

Thompson, Holly

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Robert Judge - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km-hr Speed Limit Policy - CK 6320-0 x 6000-5

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 9:45 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Robert Judge - Neighbourhood Bikeways 30km-hr Speed Limit Policy - CK 6320-0 x 6000-5

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

Submitted on Sunday, December 3, 2023 - 21:44

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 03, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Judge

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Avenue K South

Neighbourhood: [King George](#)

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):: 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:

How many people have to die before Saskatoon will understand that bikes and speeding cars do not mix? I strongly support the motion to limit cars near bikeways to 30 kph.

It would be extremely disrespectful of Saskatoon to ignore the horrific recent tragedies.

Two innocent people were crushed to death in Saskatoon this year, one of them right in front of her children. In recent years a bike cop was hit downtown by a pickup and another man was killed on 8th St. This year a person on a bike was killed in Regina too. I do not know how many people have been injured by cars in Saskatoon but it can be a life altering and utterly unjust event. My own sister was hit by a car while she was following the letter of the law. She lost her job because of her injuries and quit cycling. Many cyclists who are injured by cars lose their licence while the driver who ruined their life walks away with a small fine or none at all. The cement truck driver whose carelessness crushed Natasha Fox was never charged. What kind of message does this send to people who cycle? 'Your life is meaningless.' Road construction workers are protected by lowered speed limits and flag people and barricades. Why not people who are trying to do the right thing by biking to work?

I do not want to suffer that fate. I do not want my family coming home dead either. How could the convenience of motorists be thought more important than our lives?

Every time I go somewhere, I see people driving while staring at their phones. If this dangerous behaviour cannot be stopped, at least the cars should be moving slower so that vulnerable street users have a hope of surviving the impact of carelessness.

There is more to lower speed than safety. The faster cars move, the more noise pollution they make. Noise pollution is unhealthy, raising stress levels among other problems. Faster cars create more air pollution. We now know air pollution from cars is much more unhealthy to cyclists than previously thought

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/nov/29/traffic-air-pollution-blood-pressure-study>

A lot of the particulate matter in the air cyclists have to breathe is caused by tire and brake wear. This means electric cars don't fix the problem. Cars also churn up dust, much of it containing toxic materials lying along the roadway and this is where slowing the cars down will help. Slower cars = less air pollution in our lungs and in our blood. Faster moving cars also spray mud on more people and property.

We all know that cars cost the taxpayer much more than bikes do. But the intimidation of cars's power keeps more people from cycling which raises all our property taxes. If Saskatoon really wants to keep tax hikes down, encourage more people to cycle by making it feel safe and clean.

It's sad that the safest place for someone on a bike in Saskatoon is on the sidewalk. For all these reasons and more, I implore you to consider us who are actually making Saskatoon a better place by cycling in it and pass the motion to limit car traffic near bikeways to 30 kph.

Sincerely,
Robert Judge
Saskatoon.

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

