

## Lovasi-Wood, Andrea

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**From:** Nancy Ives [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 9, 2021 9:08 AM  
**To:** Office, Clerks; Lovasi-Wood, Andrea  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Action: Request to be on the Agenda for the Transportation Standing Committee

*[This email has been received from an external person or system]*

Clerk's Office:

Residents of Craighburn subdivision would like to make a formal presentation to the Transportation Standing Committee at their July 22, 2021 meeting. Here is some information for the Agenda Review Committee:

**Subject:** The proposed change to bus route 55 will see the route shorten 2.1 km and now end at the corner of Charles Keating and Waverley Rd. rather than further down the Waverley Rd. This change directly impacts the residents of Craighburn subdivision. The new turnaround loop will run through the subdivision (Charles Keating and Craighburn Drive). The change, due to be implemented in November 2021, does not save time or costs. The residents have many concerns such as lack of communication/engagement regarding the whole process but most importantly concerns regarding the safety and liability aspects of this route change for this area.

**Background:** Our community is basically a large loop. We have two entrances/exits into the community from the Waverley Road. The Charles Keating/Waverley Rd. intersection has a two way stop and sees traffic from four directions coming on/off the 107 by-pass and an increasing amount of traffic coming from both Waverley and Dartmouth. The Craighburn/Waverley Rd. is a T-intersection with poor visibility. It is not uncommon during peak times for traffic to be backed up entering and exiting the subdivision. These intersections have been the site of multiple accidents over the years, including a fatal accident at the Craighburn/Waverley Rd. intersection. The residents already expressed safety concerns when entering and exiting the subdivision and a bus coming through the community is escalating their concerns.

No safety report was prepared as part of the development for the route change. Halifax Transit did two test drives through the turnaround loop – one December 5, 2014 and the other on February 3, 2020. The training department driver who tested the route through our neighbourhood in 2014 wrote "Rte 55— No problems noted. Seems like a smart idea to short turn the route me". The driver in February 2020 noted concerns "We have some concerns about how the residents may park here in the evening. The road was fine when we tested it at 11 in the morning. Also, we felt we should have a left turn lane where the painted island is turning off of Waverly Rd. onto Charles Keating Rd" (extracted from FOIPOP). The focus was on driver training, not dedicated to safety. In addition, the drive-through was conducted during non-peak hours.

Mr. Reage, Executive Director, Halifax Transit, advised Regional Council at their April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting that he "confidently" had no safety concerns. However, after completing the FOIPOP process, residents were frustrated to learn that no safety study/analysis was completed and that the training department drivers concerns noted above have not been addressed. Council's vote on Councillor Deagle-Gammon's motion (i.e. bus route 55 to continue down the Waverley Rd to the existing turnaround point for another year while a staff report is being prepared) was made without this information.

**Purpose/Desired Outcome:** That the portion of bus route 55 that extends past the intersection of Charles Keating/Waverley Rd. be maintained until further and more in-depth safety analysis and consultation with the

community regarding these safety issues take place. From what we have been able to determine there is no significant costs associated with maintaining that portion of the existing route. An amendment to the plan could enable a pause of implementing this change while the safety analysis is being conducted. It would also allow for the staff report on land purchase to be completed as per Councillor Deagle-Gammon's motion approved by Council on May 18.

Presentation – We will email a copy of our presentation to the Clerk's office in advance of the meeting as required.

Speakers – We will have one or two speakers and would like to have the full 10 minutes allotted.

Please let us know as soon as possible whether our request for a formal presentation has been approved.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Ives

Sue MacNeil

Cheryl Scotland

Andrea Speranza

cc: Councillor Deagle-Gammon