

October 24 2024

To the staff and councils of the Regional Municipality of Durham and the City of Oshawa:

Please accept this petition to construct the missing sidewalk on the east side of Ritson Road (Durham Regional Road #16) from the southern inlet of Ritson Fields Park to Conlin Rd.

The 391 undersigned are the residents of Oshawa and Regional Wards 1 and 2, as well as the dentists, real estate agents, pharmacists, and small business owners in the commercial plaza at Ritson and Coldstream, the doctors and medical professionals at the Ritson North Medical Centre, and the team members and supporting families who rent time in Ritson Fields Park. Oshawa Ward 2 Councillor Jim Lee and Ward 2 Regional & City Councillor John Neal have also signed and supported this petition. Upon learning of this issue, Councillor Lee moved swiftly to construct the missing portion of sidewalk on the west side of Ritson Road at Coldstream Drive in Ward 2. However, the east side of the road remains conspicuously underserved.

We understand that the City of Oshawa requires original petition copies, but as this endeavour is a joint undertaking between the Region and the City (one to build the platform, the other to build the sidewalk), we have decided to submit the originals to the Region, where we assume the process will begin, and we have submitted copies to the City, who will complete the project.

Please also note that the process of collecting these signatures took some time, during which the named Commissioner of Development Services for Oshawa has since retired from his position. We trust that the staff, councils, and the new Commissioner will take this matter well in hand.

All signing parties were shown the included map of the area, which clearly depicts the sidewalk extending from Ritson Fields Park to Conlin Rd. While we understand that the new development at Luple Avenue may fill in a portion of this sidewalk route, please note that this petition is to construct a sidewalk along the *entire* denoted route. Residents, business owners, and park users are not interested in more sidewalks that abruptly end, and lead to nowhere.

Finally, allow us to clarify that we request this work to be completed independently of the Region's proposal to widen Ritson Road, which is a project that certain of the undersigned oppose. We encourage the Region and the City to work together to meet the Region's own engineering guidelines, which state that all Regional roads are to have a sidewalk on both sides, and to assist Durham Regional Transit in their accessibility efforts by assuring that future bus stops along the route will no longer be carved into snowbanks along the road's gravel shoulder, with no access the non-existent sidewalk. Thank you for your support in completing this important and long overdue project.

Sincerely,

  
Ryan Henson (Steighton) and the undersigned

**Conlin Rd**

 **Kedron  
Public School**

**1.23 km  
of missing  
sidewalk**

**Coldstream Dr**

 **Plaza**

**Ritson Rd**



**Bus stop**

**Wilson Rd**

**Riston Fields**

 **Sherwood  
Public School**



**Taunton Rd**



# Petition to install the missing sidewalk on Ritson Rd N

<p>Petition summary and background</p>	<p>For decades, the City of Oshawa and the Region of Durham have ignored their own engineering design criteria, failing to install a <b>much-needed sidewalk</b> on the east side of Ritson Rd between Ormond Dr and Conlin Rd. The road connects multiple residential buildings and houses to a public school, a commercial plaza, a DRT bus stop, a church, and a large park. Presently, the pedestrian way comprises a dirt path, an elevated path flanked by ditches, and a two foot gravel shoulder along the busy arterial roadway, which borders another long ditch. <b>Development along Ritson Rd</b> has been recently, and is continually being <b>approved by the City without sidewalks</b> in the site plans. Warren Munro, the Commissioner of Development Services at the City of Oshawa, assures residents that a sidewalk will be constructed "in the fullness of time." The missing sidewalk is already decades late. <b>The time to build it is now.</b></p>
<p>Action petitioned for</p>	<p>We, the undersigned, are concerned Durham Region residents who urge our municipal and regional leaders and staff to act now to install the missing sidewalk on the east side of Ritson Rd between Ormond Dr and Conlin Rd.</p>
<p>Disclaimer</p>	<p>By signing this petition, the residents acknowledge that the petition may become public as part of a Regional or Municipal Council or Committee agenda.</p>
<p>Petition Organizer</p>	<p>Ryan Creighton (Oshawa Ward 1)</p>

Printed Name	Signature	Contact	Municipality of Residence	Date
				