

Council asks Region to prohibit signs at Nobleton intersection

By Angela Gismondi

King Council has sent a resolution asking the Region of York to amend its bylaw to prohibit signs at the intersection of King Road and Highway 27 in Nobleton and to stringently enforce those prohibitions.

As a result of repeated violations and concerns over public safety, on April 28 Nobleton Councillor Peter Grandilli asked committee to adopt a motion requesting staff to explore the possibility of prohibiting signs at all regional intersections along King Road. A draft resolution came before council for consideration at the May 12 meeting.

"I have a little bit of a problem with all these signs and the pollution they cause but if it blocks the sidewalk, I really have a problem with that," said Councillor Avia Eek. "To me, that's a huge safety issue."

Although committee requested that options be presented for all the regional intersections along King Road within the Township, council decided to only ask that signs be prohibited at King Road and Highway 27. Other intersections for consideration included King Road and Weston Road, King Road and Jane Street King Road and Dufferin Street and the west corners of King Road and Bathurst Street.

"It is the opinion of staff that signage prohibitions at King Road and Highway 27 and King Road and Dufferin Street would be appropriate given the development occurring in the villages of King City and Nobleton and the high volume of traffic at these intersections," reads the staff report. "Other intersections should be considered by Committee, but are not impacted as greatly by signage, legal or otherwise."

In addition to the Township's bylaw, the Region's sign bylaw regulates the erection of signage for all regional roads and their intersections. Permits are required to erect most permanent and temporary signs within the Township, except for specific types of signage that are exempted from various provisions of the bylaw. Under the regional bylaw, signs are already prohibited at the intersection of Keele Street and King Road.

Violations typically include lack of authorizing permits, inappropriate or incorrect placement blocking vehicle sight triangles or sidewalks, prohibited messaging, and/or other violations.

"I'm of two minds when it comes to this," said Councillor Cleve Mortelliti. "I don't mind people needing to promote their business but sometimes it gets a little out of hand."

Council decided to support restricting signage at King Road and Highway 27 only. The resolution also requests that the Region of York ensures active enforcement of existing and new prohibitions if and when they come into effect.