

Active Transportation Advisory Group Feedback Letter

To the Standing Committee on Transportation and City Council:

As members of the Active Transportation Advisory Group, we come from a variety of backgrounds and represent a wide range of interests in active transportation in Saskatoon. Having had a valuable opportunity to study and discuss the Neighborhood Bikeways Speed Limit Policy, we wish to express strong support for this policy and urge Council to implement it.

There are pressing economic, environmental, health and social reasons to encourage active transportation in Saskatoon. Yet pedestrians, cyclists and transit users often struggle with sidewalks, pathways and roadsides that are congested, unpleasant and unsafe. A functional network of AT-friendly streets that can be used for active transportation by citizens of all ages and abilities is badly needed. The Neighborhood Bikeways are a start to meeting this need, but they cannot and will not attract people of all ages and abilities to use them unless infrastructure and signage changes are supported by lower speed limits. One of the most important changes that can be implemented to make a street physically and psychologically safer for pedestrians and cyclists is a lower speed limit. The change from a car-oriented to a people-oriented street really begins there, and the Neighbourhood Bikeways Speed Limit Policy is absolutely necessary if these neighborhood bikeways are to serve the purpose for which they were designed.

We as individuals and, in some cases, as organizational representatives, ask Council to approve this policy and take an important step in making our City a better place to live.

Respectfully submitted by

The Active Transportation Advisory Group for the City of Saskatoon