

David Jones, PhD

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Councillor Arlene Vanderbeek (Ward 13, Dundas)
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5
arlene.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca
905-546-2712

Dear Councillor Vanderbeek,

I am writing to you on behalf of the “Public Laneway” initiative, an informal association with more than 500 members, focused within the Dundas neighbourhood surrounding the Driving Park and the Cross-Melville Heritage Conservation District.

In your recent letter dated October 10, widely circulated to Dundas residents, you seem completely out of touch with the concerns and growing outrage in your Ward, which is all the more remarkable considering it was recently front page news in the Hamilton Spectator.

To be crystal clear, we are passionate about protecting the unique heritage and character of Dundas, and we are steadfastly opposed to the proposed sale and permanent closure of the “Public Laneway” that connects Alma to Victoria, near Sydenham. It has been an essential thread in the fabric of our Dundas Community since at least 1857, and it must be preserved.

We don’t care that you have difficulty understanding the intentions of “the applicant”.

We don’t care whether the administrative fee is \$4k or \$8k.

We don’t care whether staff carry out a City-wide review of alleys.

We don’t care to have you explain the public consultation process.

Our primary concern is to prevent the privatization of the Public Laneway.

All these other secondary issues that you are raising are meant as distractions and diversions, and we are not fooled by what you are trying to do.

If you would simply indicate your own intention to vote against the application when it comes before the Public Works Committee, this issue would be resolved immediately. In the alternative, please explain to everyone in Dundas, why you are in favour of privatizing the Public Laneway.

Sincerely,



David Jones, PhD