

July 6, 2020

Attention: George Finch (Mayor) and South Huron Council

I'd like to introduce you to our family. My name is Carol Ann Regier, along with my husband Bryan Regier and our 4 children we live at 70121 Grand Bend Line. Which just happens to be directly across the road from the proposed location for the lions. We moved to our "forever home" in 2004 with our first daughter and since have had 3 more girls. We have a noisy neighbour (Raceway) but we knew of this when we purchased the house. Sometimes it is louder than we imagined that it would be but my girls are safe and have lots of room to play. WE are opposed to an exemption in the exotic animal bylaw. Brandon and Destiny may not think the property is in a residential area but it is in OUR residential area. See attached map with our residence labelled as well as our neighbours. Our house is less than 500 meters away from the proposed location of the lion enclosures. Our daughters get on the bus at the end of our laneway which would be less than 300 meters away from the proposed location of the lion enclosures. 2 of my girls get on the bus in the dark for half the year. It's bad enough to come across a skunk in the dark on your way to the bus, can you imagine meeting a lion! Our laneway is 150 metres feet long and then less than 300 meters to the lions enclosures and no safe place in between if the unthinkable happens. Well, we're thinking about it and we don't want the exotic animal bylaw exemption.

My sister in law lives in the Vandongen subdivision in Grand Bend and has been dealing with the fear of these lions for the past year. They had the bus stops change so that the kids would get on at their houses rather than at the end of the streets. My kids would have no where to go for safety if the unthinkable happens. Can you imagine having to teach your children what to do in the case of a lion attack.

This is our forever home and my family deserves to feel safe and secure in our forever home and not have to worry about what to do if a lion escapes and makes the 500 metre journey to our house! My girls deserve to be able to enjoy playing outside of our forever home without the worry of the lions across the road. It's not just our kids. Another 2 km down the road is an even younger family. A few km behind the property are more families. In addition to this are businesses and other families. A video surveillance doesn't do anything when the lions could be at our house in less than 60 sec. Our children's safety matters!

If the council overturns its own bylaw and allows the lions to have a forever home here, who will be responsible for making sure that the enclosures are made to the standards outlined in the proposal, who will make sure that the lions are being treated as outlined in the proposal. We're not willing to put our kids safety at risk just because on paper the enclosures looked safe. Who will be liable if a lion gets out? If the council overturns its own bylaw and allows 2 lions at this proposed location, what will stop others from doing the same or from more than just 2 lions being housed at this proposed site.

To compare the raceway noise to that of a drill or leaf blower does not do the level of noise justice. To put the animals away during the jet nights to keep them away from the noise doesn't seem quite enough. The pictures on our walls shake when the nitro nights are on and that is at a distance of 1.5km with our doors and windows locked. I've attached a list of noise levels of common items for comparison.

Please do not allow the exemption on the exotic animal bylaw. Our kids safety matters!

The Regier family  
70121 Grand Bend Line



Excerpt from American Humane Society

<https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/captive-big-cat-incidents.pdf>

Less than 400 of the estimated 5,000 to 7,000 captive tigers in the U.S. are held at facilities accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The remaining tigers and many other big cats are primarily at unaccredited breeding facilities, poorly run roadside zoos, traveling zoos, pseudo-sanctuaries, and private menageries where the greatest risk of fatal attacks or injuries are likely to occur. Since 1990, more than 300 dangerous incidents involving big cats have occurred in 44 states. Four children lost their lives and dozens of others lost limbs or suffered

other often traumatic injuries. Sixteen adults have been killed, and scores have been mauled. Many captive tigers are kept in inhumane conditions, pose a threat to the community, create a burden for law enforcement agencies and sanctuaries, and jeopardize conservation efforts.

**WELFARE CONCERNS** Captive big cats require special diets, exercise, and opportunities to express natural behaviors. Scientists have found significantly higher stress and frustration levels in caged carnivores who, in the wild, would roam vast territories. Rampant and careless breeding has resulted in very large numbers of unwanted tigers as well as unhealthy tigers and other big cats who suffer from shrunken hearts, shortened tendons, club feet, kidney ailments, malformed backbones, deformed faces, and contorted necks.

Noise levels

Noise	Average decibels (dB)
Leaves rustling, soft music, whisper	30
Heavy traffic, window air conditioner, noisy restaurant, power lawn mower	80–89 ( <b>sounds above 85 dB are harmful</b> )
Boom box, ATV, motorcycle	96-100
Chainsaw, leaf blower, snowmobile	106–115
Sports crowd, rock concert, loud symphony	120–129
Stock car races	130
Gun shot, siren at 100 feet	140
Pair of nitro cars (800-foot mark)	127.5 dB
Pair of nitro cars (few feet away)	141.4 and 149.3 decibels

<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Health/Pages/conditions.aspx?hwid=tf4173>

<https://www.dragzine.com/news/how-loud-is-a-10000-horsepower-nitro-car-exactly>