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Dear Brockton Municipal Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to present my queries regarding the entrance to Sideroad 5 North off Brant-Elderslie Townline and its maintenance up to the green fire sign.

Today, I am requesting two things:

1. A new entrance to Sideroad 5 North which would involve 15 meters of new gravel road.
2. The road to be maintained up to the '65' Fire sign. (I'm not asking for winter maintenance.)

For context, although I have made my voice heard only recently in the municipality, it's worth noting my family purchased the 85 acres at 65 Sideroad 5 North in 1987. We've been paying taxes in the neighbourhood longer than five of our six closest neighbours. Until now, we have made few requests from the council, if any.

In 1987, the 42 acres of farmland were not farmed. The cabin didn't have running water or electricity. Slowly, over the last 34 years, we have added these amenities and enjoyed more and more time in the area. The farmland has been rented since the early 90s. When the recent, life-altering global pandemic caused me to lose my job, I sought refuge at the cabin and have since made it my permanent residence.

The Green Fire Number '65' was added to the end of Sideroad 5 North several years ago. Because it is known as the "fire" number, you'd think it should be made accessible for fire trucks.

If there were ever a reason to call 911, who would be liable if first responders could not reach the 'fire' sign?

If a potential emergency isn't enough of a reason to maintain the road, my farmer cannot access the field with modern equipment due to the condition of the laneway and, also, the new road signs which were added to the entrance in 2020.

Considering the amount of work that went into accommodating local farmers with the new bridge, I can't imagine the 15 meter amendment I'm requesting would be a major expense comparatively.

Right now, the entrance to Sideroad 5 North starts off of my neighbour's driveway. Does this happen anywhere else in Brockton? I've been told it is within current road allowances. Considering how long ago they were originally drawn or the number of times road allowances have been re-drawn for the new bridge, this minor amendment can't be considered a burden.

To further express the absurdity of current entrance, the bulldozer that recently plowed Sideroad 5 North could not enter onto the municipal's road because it goes over someone's driveway. If that is not a flashing red light for 'something is wrong here' I don't know what is.

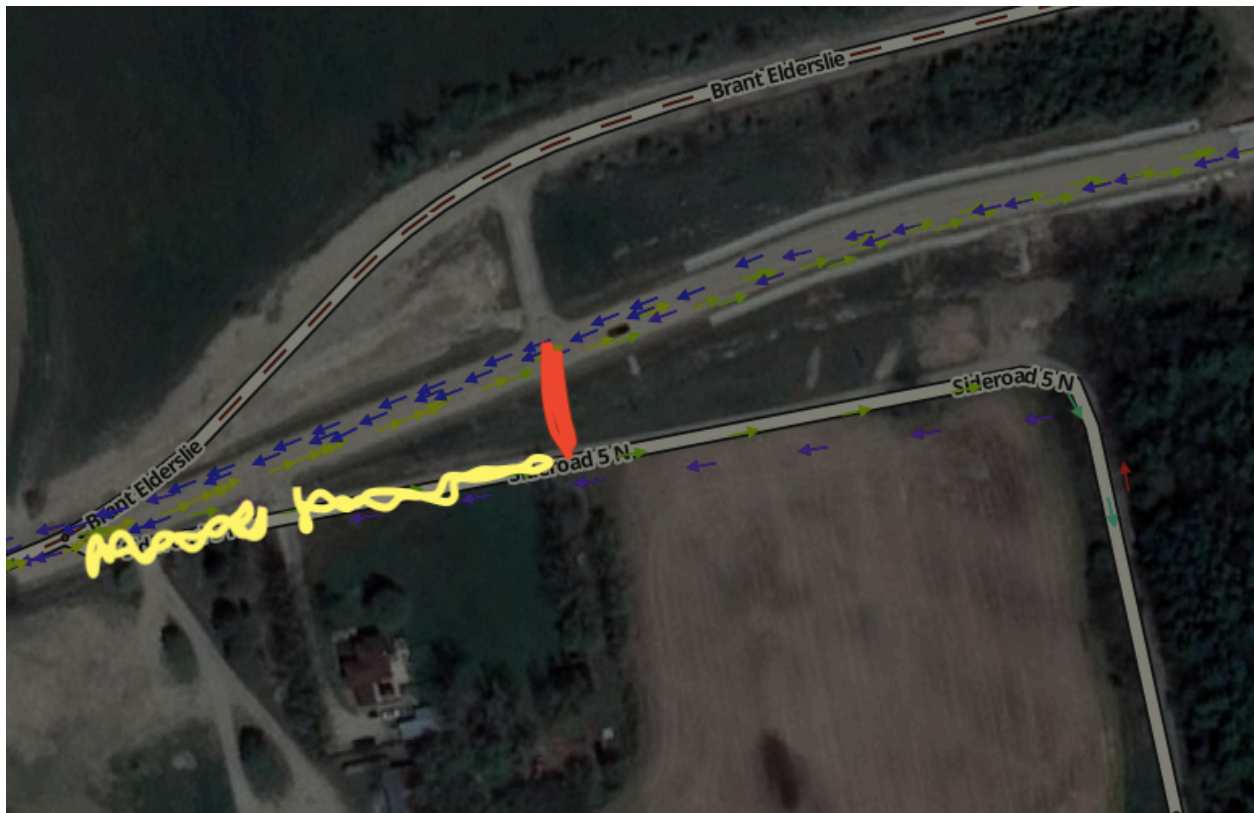
I was thrilled to see the bulldozer plowing the lane two days ago. I emailed the municipality to say thank you! I thanked the driver as well. But then I found out he wasn't going to add gravel. This half-measure has effectively turned Sideroad 5 North into a mudslide. Larger ruts will soon emerge. Unless the job is done completely with gravel and calcium, it is a step backward.

(It's also worth mentioning I was not notified that he would be plowing the road that day. I assume there was an approval process. Once the job was approved, why wasn't I notified? You have my email address.)

For a new entrance to Sideroad 5 North I propose extending the New and Unnamed road across Brant-Elderslie Townline to where it would intersect Sideroad 5 North.

This would involve approximately 15 meters of new road. Would it be fair to say this would be a smaller job on the municipal's list of things to do?

Please see the image I've attached with the proposed road in red.



Respectfully,

Mark Bethune