

From: Ellise Gasner
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 3:20 PM
To: Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>
Cc: clerk@richmondhill.ca
Subject: In regards to your report "Permeable Paver Motion Response"

Hi

I have had the opportunity to read your "permeable paver motion response".

I am reaching out today, in advance of the meeting scheduled for Wednesday, to highlight some misconceptions I think are imperative before making a final decision.

I would appreciate the opportunity to "speak to this email" briefly at your upcoming meeting.

Here are some key points;

Richmond Hill is the fastest growing municipality and is unprepared to adequately deal with the increase in stormwater runoff caused by increasing population density.

Richmond Hill is home to many protected natural reserves including the Oak Ridges Moraine. As such, it is imperative that you lead by example and protect these areas by minimizing polluted stormwater runoff and reduce the need for winter salt which in turn will reduce the over-salination of the natural water bodies.

Many other municipalities have already taken the steps to both include and promote/encourage permeable surfaces for everything from parking lots to sidewalks and from pathways to driveways. Municipalities are requiring permeable surfaces for fire access, overflow parking areas and surfacing areas in eco sensitive areas. Every permeable surface helps to control stormwater "where it lands".

Contrary to public belief, our products which I consider "second generation" permeable surfaces are affordable (even more affordable than conventional surfaces at times), easy to install, easy to maintain, long lasting and designed specifically for cold weather performance.

Our products do not require specially trained installers, do not require special equipment for snow clearing and can actually reduce the need for regular maintenance as they do not develop cracks or potholes and do not need regrading or "topping up"

Our products are made in Ontario from 100% recycled plastic bags and are fully sustainable.

Our products have been successfully installed in Richmond Hill for private projects.

We would welcome the opportunity to visit some of the sites and perform "water storage" testing. Seeing is believing.

Our products are AODA compliant. The permeable nature of the products help to ensure there are no puddles or pooling on the surface which thus reduces the "slip/fall" risk. It helps to reduce the "melt/freeze" cycle that happens with solid surfaces, thus greatly reducing the need for winter salt/sand.

Including permeable surfaces can help eliminate the need for stormwater ponds and holding tanks, offering an affordable alternative which allows for an effective and cost efficient use of land. Builders and developers should embrace permeable surfaces as they usually enable them to increase the size of their building, which ,again, is an attractive cost benefit.

Permeable surfaces have been used throughout similar climates in Europe for almost 40 years. They are mandated and residents are taxed accordingly.

We are slower to change, but we will adapt our ways in a similar manner, we have to!

Richmond Hill is now in the position to be a leader. To make permeable surfaces a key focus for future development, benefiting people now as well as future generations.

You can use our products with confidence.

I am available to discuss these points in further detail and welcome all questions.

Kind regards

Ellise Gasner

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Superior Stormwater Management You Can Trust

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