
Subject: Email - Communication - Shane Skjerven - Saskatoon Public Schools - Amendments to Council Policy C07-015 - Reduced Speed Zones for Schools - CK 5200-0
Attachments: 2022-03-02_sps_to_city_committee_on_transportation_.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 3, 2022 3:30 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Shane Skjerven - Saskatoon Public Schools - Amendments to Council Policy C07-015 - Reduced Speed Zones for Schools - CK 5200-0

--- Replies to this email will go to skjervens@spsd.sk.ca ---

Submitted on Thursday, March 3, 2022 - 15:29

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Thursday, March 03, 2022

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Shane

Last Name Skjerven

Phone Number (306) [REDACTED]

Email skjervens@spsd.sk.ca

Address 310 21st Street East

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code S7K 1M7

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

Subject Amendments to Council Policy C07-015, Reduced Speed Zones for Schools (#CK.5200-0)

Meeting (if known) March 7 Standing Policy Committee on Transportation

Comments

Could you please include the attached letter to the March 7 Standing Policy Committee on Transportation agenda item: Amendments to Council Policy C07-015, Reduced Speed Zones for Schools (File No. CK 5200-0) as information (communication).

Attachments

[2022-03-02_sps_to_city_committee_on_transportation_.pdf](#)

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting? No



March 2, 2022

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

Dear Committee Chair and Members:

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

On behalf of Saskatoon Public Schools, we wish to reaffirm the school division's opposition to the removal of speed reductions around collegiates that was part of a decision approved by City Council on November 22, 2021.

As part of the city's consultation and review process, representatives of our administration attended the stakeholder meetings on March 25, 2021 and July 6, 2021. At those meetings, Saskatoon Public Schools joined Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools in advocating that 30 km/h school zones around collegiates and high schools remain in effect. This position was also supported by representatives of the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

Because the majority of stakeholders present at the July meeting expressed firm support for the status quo regarding school zones, Saskatoon Public Schools believed that additional correspondence to the City Council meeting of November 22, 2021, where council approved the removal of school zones around collegiates was not required.

The safety of all students attending our schools — elementary and collegiates — is our top priority. We believe the presence of 30 km/h school zones around all schools is an important safety measure. Almost without exception, our collegiates are located on high-traffic streets. The hundreds of students who attend these collegiates each day include pedestrians, cyclists, and new drivers. They account for a significant portion of the foot and vehicle traffic in the immediate vicinity of these schools.

In the past, the City of Saskatoon and the Saskatoon Police Service have cited research indicating that a slower speed significantly reduces the chance of vehicle-pedestrian collisions. This decision appears to be a repudiation of that data. While some may view school zones as an inconvenience, the difference between 50 km/h and 30 km/h through a school zone is fewer than 40 seconds for the average driver's commute. We believe any measure that supports safety of students and others in our school communities far outweighs any minor inconvenience experienced by motorist.

We appreciate the work and diligence of city administration in the review of current school zone bylaws. However, we are disappointed that in a matter which directly impacts students, staff, and school communities the input of our school division is not reflected in the decision by city council. In situations such as this Saskatoon Public Schools believes it must be a valued partner, not just stakeholder. Our collegiates are destinations not only for the immediate neighbourhoods they serve, but city-wide. The removal of speed reductions around collegiates detracts from the commitment of both the school division and City of Saskatoon in supporting safer streets and pedestrian and cyclist friendly neighbourhoods.

We believe that working as partners is the best way for the school division and city to address issues of mutual concern that also impact the entire community. As such, we ask for the support of this committee and City Council in reconsidering this decision and retaining 30 km/h school zones around collegiates.

Sincerely,

Colleen MacPherson, Board Chair, Saskatoon Public Schools

Shane Skjerven, Director of Education, Saskatoon Public Schools

Copies to: Mayor Charlie Clark and City of Saskatoon Councillors
Saskatoon Public Schools' Trustees



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

Shane Skjerven, Director of Education