsafe for riders.

The town of Tecumseh is now growing at an incredible pace. New subdivisions, parks, commercial properties seem to be popping up all the time. As a resident of the town, it has been exciting to watch it all unfold!

One of our favourite additions to the area is Lakewood Park. It is such a wonderful place to ride your bike, walk or go for a run or even play a game of disc golf. My family frequents Lakewood park quite often. It is a place that I hope everyone gets the chance to visit. Extending the trail along Riverside Drive will only ensure that residents, visitors and people of all capabilities can safely get to the park to enjoy it as well.

I urge you to please not delay this project any further. I believe the majority of residents in Tecumseh are in favour of the extension of the trail and want to see it completed as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time,

Kristine Free