

Hickory Hills Residents Association [HHRA] Deputation

Short-forming Property Standards By-law

August 12, 2024

.All municipalities in Ontario have important responsibility for ensuring public safety and maintaining the integrity of communities

. . . . local neighbourhoods are the reason why municipal by-laws exist in the first place

.Neighborhoods are meant to be attractive, safe and healthy places in which to live

.Source: Municipal World, June 2018

Property Standards By-law 2023-049

3.04 (1)

Windows, skylights, exterior doors and frames, Basement or Cellar hatchways, attic access doors including storm and screen doors and storm windows shall be maintained in good working order, good repair, in a Safe Condition and shall be of such construction so as to prevent the entrance of wind, snow or rain into the building and to minimize heat loss through infiltration.

Source: Tillsonburg By-law Dept. E-mail June 7, 2024

Currently

- .Under the property standards by-law tickets are not an option
- .Violations must be addressed via Information and summons - long form of charges
- .Require mandatory court and are very costly for prosecution
- .Source: Tillsonburg By-law Dept. E-mail June 7, 2024

Benefits of Short-forming

- Enables ticketing for violations of the by-law
- Provides immediate opportunity to address the violation in advance of going through the long-form process
- \$ savings in enforcement of Town by-law
 - Logistically more efficient means of enforcement
 - Improved operational effectiveness
 - Reduction in staff follow-up
 - Potential court costs averted

Impact on Community

If left unchecked, broken/boarded windows

- Suggest lack of care
- Increase in neighbourhood disorder, petty crimes
- Residents perceive more serious crimes are on the increase
- Residents feel unsafe
- Negative impression for visitors, tourists, investors
- Source: Pockets of Crime P. St Jean, 2007

Municipal Research

- Municipalities confirmed to have short-formed
 - Township of Zorra
 - Township of South-West Oxford
 - Township of Howick
 - Township of Guelph-Ermosa
 - City of Toronto
 - Town of Oakville
 - Haldimand County – in process
 - Other Oxford County municipalities contacted – not yet responded
 - As of August 6, 2024

Conclusion

We would like to present Council with a petition concerning this matter

We respectfully request Tillsonburg Town Council to move forward with whatever short-forming is required in order that tickets/fines may be issued for non-compliance of the Property Standards By-law