From: Web NoReply
To: City Council

Subject: Email - Communication - Naomi Piggot-Suchan - In Support of Residential Speed Limit Review - Speed Limit and

Eligible Streets - CK 6320-1

Date: Monday, September 6, 2021 10:35:10 PM

--- Replies to this email will go to

Submitted on Monday, September 6, 2021 - 22:35

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Monday, September 06, 2021

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Naomi

Last Name Piggott-Suchan

Phone Number (306)

Email

Address 7th Street East

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Subject Support of lower speed limits for residential streets

Meeting (if known) Standing Policy Committee on Transportation

Comments

Your Honour and City Councillors;

I am writing in support of slower speeds for residential streets and residential arterial streets. My husband and I are home owners in the Buena Vista neighborhood of Saskatoon. We have two young children, aged 2 and 5, and we believe that this vital reduction of speed limits for residential streets prioritizes their safety, mental and physical health, and their ability to grow up with freedom, confidence and independence.

Children don't live and sleep at school. I support a 30km/h speed limit on all residential streets for the same reasons that I support a 30km/h in school zones, namely to allow for a neighborhood where multiple safe transportation options are available for users of all ages, including children. It is arbitrary and absurd that we have 30km/h speed limits where children study, but not where they eat, sleep, play, etc.

As parents, we want to help our children grow with resilience, confidence and independence. Part of this includes being able to explore the neighborhood on their own or with their friends, and to be able to walk or cycle to school, to dance class, to soccer practice, to the library, etc. without extraordinary risk to their health and safety. Therefore, when we build streets that are poorly designed and are too dangerous for child cyclists and pedestrians due to high speed limits, we are severely restricting their freedom.

As a 30km/h speed limit creates a significantly lower chance of serious injury or death

following a collision with a car, such decisive action by the City of Saskatoon would bear significant weight in the risk assessment of Safety vs. Independence that all parents must make for their children.

Active, independent children are more resilient, confident, and less obese when they grow up. We don't want our children to experience life and this beautiful city from the back seat of a car. However, if there is significant danger due to car speeds and poorly designed city streets, we and many other parents feel like we don't have any other choice.

As I am sure many others will comment, making Saskatoon (and Buena Vista in our case), more multi-use friendly will require more than just signs. Signs and paint are not infrastructure. We need proper traffic calming installations, modern and data-driven road design, and dedicated space for other road users to make any real progress in this area. In just one example from our area, Macpherson Avenue is wide enough for 6 lanes of traffic but it doesn't even have a sidewalk or a bike lane, even though it goes by a school that already has a 30km/h speed limit!

We strongly encourage you to take action that protects and prioritizes the health and safety of the children of Saskatoon.

Sincerely,
Naomi Piggott-Suchan
Attachments
Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting? No