

March 12, 2026

To: Merrickville-Wolford Municipal Clerk
cc: Merrickville-Wolford Council Members

It has come to our attention that the Council is considering adding a sidewalk on the south side of Wellington West between St. John and St. Patrick as part of the Wastewater Infrastructure Project.

The affected homeowners of this area are very concerned about this proposed plan and object to it for the following reasons:

- Wellington West between St. John and St. Patrick is rarely used by cars and/or pedestrians to make their way to any of the various destinations in town, therefore the sidewalk will serve little or no purpose;
- There currently is a sidewalk on the north side of Wellington West from St. Lawrence and ending at St. John. The new sidewalk is proposed to be on the south side of the street from St. John to St. Patrick. Therefore, people choosing to use the sidewalk would need to cross the street twice at St. John and then again at St. Patrick as the current sidewalk on St. Patrick intersects with the Northwest corner while the proposed sidewalk would intersect with the Southwest corner thereby not being continuous;
- The contouring of the sidewalk to allow for all the driveways will render the sidewalk dangerous for people with mobility issues;
- Hydro poles may need to be relocated at an additional expense;
- Furthermore, adding a sidewalk which is not needed will increase the cost of maintenance and the cost of repairs to the municipality and the taxpayers at a time when tax dollars are desperately needed elsewhere;
- The additional cost to include the sidewalk in the project is estimated at upwards of \$200,000. If adding new sidewalks where none currently exist becomes the standard in Merrickville, the additional burden on the Village and it's taxpayers would be prohibitive;

- In addition to the needless cost, the work would inflict hardship on nearly every homeowner whose property it crosses.

224 Wellington West: Has an easement to construct steps and a landing to the front door on Wellington West. Last summer, obtained a permit to rebuild the landing and steps and the project was completed. With the proposed sidewalk, the front steps will no longer be usable as the proposed grade will be 12-16" lower than existing conditions. With this change in height, the steps will no longer be compliant with the building code and will no longer be able to stay within the easement.

218 Wellington West: Front porch may need to be removed.

212 Wellington West: Retaining wall and gardens may need to be relocated.

206 & 208 Wellington West: Driveways will no longer accommodate full size pickups.

206 St. John (corner of Wellington West): Gas meter and furnace exhaust may need to be modified to meet code.

As constituents and taxpayers, we urge you to remove from the plans the proposed sidewalk on Wellington West between St. John and St. Patrick. We ask that you please add this to the agenda of the next appropriate meeting.

Thank you for your attention and we are looking forward to your response.

Residents of Wellington Street West

Sarima Svilaus 206 ~~St. John~~
 (Sarima Svilaus)
 Sebastian Artelle ~~205 Wellington~~
 Heather Gawling ~~206 Wellington~~
 Nicole Smith ~~218 Wellington~~
 Rob Paredis 224 Wellington SW.

Wellington West Residents in Agreement With This Submission

205 Wellington west Sebastien Artelle

Sebastien Artelle

206 Wellington west Heather Gowling

Heather Gowling

208 Wellington west Mireille Mathewson

Mireille Mathewson

212 Wellington west Kelvin McGreavy

Kelvin McGreavy

218 Wellington west Diane Smith

Diane Smith

224 Wellington west Robert Paradis

Rob Paradis

223 Wellington west Kaitlyn Brennan

Ashley

Ashley Brennan

206 St John

Samra Svilans

211 Wellington St. W

A
ANDREW MCLEARY

106 St John St

Jan 27