

TOWN OF GEORGINA

26557 Civic Centre Rd., R.R. #2, Keswick, Ontario L4P 3G1

June 15, 2004

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
OF POLICY & PROGRAM SUPPORT

Regional Municipality of York
Attn. Kees Schipper
Commissioner of Transportation & Works
17250 Yonge St., P.O.Box 147
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 6Z1

RE: UTILITY POLES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WALKWAY ALONG THE
QUEENSWAY.

Dear Mr. Schipper:

I have been advised by the Town of Georgina's Engineer, that this issue falls within the jurisdiction of the Regional Municipality of York and as such forward the information to you.

The members of the Georgina Accessibility Advisory Committee (GAAC) have received a complaint through the Mayor's office with regards to a telephone pole in the middle of the walkway at the intersection of The Queensway and Springwater.

Mr. Mark Graff was witness to a gentleman using a motorized mobility device who could not manoeuvre around the hydro pole and ended up tipping over onto the roadway at Springwater. The gentleman was not injured, but the severity of the hazard needs to be addressed.

The GAAC has identified this particular intersection and telephone pole as a serious concern and request remedial action to avoid any personal injury to pedestrians using the walkway and save harm to the Town of Georgina and The Region of York with any potential liability. The Committee Secretary has investigated the walkway at the The Queensway and Springwater and has taken pictures for you to review. Please see attachment.

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The GAAC has also identified similar hazards along The Queensway from Morton south to Pasadena. Again, please refer to the pictures attached.

The GAAC would appreciate your comments and proposal to remedy the situation at Springwater and The Queensway as well as the other areas of concern along The Queensway.

Yours truly,
For the GAAC



For
Roland Chenier, Clerk

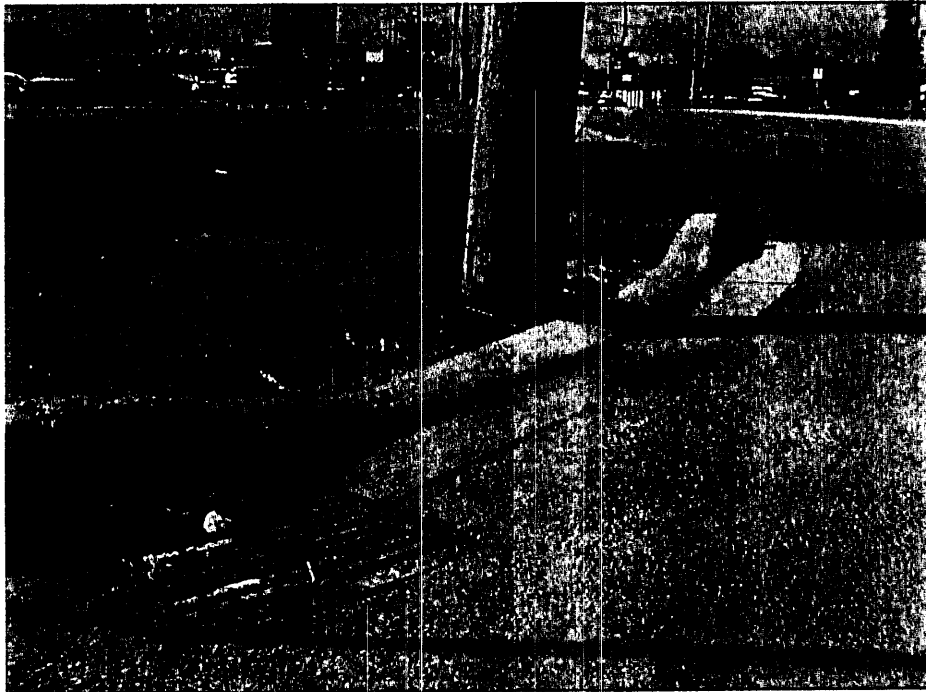
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Att.

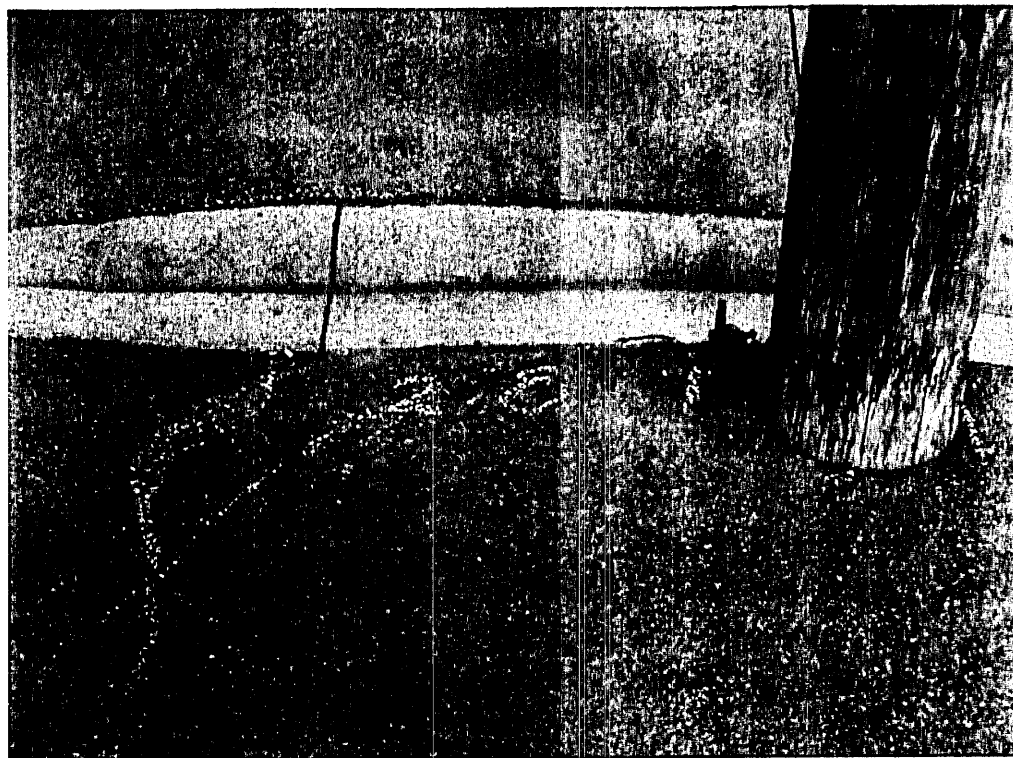
cc: Cordelia Abankwa-Harris, Director
Policy and Program Support Services Division
Community Services and Housing Department



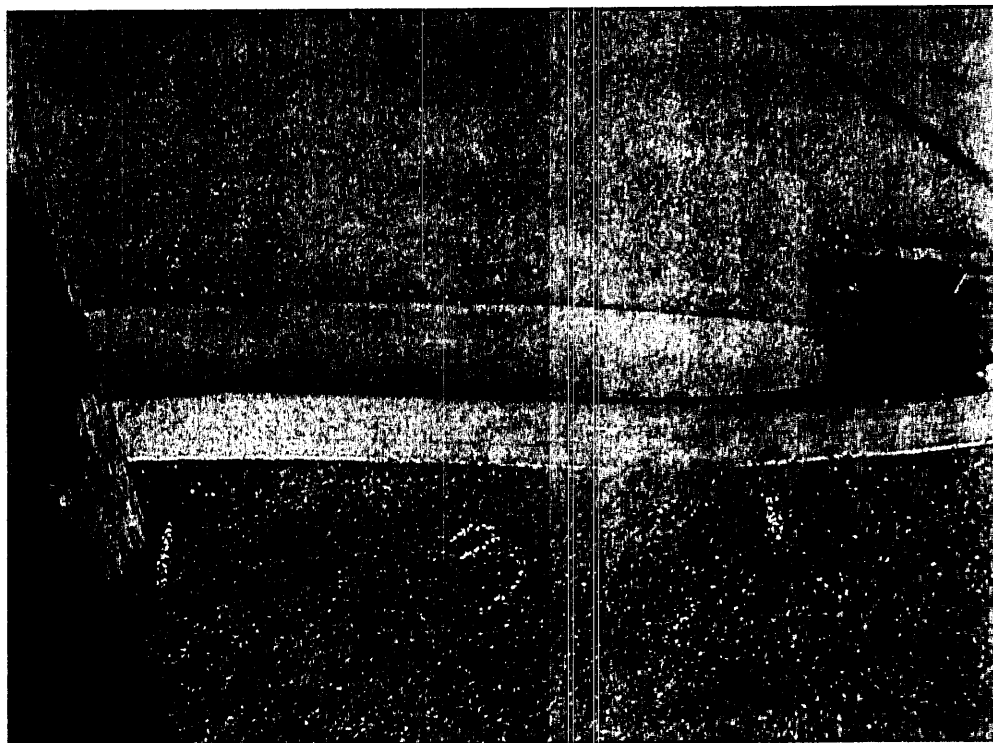
Picture #1: The Queensway looking north at Springwater. The telephone pole that is of concern is right in the middle of the curb cut, causing pedestrians with mobility devices to get one wheel up on the curb and tipping them over.



Picture #2: Looking south down The Queensway standing in the intersection at Springwater.



Picture #3: Looking at the left side of the telephone pole. You can see that there is only 2.8 feet of clear travel between the curb cut and the pole.



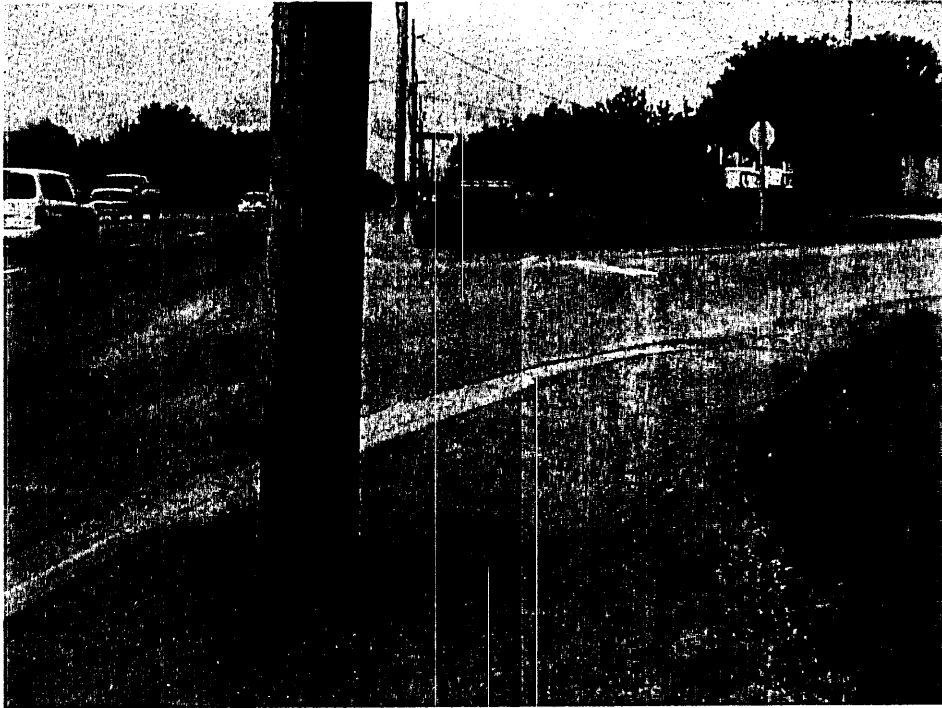
Picture #4: Looking at the right side of the telephone pole. You can see that there is only 3 feet of clear travel between the curb cut and the pole.



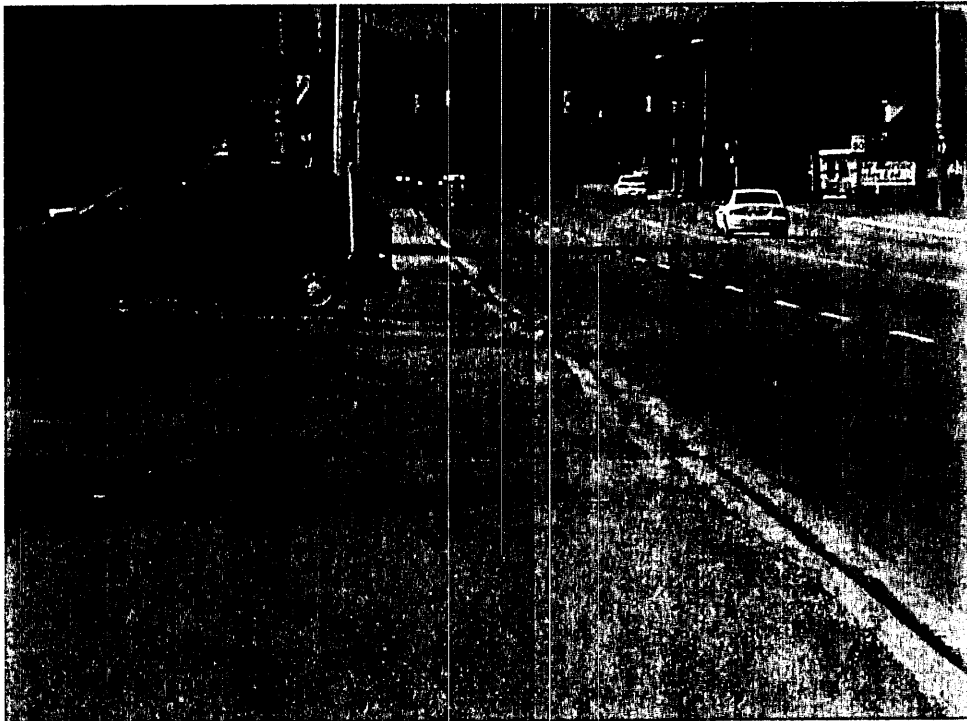
Picture #5: Looking further north on The Queensway at Springwater. Telephone poles exist right in the middle of the walkway.



Picture #6: This is looking north on The Queensway at Lakeview Blvd.



Picture #7: Looking South on The Queensway at Elmview Ave. This telephone pole is not as restrictive as the one found at Springwater but still difficult to manoeuvre around especially at a curb cut at a road crossing.



Picture #8: Looking south down The Queensway near Biscayne. Fire hydrant in the middle of the walkway.



Picture #9: Looking north on The Queensway at the intersection of Riverglen.

Conclusion: Obstructions such as telephone poles, benches, fire hydrants, etc. should be relocated or the walkway relocated so that the walkway has a free path of 1.8 metres or 6 feet minimum.

In many cases the only route a pedestrian is able to take around the telephone poles is usually on the curbside, which could result in personal injury if the pedestrian were to fall into the line of traffic.