

Thompson, Holly

From: City Council
Subject: Request to Speak - 7.2.3 - Greg McKee - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km-hr Speed Limit Policy - CK 6320-0 x 6000-5

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 10:59 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Greg McKee - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km-hr Speed Limit Policy - CK 6320-0 x 6000-5

--- Replies to this email will go to greg@bikedoctor.ca ---

Submitted on Monday, December 4, 2023 - 10:58

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: Monday, December 04, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Greg

Last Name: McKee

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: greg@bikedoctor.ca

Address: [REDACTED] 11th Street East

Neighbourhood: [Greystone Heights](#)

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

What do you wish to do ?: Request to Speak

If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely: In person

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Standing Policy Committee on Transportation, December 5, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.2.3 Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km/hr Speed Limit Policy

Comments:

I own the Bike Doctor, and I'm President of BD Detours, a cycling club with 168 active members. I will speak in support of the Bikeways proposal and the 30 kph speed limit on Bikeways. Greg McKee

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

Thompson, Holly

From: City Council
Subject: Email - Communication - Greg McKee - Neighbourhood Bikeways - TS2023-1203

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 11:11 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Greg McKee - Neighbourhood Bikeways - TS2023-1203

--- Replies to this email will go to greg@bikedoctor.ca ---

Submitted on Saturday, December 2, 2023 - 11:11

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: Saturday, December 02, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Greg

Last Name: McKee

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: McKee

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: greg@bikedoctor.ca

Address: [REDACTED] 11th Street East

Neighbourhood: [University Heights Suburban Centre](#)

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

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

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Standing Policy Committee on Transportation, December 5, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.2.3 Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km/hr Speed Limit Policy

Comments:

The Bike Doctor is in support of the City Administration's proposal to create "Bikeways" in select areas of Saskatoon, and to reduce the speed limit to 30 kph.

I am Greg McKee, and I've co-owned the Bike Doctor for 30 years. We at the Bike Doctor are engaging in cycling advocacy because our customers don't feel safe on Saskatoon streets; the deaths in 2023 of Natasha Fox and Darin Kineiwess have proven them right to feel unsafe.

By my calculations 5% of Saskatonians buy a new bicycle every year. Everyone has a cyclist in the family. On top of that, active transportation is exploding with the advent of reliable e-bikes and e-scooters. We have to create some momentum toward safer cycling.

In my experience, business people and drivers are overwhelmingly pro-cycling safety. But bikes have been politicized in Saskatoon. Complainers yell the loudest and grumpy old men are emboldened to harass cyclists. However, the tragedies of 2023 have increased the resolve of the silent majority to speak out to provide adequate cycling safety.

I spoke recently with Greg Yuel, President and owner of PIC Group. He and his family live in Saskatoon, and have lived in Edmonton. His company operates many businesses, including Kreos Aviation, with a hangar at the airport. I am including a letter he wrote to me, which encapsulates the frustration of some business leaders who are responsibly thinking about the future of Saskatoon, and trying to solve real challenges.

Thank you for making Saskatoon a better city by creating Bikeways.

Greg McKee
Co-owner Bike Doctor
[REDACTED]
6th Street East
Saskatoon

GREG YUEL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
SASKATOON, SK [REDACTED]
TO GREG MCKEE

NOVEMBER 6TH, 2023

Dear Greg,

Thank you for taking your time and energy to represent those of us in Saskatoon that want a healthier and safer community related to transportation and fitness.

In addition to any other dedicated bike lane investment that should be made within the City of Saskatoon, let me paint a picture of an extremely obvious lane with nearly zero negative consequences and providing the greatest benefit for the business community and those wanting to live a healthy lifestyle. Avenue C from the river all of the way to 39th Street should be a dedicated bike road on one half of the street and local residential one-way traffic on the other half. After 39th a dedicated bike lane in both directions would continue all of the way to 51st Street and then east on 51st street to the river as well having a lane in both directions at 46th Street west to Airport Drive.

Business owners in the Airport Business District and in the north end who employ people in the lowest socio-economic strata are out of available labour. Expecting that part-time and full-time minimum wage labourers to own a

vehicle is assumptive, but leaving them to use public transportation as the only safe access to their jobsite is cruel. The bus schedules available cause people to spend an hour or more from the neighbourhoods where they most likely reside (west-end or alphabet neighbourhood). If they have a specific start time that they are afraid of being late for, they could spend 3-4 hours per day travelling to and from work. Any average person can bicycle from Avenue D and 18th Street to Hanselman & Haskamp in 30 minutes. And today they do so while completely taking their own safety into their own hands. Why is our city consciously putting cyclist in traffic.

City of Edmonton invested in the exact bike plan as my example in 1993 on 125th Street allowing me to bike 4/5ths of the way to my job (from downtown) on a dedicated street. Our city is 30 years behind a simple solution in comparison to identical climate and driving habits in Edmonton. No resident along that route complained. Their property values went up and their street became quieter and infinitely safer for their kids.

Nothing happens in Saskatoon. 30years after Edmonton installed their program. Surely we are not paralysed with fear that the lazy people driving their comfortable cars will be inconvenienced for any length of time in their climate control environment thanks to their middle class income. That population have accepted the lowered speed limit in school zones for ridiculously long periods of each day on every day of the year. A policy that had nothing to do with safety and was only for the purpose of ticking an ESG box.

We elect a Mayor and Council to look after the best interests of all citizens and the long term health and efficiency of our city because they get access to what is likely in 10-40 years from now. Special attention is supposed to be placed on the needs of the most vulnerable and the poorest and at some expense to those that can afford it most. We wish to pull-up our poorest (not drag down our richest). That is what every citizen signs-up for by agreeing to be part of a society.

A business owner in our city must be learning in real time that if they want to attract employees they better be taking care of their people as much as they can. The airport, hotels and industrial enterprises grow our economy. But only if we have labour that can get to work safely and efficiently. We pay taxes for the city to take care of the transportation logistics required for our growth. So far, leadership in this area is woefully lacking. The vision seems to be there, but with zero action, the vision is a daydream.

If I were a new immigrant living in Riversdale and with a job at the airport I have three transfers and a 3 block walk in-between one of the transfers. What if I could safely ride my bike for 30-minutes. Healthier city. Safer city. I would be in control of my schedule instead of scared of missing a bus and being late.

Keep up the effort Mr. McKee. I am very tired of being a city so far behind the times. Basically, we are losing. I hate losing.

Sincerely,
Greg Yuel

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

From: City Council
Subject: Communication - Greg McKee - Bike Doctor - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 10:53 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
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First Name: Greg

Last Name: McKee

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: McKee

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: greg@bikedoctor.ca

Address: [REDACTED] St East

Neighbourhood: [Greystone Heights](#)

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: S7H [REDACTED]

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Standing Policy Committee on Transportation, December 5, 2023

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.2.3 Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km/hr Speed Limit Policy

Comments:

My name is Greg McKee, owner of the Bike Doctor. We strongly support the Bikeways proposal, and the lowering of the speed limit on these Bikeways to 30 kph.

Our customers do not feel safe riding bikes in Saskatoon, even though many of them continue to do so. We need to provide a lot more and a lot safer kilometres of welcoming paths and roads for users of active transportation to help our citizens move around the city. Our customers regularly tell us about their experiences of cycling in other cities that are our peers who have achieved better results in providing safe, active transportation. They are frustrated with Saskatoon. This proposal moves Saskatoon ahead, with a great ROI.

E-bikes are revolutionizing active transportation, and legal e-bikes are governed at about 30 kph--perfect for Bikeways. We need to encourage e-bikes for commuting.

Bikeways are proven to syphon bikes off of heavy traffic streets, which makes them a win for drivers and cyclists.

There is a myth that business people don't support safe cycling. That is not true. I recently received a letter of support for the Avenue C Bikeway proposal from Greg Yuel--who owns Kreos Aviation with a hangar at the airport. I will attach the letter from Greg Yuel below. Greg Yuel is a real business leader who is trying to help his employees, often immigrants, get to work efficiently. It is well worth reading.

Thank you for supporting the Bikeway proposal.

Dear Greg,

Thank you for taking your time and energy to represent those of us in Saskatoon that want a healthier and safer community related to transportation and fitness.

In addition to any other dedicated bike lane investment that should be made within the City of Saskatoon, let me paint a picture of an extremely obvious lane with nearly zero negative consequences and providing the greatest benefit for the business community and those wanting to live a healthy lifestyle. Avenue C from the river all of the way to 39th Street should be a dedicated bike road on one half of the street and local residential one-way traffic on the other half. After 39th a dedicated bike lane in both directions would continue all of the way to 51st Street and then east on 51st street to the river as well having a lane in both directions at 46th Street west to Airport Drive. Business owners in the Airport Business District and in the north end who employ people in the lowest socio-economic strata are out of available labour. Expecting that part-time and full-time minimum wage labourers to own a vehicle is assumptive, but leaving them to use public transportation as the only safe access to their jobsite is cruel. The bus schedules available cause people to spend an hour or more from the neighbourhoods where they most likely reside (west-end or alphabet neighbourhood). If they have a specific start time that they are afraid of being late for, they could spend 3-4 hours per day travelling to and from work. Any average person can bicycle from Avenue D and 18th Street to Hanselman & Haskamp in 30 minutes. And today they do so while completely taking their own safety into their own hands. Why is our city consciously putting cyclist in traffic.

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Keep up the effort Mr. McKee. I am very tired of being a city so far behind the times. Basically, we are losing. I hate losing.

Sincerely,
Greg Yuel

Thank you

Greg McKee

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