

## Janzen, Heather

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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Lily Bergstrom - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5  
**Attachments:** Improving Biking from a Grade 8 Perspective.pdf; Improving Biking from a Grade 8 Perspective\_0.pdf

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**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 26, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Lily Bergstrom - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5

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

Submitted on Monday, June 26, 2023 - 11:14

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, June 26, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Lily

**Last Name:** Bergstrom

**Phone Number :** [3066837550](tel:3066837550)

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** City Park School/820 Ave 9th north

**Neighbourhood:** [Richmond Heights](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** s7k2z2

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** EcoQuest

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** Wednesday, June 28th Regular Business Meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Cycling Safety

**Comments:**

Hello Saskatoon City Council, my name is Lily Bergstrom and I am a Grade 8 student who is a frequent biker around the city and have a few comments about improving the cycling safety in our city. Going off to high school next year I want to improve my safety and the safety of my other fellow bikers.

**Attachments:**

- [Improving Biking from a Grade 8 Perspective.pdf](#)35.22 KB
- [Improving Biking from a Grade 8 Perspective 0.pdf](#)35.22 KB

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

To Saskatoon City Council,

Hello City Hall my name is Lily Bergstrom and I am a grade 8 student heading off to highschool, and with that I hope to continue my biking journey through the next school year.

I am a frequent biker around Saskatoon therefore I am fairly educated on the dangers of the road. But between biking with friends or observing the bikers and drivers around me I realized that too many people in this city don't know and understand the rules of the road. And when people don't know what to expect or how to act when they see a biker on the road it's scary for both the biker and the driver.

Biking is its own way of transportation and should not be categorized as a car or a pedestrian, the facts are that bikes overpower pedestrians but cars overpower both. I like to think of it like bikes are car's little siblings. We want to be on the road like cars but we don't have all the advantages that they have. In my case though I am 14 so I am at the age where if I want to bike it has to be on the road. And to be pushed into that situation is scary. And if I hadn't gone to EcoQuest I wouldn't even know the turning signals.

We can't just educate bikers on bike safety and expect that everyone is going to come out with no injuries, we need to teach everyone about bike safety. Parents teach kids to look both ways for cars when crossing the road, but they assume that bikes will stop for their kids even though they have the right of way. It's those kinds of things that cause issues to not just bikers, but walkers too.

I was reading 'The Drivers Handbook 2022' from S.G.I searching for all the information it was teaching beginner drivers about sharing the road with bikers and I found 3 paragraphs, that's it. And in those 3 paragraphs nothing is mentioned about signaling, what the bike signs around the city mean to drivers (ex. The single file sign), the only thing they talked about was bike lanes and they didn't even describe what one looks like.

As I bike home from my sports, school or other activities I constantly have drivers making it really hard to build the confidence to ride on the road. Weather that's cars riding only inches behind me when I try to take a lane. Or not slowing down when passing me in a single lane because they think I can fit between them and the parked car.

My main goal here in this letter is to promote bike safety, and I think a very easy way to share this information is by teaching it in drivers education classes. That way the information gets across and it teaches the younger people of our city the bike bylaws. I think that information that they can add is the bike hand signals, passing etiquette, the bike bylaws and how to spot bike lanes. I think that covers the basics that many people may not know.

The world needs to see bikers as vehicles once they start biking on the road, in order for people to start biking places we need to work together to reduce the fear and be able to trust the cars we drive alongside everyday.

Sincerely,  
Lily Bergstrom