

ALTA VSTA

We are long- time residents of Alta Vista and specifically Lakeside Road. We would like to address some of the issues that are huge problems in the neighbourhood. We would also like to add that this is not driven by nimbyism, as we have long ago resigned ourselves to the busy-ness in front of our homes.

Yes, this is a Covid year, but we have watched the increase in traffic over about the past five years. The cars park throughout the neighbourhood during a warm summer weekend. This year has been horrific and the problems need to be addressed. It is amazing that nobody has been killed or seriously injured. The construction that is planned to carry on for two more years has only added to the difficulties.

The problems that we see are as follows. The cars parked along the road take up valuable space and the people walking along beside them with their watercraft take up even more space. Some are parked at times with a portion of the vehicle blocking a driveway. The Valley Trail on the other side is full with bikes, Ebikes, families and dogs. The middle of the road is used by cars and those who choose not to navigate through the masses on the trail. There is not space for two vehicles to pass. The Lakeside Rd/Carleton Rd corner is an accident waiting to happen. Bikes regularly cut the corner and many tourists are not paying attention. The commercial operators are also at the boat launch trying to back their trailers towards the lake. Lakeside Park is overflowing with people. The commercial operators at the boat launch block access to the lake for single boat users, people park for an extended period of time in the no parking zone, and the area is filled with garbage. I do NOT suggest that garbage bins are put in place. The barges often pick up more partyers at this spot.

We feel that the solution is to remove the parked cars or to reroute the Valley Trail. The trail is a more difficult solution but could be done. The easiest solution would be to get rid of the parking along the road. When the parking lot and street parking by the park are full there should be no more people accessing the beach. There are not many places in the world where people can park immediately adjacent to a popular beach. There could be permit parking only for residents or no parking from about 10:00 AM to 5:00. There could be temporary regulations put in place for the summer season. Visitors could drop their "stuff" off at the beach, park somewhere else and take a shuttle/bus/cab back to the beach. They could also be redirected to a more spacious beach. There has to be something in place that allows for the locals who arrive very early, park on the road and get their quick exercise fix on their watercraft of choice.

That pretty much covers the issues that we see as being the major problems. We thank you for all of the "test" solutions that have been thrown out there this summer. The West Side Rd ticketing didn't work well and we all know that nobody pays parking tickets. Alta Vista is a bigger problem. We are sure that you are brainstorming trying to come up with solutions and we hope to see that something has been done before the next summer season.

Jan Tindle
3341 Lakeside Rd
[REDACTED]

Elia Sterling
3339 Lakeside Rd
[REDACTED]