

June 10th, 2021

Standing Policy Committee on Planning & Development and Community Services

c/o City Clerk's Office

222 3rd Avenue North

Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

His Worship the Mayor and Members of SPC on PDCS:

Re: Letters Concerning Public Safety Forwarded to Street Activity Subcommittee by
GPC

The Street Activity Subcommittee met on March 17th, 2021 and spoke with City Solicitor Yelland and General Manager, Community Service Lacroix in regards to a letter sent to the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services from the Subcommittee on February 2nd, 2021. Thank you for connecting the Subcommittee with City Administration representatives to receive their advice.

The Subcommittee would like to recommend a bylaw amendment to ensure the regulation of the safe and efficient passage of pedestrians. The only tool currently available is to arrest people for mischief if they are not intoxicated and refuse to move. The Subcommittee is seeking a bylaw that supports a lesser charge to allow Police, Bylaw and Community Support Program officers to deal with these situations as they occur by being a ticketable offense immediately on the spot.

Drawing from former section 9(a) from Bylaw 2954, a recommendation for an addition to the Bylaws which would greatly improve sidewalk use in our city is:

No person or persons shall stand, sit, or lie down so as to cause any obstruction to the free use of a street, sidewalk, trail, or pathway by any manner which impedes or inhibits free movement by pedestrians or cyclists, or causes a disturbance through their actions that impedes access to property adjacent to such locations.

The Street Activity Subcommittee requests Saskatoon City Council act now to improve safety and efficient use of sidewalks.

Sincerely,

DeeAnn Mercier

Chair – Street Activity Subcommittee

cc: Brent Penner, Downtown BID

Randy Pshebylo, Riversdale BID

Insp. Darren Pringle, Saskatoon Police Service

Rob Garrison, Community Support Program

Jonathon Mercredi, Citizen Representative

Elisabeth Miller, City of Saskatoon