

CS-22-39

From: Ray Bond <M.F.I.P.P.A Sec. 14(1)>

Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 8:59 AM

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Subject: Request for Road Occupancy Permit

I would like to have an item added to the agenda for the April 19th, 2022 Community Services Committee meeting. I would also like to speak on the matter as a delegation during the meeting.

The item is as follows:

Request for a Road Occupancy Permit at 157 Midtown Drive for a term of 2 years, for the purpose of providing meals and basic necessities to the homeless and those struggling with food insecurity. These services are to be provided by the Community Assisted Meal Program (CAMP) and its network of volunteers at zero cost to the Corporation of the city of Oshawa.

I would further request that a camping trailer be permitted to remain at this location during the length of the agreed upon term. This will ensure adequate on-site storage of supplies needed in order to provide a take-out ready-made food environment.

The take-out option captures a demographic who does not like to mingle with large crowds, those who are still nervous of indoor environments with others, and perhaps those who prefer not to eat in because of the increased chance of running into someone they have conflict with.

Our 100% citizen run meal program offers a neutral environment free from pan tilt zoom cameras, security or requests for identification. CAMP operates unconditionally and is designed to be free of the antagonism that can sometimes occur if there are too many unnecessary rules.

Our group of Volunteers are welcome to bring their children to participate and they do quite often. This allows the opportunity for single parent families to volunteer without needing a sitter, and also signifies to single parents who are struggling, that "our meal program is a safe environment for children", free from the usual inhibitions or stigma that may deter some from using a typical ready-made food service.

We realize that the more food services that are available, the smaller the crowds will be at each of them, thus lowering the impact on the affected neighborhoods. The CAMP

location has become a staple to our less fortunate community, operating since November 1st, 2021, and previously at Memorial Park for over six years, and where many of our clients have grown accustomed to our location and the unconditional nature in which we provide those food services.

CAMP is smartly located outside of the downtown CBD area, it is easily accessible through the city path system and is conveniently located next to Ontario Works, Service Ontario and Service Canada, making it the ideal location for the many clients who already frequent Midtown Mall on regular basis.

It is important to note that CAMP has operated without incident at the Midtown Drive location and is maintained and cleaned after each use. CAMP is only operational for 1.5 hours per day, leaving a minimal footprint on the Midtown Drive community as meals are only distributed during 1 – 2:30 PM.

Just to clarify:

CAMP serves lunch - DOFTN serves dinner
CAMP serves take-out - DOFTN serves eat-in only,
CAMP is open 7 days per week - DOFTN is Mon – Fri

I look forward to having this heard at the Community Services Committee meeting on April 19th.

Regards,

Raymond Bond