
Subject: Email -Patti Seto - Greater Catholic Schools' Board of Education - Amendments to Council Policy C07-015 - Reduced Speed Zones for Schools - CK 5200-0
Attachments: March 1, 2022 City of Saskatoon Residential Speed Limit Review Letter Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.pdf

From: Seto, Patti (Patricia) <PSeto@gscs.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 1:43 PM
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Cc: Chatlain, Gregory <GChatlain@gscs.ca>; Lloyd, Joel <JLloyd@gscs.ca>; Baudais, Nathalie <Nathalie.Baudais@Saskatoon.ca>; Boyko, Diane <DLBoyko@gscs.ca>
Subject: Residential Speed Limit Review

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Good afternoon,

On behalf of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Board of Education, attached is a letter in response to the approved changes from the **Residential Speed Limit Review – School Zones, Playground Zones, Senior Zones, and Effective Hours**.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you.
Have a great day!

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Situated on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.

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March 2, 2022

Committee Chair
Standing Policy Committee on Transportation
City of Saskatoon
(Via Email) City.Clerks@Saskatoon.ca

RE: Residential Speed Limit Review – School Zones, Playground Zones, Senior Zones, and Effective Hours

Dear Committee Chair and Committee Members:

Our school division appreciates the ongoing work of the Standing Policy Transportation Committee and City Council. This letter is in regard to the decision made by City Council on November 22, 2021, to implement changes to school zones. Our administration attended the stakeholder meeting on July 6, 2021, regarding the proposed changes. The follow-up sessions with city personnel, Nathalie Baudais and Mariniel Flores have been very informative and a beneficial mechanism to work together to collaborate on the changes to signage. We remain concerned with two proposed changes and would advocate through this committee for City Council to reconsider the following:

1. Removal of High School Speed Zones

Representatives from Saskatoon Public Schools and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools advocated at the stakeholder meeting on July 6, 2021, to **not** remove the school zones at high schools. Representatives from Saskatchewan Health Authority also attended this meeting and advocated for these zones to remain. The school division determined that a correspondence to the City Council meeting on November 22, 2021, was not required as the status quo was supported by the majority of the stakeholders in attendance at that meeting. We were disappointed to hear that City Council approved the removal of the school zones for high schools. The safety of students attending high school is of the utmost importance, and we feel this safety measure is warranted. High schools are highly populated buildings with surrounding roadways occupied by new drivers. Students are also pedestrians that sometimes look for the fastest way to cross a roadway—which is not always the safest route. The difference between 50 km/h and 30 km/h through a school zone is less than 40 seconds for the average driver's commute. Research often cited by the city and Saskatoon Police Service indicate the slower speed greatly reduces the chance of vehicle-pedestrian collisions, and this decision appears to contradict the previously determined purpose of school zones for high schools.

2. Removal of School Zone on 20th Street West (St. Mary's Wellness and Education Centre)

On January 6, 2022, we were informed of the proposed adjustments to some of our elementary school zones to align with Transportation Association of Canada guidance. These adjustments are primarily to reduce or remove school zones from roadways that are not within close proximity to a school. One example of this proposed change is the removal of the school zone on 20th Street for St. Mary's Wellness and Education Centre. Our board strongly encourages the committee and City Council to reconsider this change. Several students cross 20th Street each day. The installation of the traffic lights and pedestrian crossings over the years is very much appreciated. Even when students use a crosswalk, incidents with a vehicle are still possible, and we once again point out the research the city and Saskatoon Police Service often reference. Included with our letter is a letter that we received from the Pleasant Hill Community Association advocating for the school zone on 20th Street to remain in place.

We support the work of City Council to review the current school zone bylaws. When considering the implementation of the extended times and days of the week, how will the city ensure signage is visible in the early morning and evenings, particularly during seasons when daylight is limited? We use portable school zone signs at several of our schools, but at some of our schools, we only have daytime staff, which means these mobile signs will be taken into the school prior to 7:00 pm.

We all have the duty to protect the children of our city, and we ask for the support of this committee and City Council to consider our requests.

On behalf of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools,



Diane Boyko, Board of Education Chair
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools

c: GChatlain@gscs.ca
JLloyd@gscs.ca
nathalie.baudais@saskatoon.ca

Jan. 24th, 2022

To Whom it May Concern

I am writing in regard to the City of Saskatoon taking out the school speed zone on 20th street between Ave. N and O. We the Pleasant Hill Community Association are not in favour of this it would be so wrong to take it out. We fought hard to get this put in and now you want to take it away. We have a lot of children, parents, and Elders that use these cross walks. There is a lot of traffic on 20th street with the hospital right down the block and St. Mary's School. Why would you want to take out this speed zone especially with a young girl getting hit on 33rd in the fall and died? There are programs going on in the school year-round with many families crossing 20th street. We need this Speed Zone to enforce people to slow down to let them know that there is a school in the area. What more do you want to take away from us? I know that we speak for the residents of Pleasant Hill, and we are not in favour of this whatsoever. We are a unique community that a lot of our parents don't drive and need to walk in order to take part in family programs that are offered throughout the year.

Thank-You on behalf of the PHCA,

Sharon Marsicano (Treasurer P.H.C.A)