

LETTER PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 1, 2009

I ORGINALLY ASKED TO BE A DELEGATION TONIGHT TO ASK COUNCIL FOR A DATE THAT THE STOP SIGNS WERE GOING TO BE REMOVED ON EAST ROAD. I WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED WHEN I READ THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE STATING THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS NOW VOTED TO LEAVE THE STOP SIGNS IN PLACE.

ONE OF THE REASONS CITED FOR THIS DECISION WAS THAT TRANSLINK DOES NOT WANT SPEED BUMPS ON EAST ROAD BECAUSE IT IS CLASSIFIED AS A MAJOR ROAD NETWORK. I NOTICED IN THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> THAT THE COUNCIL TABLED THE CORRESPONDENCE FROM TRANSLINK IN ORDER TO AQUIRE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEED BUMPS. IN THE NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> MINUTES THE LETTER IS AGAIN TABLED. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK COUNCIL IF THEY HAVE FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE TO OR FROM TRANSLINK THAT IS NOT ALREADY DOCUMENTED.

I HAVE READ THE CORRESPONDENCE IN QUESTION FROM TRANSLINK AND IN THE CLOSING PARAGRAPH THEY STATE AND I QUOTE: "PLEASE REMOVE ALL THE SPEED BUMPS ON EAST ROAD OR SUBMIT TO ME A LETTER FORMALLY REQUESTING THE INSTALLATION OF SPEED BUMPS ON EAST ROAD AND THE REASONS WHY SPEED BUMPS ARE REQUIRED. "

HAVING READ THIS CORRESPONDENCE I AM LEAD TO BELIEVE THAT TRANSLINK IS NOT SAYING DEFINITELY NO TO THE SPEED BUMPS.

THE DECISION TO LEAVE THE STOP SIGNS UP SHOULD NOT BASED ON WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE SPEED BUMPS ON EAST ROAD. THE STOP SIGNS WERE INSTALLED ON JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> AND COUNCIL ASSURED US THAT THEY WERE THERE FOR A FOUR WEEK TRIAL PERIOD, WE ARE NOW APPROACHING 6 MONTHS.

WE PRESENTED A PETITION WITH 322 SIGNATURES ASKING FOR THE FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE STOP SIGNS AT STRONG AND EAST ROAD DUE TO INEFFECTIVENESS AND LACK OF SAFETY.

AT THAT POINT, COUNCIL MADE A MOTION TO HAVE A PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC STUDY DONE. THIS STUDY WAS COMPLETED AT A COST OF APPROX \$6,000 TO THE VILLAGE. THE STUDY CLEARLY STATES THAT STOP SIGNS ARE NOT MEANT FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL. THE STUDY ALSO SAYS AND I QUOTE, "THE CONSEQUENSES OF INSTALING UN-WARRANTED STOP SIGNS WERE OBSERVED BY BUNT STAFF IN THE FIELD. A MAJOR PORTION OF DRIVERS BEING NON-COMPLIANT, INCREASED DRIVER FRUSTRATION FOR HAVING TO STOP FOR NO REASON AND SAFETY ISSUES WHEN DRIVERS, PEDESTRIANS OR CYCLISTS ARE

NOT CERTAIN OF WHETHER SOME VEHICLES WILL STOP. BASED ON THE ABOVE AS WELL AS OUR OBSERVATIONS, IT IS BUNT'S OPINION THAT THE STOP SIGNS ON EAST ROAD SHOULD BE REMOVED." (IT WAS ALSO NOTED THAT 40 -43% OF THE DRIVERS OBSERVED BY BUNT DID NOT STOP AT ALL AND THESE STOP SIGNS. THIS IS IN THEIR VIEW OF PRIMARY CONCERN IN TERMS OF SAFETY.

THE STOP SIGNS HAVE NOT ONLY RAISED A SAFETY ISSUE BUT ALSO A HEALTH ISSUE. RESIDENTS ALONG THE STRETCH OF EAST ROAD ARE SUBJECT TO EXHAUST FUMES FROM MOTORISTS WHO EXCEL THROUGH THE STOP SIGNS TO PICK UP SPEED THEY FEEL THEY HAVE LOST DUE TO HAVING TO STOP.

THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SITES ANOTHER REASON FOR THEIR DECISION ON THE RCMP NOT WANTING TO POLICE EAST ROAD BECAUSE THEY WERE TOLD THAT THE STOP SIGNS WERE BEING REMOVED. WE FEEL THAT WE CAN OBTAIN THE SAME POSITIVE OUTCOME WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE STOP SIGNS AND HAVING THE RCMP SET UP SPEED TRAPS ON EAST ROAD AS THEY ARE CURRENTLY DOING ON SUNNYSIDE ROAD.

AS TO THE ISSUE OF THE COMMITTEE EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE POTENTIAL OF LEGAL IMPLICATIONS THAT COULD ARISE SHOULD A SERIOUS ACCIDENT OCCUR IF THE STOP SIGNS WERE REMOVED, I WOULD THINK THAT THEY WOULD WANT TO THINK MORE ABOUT THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS THAT COULD ARISE IF A SERIOUS ACCIDENT SHOULD OCCUR WITH THE STOP SIGNS LEFT IN PLACE AFTER A PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC STUDY HAS RECOMMENDED REMOVAL OF THE STOP SIGNS BECAUSE THEY ARE UNWARRANTED AND DEEMED UNSAFE.

MAX COPELAND WAS ASKED THE PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW TO REMOVE THE STOP SIGNS AND IT IS THE SAME PROCEDURE COUNCIL FOLLOWED IN ERRECTING THESE STOP SIGNS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MENTION THAT THE ANMORE FIRE CHIEF LARRY SCOTT DOES NOT APPROVE OF THE STOP SIGNS DUE TO DECREASED RESPONSE TIME TO AN EMERGENCY.

COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY VOTED APPROX. TWO MONTHS AGO TO REMOVE THE STOP SIGNS ON EAST ROAD AS SOON AS SAFE TO DO SO. I DO NOT SEE ANY CHANGE WHICH SHOULD CHANGE THIS DECISION. I URGE COUNCIL TO REMOVE THE STOP SIGNS ESPECIALLY THE ONE IN QUESTION AT STRONG AND EAST ROAD BY JANUARY 15, 2010 AND LET THE RESIDENTS OF ANMORE HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

BILL AND JODY COOKE  
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