

# Purpose

1. To convey the Tollendal community's majority consensus regarding sidewalks
2. To have the City respect and earnestly protect the distinct character of the Tollendal neighbourhood as it moves forward with planned infrastructure upgrades

# The Survey

An electronic survey was conducted this past October to all the households of Tollendal Woods.

**Please provide which of the below responses is your preference:**

1. Yes to sidewalks
2. No to sidewalks
3. Undecided
4. Additional Comments: Express your thoughts behind your choice

# Survey Results

- 76 out of 81 (94%) Households responded with a strong majority against sidewalks

YES* to sidewalks:	18 (23%)
<b>NO to sidewalks:</b>	<b>58 (77%)</b>
Undecided:	<u>0</u>
TOTAL:	76 (100%)

- Majority of HH are either long-term (greater than 20 years) or recent (less than 5 years) residents
- Those who voted NO to sidewalks were **emphatic** in their position
- \*Of those who voted YES to sidewalks, **50% would have voted NO** if the sidewalks were going to be on their side of the street.

# Comments | YES to Sidewalks

- Safer for people/young children to walk

# Comments | NO to Sidewalks

- Save the \$500,000+ installation cost plus the long-term, on-going maintenance and repair costs the City will inherit.
- **Tollendal is a CLOSED subdivision** with only one point of ingress/egress and no connection to other neighbourhoods. Different parameters should apply in regards to sidewalks.
- **We are a cul-de-sac.** The City's sidewalk policy makes specific exceptions regarding cul-de-sacs within the city limits – the same exception should apply here.
- Like heritage properties, **Tollendal's original and unique rural character must be respected and protected.**

## Comments | NO to Sidewalks (cont'd)

- Tollendal Woods was aptly named for its forested estate lots and rural character. **An urban design standard runs contrary to this.**
- **We are an established rural community, not a new urbanized one.** We should be grandfathered w.r.t. sidewalks.
- Our homes' frontages, landscaping, driveway parking areas and proximity to increased foot traffic will be dramatically and negatively impacted.

# Impact on Tollendal's character

- Tollendal is one of Barrie's most coveted and distinct neighbourhoods due its unique 'look and feel'
- It's unique and doesn't represent a typical Barrie neighbourhood
- We are asking the City to recognize and support the qualities that make Tollendal distinct from other neighbourhoods.

# Character Area Status

- A significant number of distinct neighbourhoods across Ontario have been granted **Character Area Status** to identify and protect their unique neighbourhood characteristics

**Character Areas** : areas of a community that have achieved a distinct and recognizable character that is different from neighbouring areas.



# Character Area Case Examples

- Baby Point Neighbourhood, Toronto
  - Changes to the zoning by-law were made to permit a neighbourhood-specific zoning for this area that preserved the existing streetscape of the neighbourhood.
- Mississauga, ON
  - OP was changed to provide specific urban design policies for this neighbourhood's character protection.

# Tollendal's Unique Character

- Nestled in a forest-like setting
- Abundance of mature trees
- Distinctive rural standard
- **Streets absent of sidewalks**
- Closed community with sweeping road scapes
- Spacious lots with homes that are varied and unique
- Dwellings well-proportioned to property size
- Significant front/side yard setbacks promoting privacy
- Generous front and rear yard landscaping

# Tollendal's Street Pattern

- is a closed street network (i.e. cul-de-sac)
- its design helps to calm traffic via hills, natural bends and corners
- used only by those who live in or are visiting the neighbourhood (no through traffic)
- As a result, Tollendal is generally safe for walking and play (no accidents since neighbourhood inception)

# In Conclusion | Sidewalks shouldn't be mandated in Tollendal

- We are strongly opposed to sidewalks, evidenced by 77% of residents who voted NO.
- **Tollendal falls within the definition of a cul-de-sac** (only one inlet/outlet & a non-through road)
- City can save \$500,000+ plus ongoing, annual maintenance and servicing costs
- **Tollendal's original design and non-urban character needs to be protected.** The absence of sidewalks is one of our neighbourhood's most defining features and integral to its unique look-and-feel.
- We ask for your support on the position of no sidewalks

# If sidewalks are to be mandated...

- We want a process where we can discuss limiting the scope/impact of sidewalks (less of, closer to street, etc)
- Put in place a “Residential Character Area” designation for Tollendal that recognizes Tollendal as distinct and independent of general residential design policies.
- Put in place a neighbourhood-specific policy that reinforces Tollendal as a neighbourhood that should be protected from City design decisions that are inconsistent with the vision of the neighbourhood.