

Dear Mayor Eccles, Deputy Mayor and Councillors,

I am submitting this correspondence today for direction to the 2025 budget meetings that will commence October 22nd 2024 for the purpose of discussing a budget plan for paving an increasingly dangerous 1.4 km stretch of road on Concession 2 SDR between Alan Park Road and #3 which is under the West Grey jurisdiction.

I request that Concession 2 SDR between Allan Park Road and #3 to be paved or resurfaced with a more permanent solution.

I would like today's correspondence, my upcoming delegation on November 5th 2024 (as well as my delegation from last year if needed) to be included in the upcoming budget meetings and to be submitted as proof that the public are being subjected to dangerous road conditions that could potentially cause bodily harm. The purpose and importance of ascertaining this much needed representation and support "for the Public" is paramount to keeping motorists safe on this road. If West Greys Councillors became aware of the magnitude of the situation and offered their approval and commitment to this project it would assure the public that safety is indeed your top priority. It is essential to achieve the goal of public safety by eliminating the ongoing serious driving conditions that commuters are subjected to every day on said road. Your support to budget for this project will have a positive impact on the public and their safety.

I delegated last year in September 2023 representing 18 residents regarding these seriously unsafe and dangerous road conditions. I showed evidence of the constant and almost immediate deterioration (within a few days of scraping and spraying) of the road surface which can cause drivers to lose control of their vehicle, particularly near the crests of the two big hills, as well as the dangers from "dust white outs" causing zero visibility, (again) particularly at the crest of the two hills, accompanied by flying stones and gravel. Health concern's caused by the dust was/is still a major concern, along with deep ruts on the road surface of which some exceed depths of several inches or more at times, along with other washed out surfaces and dangerous road conditions particularly on the crest of the two big hills, all of which is subjecting the public to great risks. Under normal conditions (pre construction) we have well over 125 cars per day travel this stretch of road with public attractions drawing the public to this area endangering everyone using this road.

My objective is to end the dangerous road safety issues that are glaringly apparent on this stretch of road. These conditions have been acknowledged by, and expressed in one form or or another, by not only the residents on this road (for years) but also by staff at the West Grey Rural Operations and Public Works Department, in addition to Police officers at the Durham Police Station. It is a known "Bad" stretch of road. There was and still are ongoing health concerns from the residents on Concession 2 SDR (between Allan Park Road and #3) because of the extraordinary amount of dust that is being kicked up from the dirt and gravel road. The action that was requested in my 09/2023 delegation was for this road to be put on the 2024/2025 budget to pave or resurface this 1.4 km of road with a sustainable long last surface to eliminate unsafe and

dangerous road conditions and health concerns.

Note: The “Construction induced dangers” we are currently experiencing, from the ongoing traffic circle construction at #4 and #3, did NOT create these already pre existing dangerous road safety issues, they have only expedited the deterioration of the road and have just highlighted the everlasting lack of safety on this road accompanied by all the health and safety concerns that the public/we have already been subjected to for far too long.





In these pictures a car had passed me after cresting the top of the hill and had already driven approximately 15 seconds towards me down the hill before passing me. There were no other vehicles on the road at the time. As you can see in the pictures and video just how much dust only 1 vehicle can kick up, which created a very large plume of dust hanging in the air on the crest of the hill, so much dust that it created a “zero

visibility” situation in the right lane on the crest of the hill. This happens frequently. When there are several vehicle's passing each other drivers can experience “zero visibility” on both sides of the road, particularly on the top of the two hills. In these particular pictures I had very poor visibility and wasn't able to see if there was a car on the crest of the hill or not, or if a pedestrian or cyclist was on the right side of the road, or if there was a car broken down and pulled over at the side of the road etc. I had to stop my car for several seconds to allow the dust to clear before proceeding so i was absolutely sure I didn't hit someone or something. This is a frequent occurrence on this road. Spraying the road to help suppress the dust is temporary and short lived at best. PLEASE NOTE : this picture was taken within a week of the road being treated

According to the research that has been done by the National Guide to Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure (IC), along with the National Research Council (NRC) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (InfaGuide) they have acknowledged that;

- “- untreated roads may contribute to an increase of frequent and severity of motor collisions. Accident potential is increased due to loss of visibility and less traction due to the loose gravel. About 2.3 times more people are killed per vehicle mile of travel on unpaved than paved roads, and the fine particulates are also the main cause of reduced visibility (haze) causing a white out. Speed is a factor as well.
- fine dust particulates may become a health issues when inhaled, aggravating existing respiratory health problems. The Canadian Ambient air quality objectives still exist for total suspended particulates (TSP).
- Generally PM 10 inhalable particulates are 10 micrometers or smaller and can be seen by the naked eye, while PM 2.5 inhalable fine particulates are smaller than 2.5 micrometers and are only seen with an Electron microscope. Both of these sized particulates can contain hundreds of chemicals and can get deep into your lungs and blood stream. While both cause health issues the PM 2.5 fine particulates pose the greatest risk to health. “

In my delegation last year I asked to see previous dust monitoring because I found none. It's my understanding that there has never been any dust monitoring done on this road. This comes back to a major concern, which is in addition to the road surface dangers; Are the dust particulates that we are breathing in exceeding the level of acceptance? Are the levels of dust contributing to any of the public's health issues? This and the road surface deterioration, which causes dangerous driving conditions and very poor visibility, needs to be addressed for the publics safety. Paving this road will eliminate the constant deterioration of the road and will eliminate the excessive dust.



This is a living ever green tree. You can't see any green at all.

I trust and pray that West Grey Municipality, the council members and other committees or departments involved in making this happen will advocate for safety on this road and vote yes for paving it, which can only happen if it's in the budget plan. All of the listed safety and health hazards put forth to you today, in my delegation last September and in my upcoming delegation on Nov 5th 2024 can all be eradicated with the support and recommendations by West Grey Councillors. Recommendations to budget and a designated plan to pave this road will in turn ensure the elimination of these real dangers on Con2 SDR for the safety of all commuters using this road. The required number of Council recommendations that pass, goes to budget and then proceeds with a budget plan (for paving this road) is desperately needed! With your support you have the potential to save lives and or possibly help prevent future accidents by having it paved and eliminating the safety hazards. This would also ensure the public can travel with ease, which is what every driver and pedestrian desires, needs and deserves.

I appreciate your time, thank you.
Sue Godfrey