Thompson, Holly

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code:

From: City Council Subject: Email - Communication - Evan Dennis - Neighbourhood Bikeways - TS2023-1203 From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca> Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 10:48 AM To: City Council < City. Council@Saskatoon.ca> Subject: Email - Communication - Evan Dennis - Neighbourhood Bikeways - TS2023-1203 --- Replies to this email will go to Submitted on Saturday, December 2, 2023 - 10:47 Submitted by user: 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 Pronouns: He/him/his First Name: Evan Last Name: Dennis Phone Number : Email: Address: Quance Ave Neighbourhood: Greystone Heights City: Saskatoon

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:

To the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation,

I am writing in support of the report recommendation to approve a policy for all neighbourhood bikeways in Saskatoon to have a posted speed limit of 30 km/h.

As a regular bike rider, I feel that a reduced speed limit on these corridors would increase safety, reduce accidents and injury, and generally create a more welcoming environment for all users, with other benefits such as lower noise levels, and more speed limit changes with in the city making driving a much more active task which could reduce distracted driving.

SGI President and CEO Penny McCune is quoted on the SGI website: "The faster you speed, the less time you have to react. And if a collision does happen, higher speeds equal more damage and a greater risk of injury and death." I feel this is even more relevant in North America as there are so many large and so called "useful" SUVs and pickup trucks that make the roads more dangerous due to their high weight, unwieldy handing and unnecessary high bumpers and hoods. We also have very slippery roads in the winter and paired with not all drivers having proper tires or experience, as a result the winter roads are made more dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists due to drivers having less control over their 5000lb Ford 150's. So, as vehicle weight increases and traction deceases the speed limit has to come down.

The benefits cycling has on a city like ours is many and great such as bike paths being vastly cheaper than roads to maintain, health benefits (also reducing health care costs), less environmental impact, less noise which can lead to lower stress in humans, a sense of place and community, and much more affordable for low income individuals. Plus it's much more fun and rewarding than doing nothing at a red light in a car!

I strongly encourage this committee to forward this recommendation to City Council. It is a low-investment decision with very high returns. This policy could save my life.

Thank you for your consideration,

Evan Dennis

Ward 8

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