



Chelsea, September 24, 2024

RE: Responses to concerns about the traffic circle construction plan

Dear members of the Board of Directors of the District 2 Association,

Thank you for your letter of September 15, 2024 regarding the proposed traffic circle at the intersection of Chemin Old Chelsea (COC) and Chemin Jean-Paul Lemieux. We understand your concerns regarding the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, as well as the impact of this project on the community. We would like to provide you with clarification on the situation and highlight the initiatives taken by the Municipality to address your concerns.

Old Chelsea Road is a provincial highway under the responsibility of the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité Durable (MTMD). As such, the traffic circle project is a requirement of the MTMD to the developer. Consequently, the Municipality of Chelsea has no decision-making authority over the design and implementation of this project.

It's important to note that the traffic circle project is not new. The previous municipal council addressed this subject back in 2019. Since then, to ensure the safety of users, we have followed up with the MTMD by commenting on the plans, submitting recommendations and passing the recent resolution. The construction of the traffic circle was indeed a requirement for the completion of phase 2 of the *Ruisseau Chelsea* district.



Initially, the project was aimed solely at building a traffic circle to ensure the smooth flow of traffic on Chemin Old Chelsea and Chemin Jean-Paul Lemieux. In response to concerns raised, we succeeded in obtaining significant improvements, such as the addition of four multi-use lanes and crosswalks for cyclists and pedestrians. What's more, the two-way lanes to be installed in each quadrant of the traffic circle will tie in with existing and planned active mobility infrastructures, helping to improve safety and traffic flow.

We are also working with MOBIO to plan the local travel plan for the eventual arrival of the new school. In 2022, the council requested by resolution that MTMD reduce the speed limit to 30 km/h on Chemin Old Chelsea in front of Chelsea Elementary School, and the response received for a reduction was conditional on the developer's implementation of the traffic circle.

A discussion was held with MTMD to examine these aspects in greater detail. Normally, MTMD publishes an info-travaux to keep the community informed of developments and impacts of projects on their road infrastructures. The Municipality has made a request in this regard.

On the safety front, we asked MTMD for several measures, including the addition of crosswalk lights to ensure safe pedestrian movement, and the planning of sidewalks leading to each crosswalk, some of which are already in place. We also insisted that multi-use strips be clearly identified on both sides of the road and outside the traffic circle, in line with safety standards. In addition, we have requested the presence of school crossing guards to ensure the safety of schoolchildren, and are currently in discussions with the MRC and the police to implement this measure.



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We remain fully committed to working with MTMD to address the concerns raised and ensure that the project meets the highest standards of safety and functionality.

We strongly encourage you to participate in the Municipality's citizen committees. These committees are open to all and offer an excellent opportunity to express your concerns, make suggestions and work together to find appropriate solutions. Your presence and contributions are essential to ensure that the community's needs are fully taken into account.

Your presence and contributions are essential to ensure that the community's needs are fully taken into account. We thank you for your commitment. We invite you to contact your Member of Provincial Parliament if you have any further questions about Old Chelsea Road.

Yours sincerely

Pierre Guénard

Mayor of Chelsea