



11 July 2018

Mayor Jamie McGarvey and Council
Town of Parry Sound
52 Seguin Street
Parry Sound, Ontario
P2A 1B4

Dear Mayor McGarvey and Council:

We would like to bring to your attention a safety concern with respect to walking and cycling at the west end of Isabella Road at the St Charles crossing, particularly as this route becomes even busier when the new K-12 school opens and with the further development of the condominiums beside the salt dock.

We are pleased with the changes the Town of Parry Sound has already made to make the community environment, particularly around schools, more supportive of active transportation. For example, reducing the speed limit is a critical step toward easing the safety concerns of parents and students, and to ultimately getting more children and youth walking and biking to school. The gates at the St Charles railway crossing are another welcome safety improvement. However, there is still very little room for bicycle and pedestrian traffic at this crossing. We appreciate that town staff recognize that Isabella Street needs to be widened after the crossing going west, and that the top end of Wood Street also requires a sidewalk and paved flat shoulders. But currently, the paved storm-water swales create an even greater risk of a cyclist losing control, and they present a tripping hazard for pedestrians. As cycling and pedestrian traffic is expected to increase when the new school opens, this portion of Isabella Road remains a concern. We believe further safety improvements for this school route are both feasible and necessary.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and would be pleased to work with you and the Near North District School Board to support ongoing efforts to improve the safety of local active transportation corridors.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Pollock". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rebecca Pollock, Chair
Parry Sound Area Active Transportation