

From: Dean Lindsay **M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec. 14 (1)**
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2022 12:18 PM
To: clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>
Subject: OATAC Resignation

To: Mayor Carter and All City Councillors

From: Dean Lindsay - Chair, OATAC
Greetings,

I am writing to inform you that effective immediately, I am resigning from the Oshawa Active Transportation Advisory Committee, OATAC.

Rather than just inform the city clerk of my resignation and leave, as many others have done in the past, I feel I have an obligation to provide reasons for my decision and offer suggestions that may be helpful to Council and future community members wishing to serve on the OATAC.

The main reasons for my resignation is the lack of support for the OATAC and the procedural restrictions placed on Advisory members. Community members apply for Advisory positions because they want to make a positive change in their city. They donate their valuable time for a voluntary, non-monetary committee of council attending and preparing for meetings. They anticipate that their hard work and the ideas they develop will be considered by Council.

Unfortunately, this is not the case, reports prepared by the OATAC were either shelved or returned with a recommendation of no action. The reality is, community members can be more effective and have access to Council without sitting on an Advisory Committee. They can call the Mayor or Councillors on issues anytime, whereas Advisory committee members are not permitted this opportunity.

It is very disappointing that two main OATAC initiatives, Active Streets and a Bike Month event were never fully supported by Council. When we cannot close a major street for Active Transportation but it can be done for a classic car show, speaks volumes on the priorities for Active Transportation in the City of Oshawa.

There are many other issues such as electric e-bike usage on multi-use paths and the proliferation of parked vehicles in designated bike lanes through-out the city. These and other safety related issues have been raised for years by the OATAC with no action or enforcement from Council or staff.

If there truly is a commitment to promote and encourage Active Transportation in our city. I would suggest there needs to be more involvement between the OATAC, Council and staff. No Advisory Committee should have to work in isolation, regular meetings and a sharing of ideas need to be established between all parties. We are a growing city that should be leading other municipalities when it comes to Active Transportation initiatives.

On a final note, I want to thank the city clerks and the OATAC policy advisors, they are very professional and dedicated in their positions. It was a pleasure working with them.

Yours truly,
Dean Lindsay