

Re: Fire Hall Construction and Permanent Closure of Zimmerman St., Strathroy

Dear Resident,

As our community expands, the demand for our fire service increases. Following a recent Fire Master Plan conducted by the Municipality, it has been concluded that the existing Strathroy Fire Station (Station 1) needs replacement due to its age and condition. This plan also identified that the location of the current station (23 Zimmerman St. North, Strathroy) will serve as the most ideal location for the construction of the new fire station.

To address the needs of the Strathroy-Caradoc Fire Service, a+Link Architects have been engaged by the Municipality to design the new station, including the site layout. It has been determined that repositioning the station on the property to allow direct access to Metcalfe St. and drive-through access from East Centre Street is essential.

In July 2022, letters were sent to residents near Fire Station 1, notifying them of the potential development and construction of a new fire station. The letter also informed residents that, to facilitate this, the Municipality will need to close both the north and south access to Zimmerman Street that lies between East Centre St. and Metcalfe St. E. While this closure does not directly impact residents' properties, it does eliminate access to the "East Alley" from Zimmerman Street. However, access to the alley will be maintained off Arthur Street, ensuring continued access to the rear yards of homes backing onto the "East Alley."

At the Strathroy-Caradoc Council meeting on September 6, 2022, Council approved the closure of Zimmerman St. to facilitate the construction of the new Fire Station. Originally, there was hope for construction to begin in 2023, but realistically, construction is now slated to commence in mid-February of 2024.

This letter serves as official notice that Zimmerman St. is scheduled to be closed as of February 12, 2024, with construction starting shortly thereafter. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Lilbourne
Director of Community Services
Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
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