



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Tom Crawford, Interim City Administrator
DATE: October 9, 2020
SUBJECT: Update on Legistar File #20-1547, Resolution to Prohibit On-Street Parking on the north side of Scio Church Road between S. Maple Road and Greenview Drive.

The following memo is regarding the follow-up on additional public feedback regarding Legistar File #20-1547 to approve the prohibition of on-street parking on the north side of Scio Church Road between S. Maple Road and Greenview Drive.

The City's Non-motorized plan calls for on-street bicycle lanes. Prior to beginning design work, staff reviewed the plan's recommendations to determine if the construction of bike lanes would be feasible and advisable. The bike lanes on Scio Church Road would serve the purpose of continuing to build out the City's bike infrastructure and provide a key link for people riding bicycles between this area and downtown either by on-street bike lanes on S. Seventh or by the lower stress local street route on Greenview Drive. Research has proven that Cities who invest in improved bicycling infrastructure have better safety outcomes for all transportation users; installing the bicycle lanes would further the City's Vision Zero, complete streets, and carbon neutrality policies.

Although we know that more people are choosing to ride bicycles in the City, in all weather conditions, the question of whether anyone will use the new infrastructure often comes up. A quick method staff use for understanding non-motorized transportation desires is by using the publically available STRAVA heat maps. Staff consider STRAVA user data to be a sampling of non-motorized activity and useful to help understand relative desire/demand for facilities. The STRAVA data shows that this section of Scio Church Road has usage levels similar to Miller Ave., Liberty St., and Pontiac Trail, which all have dedicated on-street bike lanes.

Different options for the proposed street and bike lane layout of Scio Church Road between S. Maple Road and S. Seventh Street were presented to public at a meeting on January 19, 2020. Residents were surveyed at that public meeting, online through A2 Open City Hall, and also through prepaid postaged postcards to property owners adjacent to the on-street parking. Residents were asked whether the City should: leave the configuration of the road as it is or remove parking from the north side of Scio Church between S. Maple Road and Greenview Drive

and install bike lanes on both sides. Additional feedback was also encouraged through the City’s project manager.

The results of the full engagement efforts are shown below in Table 1. The results of the Public Meeting Survey and the A2 Open City Hall Survey can also be viewed at the project website at www.a2gov.org/ScioChurch.

Table 1 - Percent of Support for Bike Lanes

Population	Number of Respondents	Maintain on-street parking (No Bike Lanes)	Install bike lanes on the north side of Scio Church between S Maple and Greenview	Undecided
Public Meeting ¹	48	25.0%	56.3%	18.7%
A2 Open City Hall – City-wide	146	17.8%	74.7%	7.5%
A2 Open City Hall – Ward 4	72	18.1%	73.6%	8.3%
Postcard Survey – Affected Homeowners ²	17	64.7%	35.3%	N/A

1. January 19, 2020

2. Property owners adjacent to current on-street parking

The removal of the on-street parking on the north side of Scio Church Road between S. Maple Road and Greenview Drive and installation of bike lanes was recommended by the Transportation Commission for City Council approval. A Resolution from the Transportation Commission supporting this recommendation is attached to the Resolution.

Based on the above information, staff have determined that the Non-motorized Plan’s recommendation for adding bike lanes on Scio Church Road is still valid and advisable to pursue. In order to incorporate the bike lanes east of S Maple Road, it is necessary to eliminate on-street parking from the north side of the road.

Chapter 10 of City Code requires Council approval for the permanent or temporary restriction of parking for more than one block.

In addition to the polling questions asked at the public meeting and on A2 Open City Hall, staff asked any comments from the affected residents that received the polling postcard. A summary follows:

Comments:

- To be added

Yes's:

- Sounds great to us!
- Sure would be nice if the bike riders understood their responsibilities as cyclists and "rules of the road" vs. thinking they own the road and can do as they please.

No's

- If this gets approved, homeowners should be compensated.
- Don't need bike lanes on this stretch of Scio Church. I am a biker and never feel I need a bike lane here. Thanks!
- This is a major traffic route in & out of AA. Bikes can and do use the continuous sidewalk on north side of Scio Church which is fenced in & safe.
- If you add bike lanes they will not connect to any path on the west end. Until if the bridge gets widened the path stops anyway.
- Way too much congestion. Sad you took away one lane. Bike lane downtown ridiculous! Multi-use walk across street is dangerous no way out.
- If this is passed – limited (no overnight) parking after construction is completed on Waltham Dr. & Covington to Brampton Ct. to Saxon. Don't want a parking lot in front of my home!
- This is our home. Where are visitors supposed to park? Emphatically NO!!!!
- 1.Our home utilizes Scio Church due to our 4-house block – Old Pear Tree Ct. 2. During rush hour we utilize inside lane to reach our street. 3. Right turn lane at Maple is needed due to often long traffic lines. One traffic lane each way is unacceptable. 4. However well intended, a bike lane (little used) is not the answer. The "non-motorized goal" is for high density areas.
- Those of us who live on Scio Church would lose the only on-street parking.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance on this matter.

cc: C Hupy
N Hutchinson