

We are writing to express our concern, and ask for your assistance regarding the proposed developmental/infrastructure charges impacting residents in our community. On May 27, 2024, residents along King Street West received notice from Oxford County that an infrastructure project in support of a new residential development. In the letter (attached), residents have been told that they are responsible for a one-time charge of \$17,646, to pay for sewer and waste water extension to the new residential development. This charge would not include hook-ups to each home.

The residents of King Street West and Hamilton Road do not need or want the proposed services as we each operate on separate septic systems.

Development charges (DC), also known as impact fees in some jurisdictions, are a one-time, upfront fee charged by municipalities and paid for **by developers** for each new unit they build. Residential housing units are typically charged on a per-dwelling unit basis, while non-residential developments are charged a fee per square foot of gross floor area. Why are current residents being asked to fund a development that will drive more tax revenue into the region?

As a resident Ingersoll, we understand the need for development and progress. However, we believe that the proposed charges will have a significant impact on our community, particularly on those who are already struggling to make ends meet. It could also place an undue burden on homeowners who are planning to renovate or sell their homes.

It is unreasonable to expect current residents to fund a project that should be embedded in the municipal/provincial funding budget, and/or funded by the developer. The municipality will also experience new revenue in the form of property taxes and development fees. A more appropriate way to fund this project should be found.

We believe that our Town has the potential to grow and thrive without imposing additional charges on its residents. We kindly request that you reconsider the proposed developmental charges and explore other avenues for funding.

We urge Oxford County to consider alternative ways of funding development in our city. Perhaps could explore grants, partnerships, or other forms of funding that would not place a financial burden on our residents.

We request that Town and Regional Council engage in a dialogue with the residents to understand our concerns and needs, before making significant decisions that will impact our lives. This will ensure that any development is in the best interest of the community and is something that we need and want.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response and to a resolution that benefits all residents of Ingersoll.

Sincerely,

Residents o King Street West and Hamilton Road