

Name

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I am writing to request support for traffic calming infrastructure for the Civic Hospital neighbourhood in Ottawa. Specifically, we'd like flexisticks and bump-outs to narrow Holland Ave. between Kenilworth and Carling Ave.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, residents of this neighbourhood experienced the same silver lining as many other neighbourhoods across the province --- we spent more time at home, saw more of our neighbours, and used our streets and sidewalks as a way to get out of the house and get exercise by walking or biking.

And yet, on top of the worry of contracting the virus, we are forced to live with an even more immediate mortal fear: being struck by car involved in one of the many serious collisions that occur frequently along this dangerous stretch of residential road.

We have lived on Holland Ave. for 12 years and witnessed several terrible collisions every year -- I have called 911 myself on several of these occasions because the wreckage of these accidents is often practically in my front yard.

We have also witnessed many young families moving in, and especially during these pandemic times, there is a steady procession of strollers, kids on bikes, older adults and other neighbours passing by along this stretch of road. My kids play in our front yard, and ride their bikes around the block. Yet I fear that it is a matter of time before one of these young families is involved in one of these brutal collisions that have become a regular part of our life.

The problem is the street, though lined on both sides by family homes, is too wide and motorists treat it as a highway. From our front porch, we hear and see both cars and buses accelerating down this stretch of road, for no other reason than the design of the road allows it.

For the cost of flexisticks and bump-outs of the curbs this stretch of road can be made significantly safer, and the seemingly inevitable next serious collision can be avoided.

Thank you for your consideration.