

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Jorge Hernandez Dominguez - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km-h Speed Limit Policy and Connecting Ave C - Walking and Cycling Improvement Project - CK 6000-5 x 6320-0

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Sunday, December 17, 2023 2:31 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Jorge Hernandez Dominguez - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km-h Speed Limit Policy and Connecting Ave C - Walking and Cycling Improvement Project - CK 6000-5 x 6320-0

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Sunday, December 17, 2023 - 14:31

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.: No

Date: Sunday, December 17, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: JORGE

Last Name: HERNANDEZ DOMINGUEZ

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] HILLIARD ST W

City: SASKATOON

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: CITY COUNCIL AGENDA – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING – Wednesday, 20 December 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km/hr Speed Limit Policy” and/or “Connecting Avenue C: Walking and Cycling Improvement Project”

Comments:

To Saskatoon City Council,

I am writing in support of the following motions:
Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km/hr Speed Limit Policy
Connecting Avenue C: Walking and Cycling Improvement Project

I support these motions because when I arrived in Canada in 2019 I did not have a vehicle and cycling was the most reliable way of transportation that I could access (it was more reliable than Saskatoon transit at that time at least). During those times there were parts of the city in which I always rode on the sidewalks because if I would have rode on the street I would be dealing not only with the cars on my left but also from the people opening their vehicle’s doors carelessly. I am aware that it is illegal but doing otherwise is so risky that even police have seen me riding my bicycle on sidewalks without saying anything to me. Mayfair and Caswell does not have a high volume of vehicular traffic but it is frequent to encounter people at 50km (which might be legal but not ethical considering how much more exposed is anybody outside a car).

Regarding the Connecting Avenue C motion. I support it because even when I am not currently a bicycle rider due to the nature of my work, I have experienced problems related to this. For instance, a few years ago I had a job opportunity in the North Industrial area which I had to let go. The reason was that in winter there was any safe way to get there. Even with the proper gear and equipment (bicycle with studded tires, lights front and rear) motor vehicle drivers cannot safely share the road with cyclists. I do not think this comes from an ill intention from them, it is just simply extremely difficult for them to deal with the winter conditions at the same time they have to watch for an object moving close to them at a different speed in a naturally more erratic manner. I honestly think right now bicycles and cars using the same lanes is not even sharing is more like an unfair competition, in which everybody loses in one or another way. I even think any motor vehicle driver that reflects on the issue might agree that cyclists should not be using the same streets. It is my understanding that this project involves cyclists riding in mixed traffic also but I think it might be a necessary step towards the separated bike lanes goal.

Sincerely,

Jorge Hernandez

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