

April 28, 2017

To whom it may concern,

Re: Use of All Terrain Vehicles on County Roads

As a local resident I am writing this letter to ask you to please table a motion allowing the use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) on our county roads. Currently in our community we are not allowed to use our ATV's on county roads except for exigent circumstances such as travelling from the Esso Gas station area down to Kingsville dock to load for the Jiiman. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 laws were implemented in Ottawa changing the rules regarding the use of ATV on public roads.

Beginning July 1, 2015, the province is implementing new changes to ORV and ATV. These changes include:

- Allowing more types of off-road vehicles (ORVs) and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) - including two-up ATVs, side-by-side ORVs and utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) - on the shoulder of public roads, where permitted
- Mandating that all riders - including drivers and passengers of all ages - wear an approved motorcycle helmet and use a seatbelt or foot rests, where applicable
- Children under the age of eight will not be allowed as a passenger on any ATV/ORV operating on-road
- Limiting the number of passengers to the number of available seating positions
- Requiring compliance labels on all ATVs/ORVs
- Clarifying access and exemptions for farmers and trappers and for Far Northern Ontario municipalities

In the past year bordering Towns such as Lakeshore and Chatham-Kent have conducted a trial period allowing the use of ATV's on certain roads. On March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Chatham-Kent passed a by-law that permits the use of off-road vehicles on highways located within Chatham-Kent. (Off-road vehicle by-law #32-2017)

I believe that these along with other supporting facts should factor in to allow access for ATV's on county roads.

I believe that allowing the use of ATV's would pose many benefits and ultimately allow owners to be able to ride the ATV's for pleasure as long as they complied with all regulations and laws of the roads and wore an approved MTO helmet. I am requesting this be considered for people who are of legal age and who possess a valid driver's license and will also have their ATV registered, plated and insured.

I also feel that with the soaring gas prices and concern for emissions this would help keep the cost of fuel down and would also alleviate emissions. One of the reasons I believe this to be an important issue for our community is that it would allow travelling in the winter to move snow legal and free of worry. I have parents and loved ones who are aging and moving snow in the harsh winter conditions is getting more difficult for them. I live on South Talbot Road which parallels Division road and have family and friends who live close by. I would like to be able to ride my ATV down the road to their residence legally without fear of being penalized.

The OPP does an excellent job monitoring our roads and keeping residents and roads safe. I feel that the individuals who are not going to follow the rules and regulations implemented are going to operate there ATV's whether a by-law is passed or not. I feel that the fear of what the individuals who are not going to follow the rules may do should not have a negative impact on the law abiding individuals. I ask that you please take these points into consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Martinho

