

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Jessica Jack - 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: Monday, December 18, 2023 9:36 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Jessica Jack - 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 Monday, December 18, 2023 - 09:35

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 18, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: They/them/theirs

First Name: Jessica

Last Name: Jack

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Kingsmere Boulevard

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 ?: 9.2.2 Neighbourhood Bikeways 30 km/h Speed Limit Policy [TS20231203] and/or “9.2.1 Connecting Avenue C: Walking and Cycling Improvement Project [TS2023-1201]

Comments:

To Saskatoon City Council,

I am writing in support of the following motions:

9.2.2 Neighbourhood Bikeways 30 km/h Speed Limit Policy [TS20231203]

9.2.1 Connecting Avenue C: Walking and Cycling Improvement Project [TS2023-1201]

I believe both of these measures help move the City of Saskatoon toward a healthier, safer, and more equitable and sustainable active transportation network, which in turn contributes to a happier community.

As a regular bike rider, I welcome infrastructure like the Connecting Avenue C: Walking and Cycling Improvement Project that both encourages more “AAA” (All Ages and Abilities) users and increases accessibility into neighborhoods where people want to go, regardless of their mode of transportation. This project will provide a significant north south corridor for citizens using Active Transportation and provide simpler access to work opportunities in the North business district for those who cannot afford, or do not wish to use, a personal vehicle.

The addition of a 30 km/h speed limit to roads designated as Neighborhood Bikeways will provide a noticeably safer riding experience as it:

- discourages high volume and speed of vehicular traffic
- creates a more welcoming and inviting environment for cyclists
- allows all parties to see each other well in advance
- gives all parties more time to react to the unexpected
- in the worst case scenario of a collision, mitigates the severity and extent of injury

I have not forgotten Natasha Fox and Darin Kinniewess, two community members who died this year while riding their bikes. I experience fear and trepidation every time I mount my bike, wondering if there will be a memorial built in my name at the crash site while the issues that cause these tragedies continue without correction or action. I want to live in a city where elected officials do everything in their power to reduce the likelihood of further tragedy. With as many as 50 SGI reported car/bicycle collisions a year, while many others go unreported, the potential for more tragedy is horrifying due to its preventable, actionable nature.

Please do not continue privileging drivers of cars, trucks, SUVs, and other motorized vehicles over those who use Active Transportation to be healthier, to reduce their contribution to the undeniable climate change we are experiencing, and to save themselves and the city the extremely high cost of creating and maintaining the infrastructure necessary for motorized vehicle traffic. Protecting and facilitating people using Active Transportation, including both biking and walking, is of great benefit to the city of Saskatoon for a multitude of reasons, and I hope that the officials representing Saskatoon constituents will stand up for those who are at the greatest risk on our transportation corridors today.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jessica Jack
Ward 9

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