



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Portobello South Community Development Association Recommends Critical Amendments to the Proposed Trim Road Realignment

OTTAWA, Ontario (December 15, 2011) The Portobello South Community Development Association (PSCDA) has forwarded several critical amendments to the City of Ottawa following a public presentation of the Trim Road Realignment plans held November 29th at the Fallingbrook South Community Center. The PSCDA believes that, while the realignment plan is generally sound, some modifications are necessary to protect public safety and ensure the proper flow of traffic and pedestrians through two of the five proposed roundabouts.

The PSCDA has expressed a strong concern that the roundabout slated for the Portobello/Springridge/Trim intersection will pose a safety hazard for pedestrians, particularly school-aged children walking from Cardinal Creek to schools in the Fallingbrook area. The PSCDA has identified that cars travelling through intersection would have the right-of-way and that drivers focused on entering the roundabout might be unaware of pedestrians attempting to cross the intersection. The association has therefore recommended that this intersection either, remain a signalled intersection, or that crosswalk signals (or similar device) be introduced to allow pedestrians to fully stop traffic so that they may cross the intersection safely.

The PSCDA has also relayed concern that the roundabout planned for St-Joseph Boulevard and Trim Road will not allow for the proper flow of East-West traffic during peak periods, such as afternoon rush-hour, when a large volume of cars can be expected to travel through the intersection along the North-South corridor. While City traffic studies and the resulting animated model of the intersection show periodic gaps in traffic large enough to allow for East-West movement, the PSCDA believes these gaps do not currently exist during peak periods. Further, any current bottlenecks at the juncture will be largely resolved by the scheduled widening of Trim Road into two lanes. The PSCDA has therefore requested that this intersection remain a signalled intersection.

The PSCDA has forwarded a letter of response to the City of Ottawa and project engineers as part of the public consultation process with details of the requested amendments.

Formed in 2007, the Portobello South Community Development Association represents the interests of 20,000 area residents along the Portobello Boulevard, including the neighbourhoods of Avalon, Notting Gate and Notting Hill in Orleans.

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