

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Brennen Montgomery - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5
Attachments: protected bike lanes-Brennen Montgomery.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:38 AM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Email - Communication - Brennen Montgomery - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5

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

Submitted on Monday, June 26, 2023 - 11:04

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

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Brennen

Last Name: Montgomery

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Bre-nen mont-gom-ery

Phone Number : [3066837550](tel:3066837550)

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: City Park School 820 9th avenue North

Neighbourhood: [Adelaide/Churchill](#)

City: saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: s7k 2z2

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, 2023 Regular Buisness Meeting

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 14. cycling safety (cc2023-0602)

Comments:

For privacy reasons I have put my schools address (city Park), phone number, and postal code, and put my own neighbourhood for proper representation.

Attachments:

- [protected bike lanes-Brennen Montgomery.pdf](#)80.21 KB

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

To: Saskatoon City Council,

My name is Brennen Montgomery and I am a 13 year old student in the Ecoquest program and I have spent many hours on a bike and I have peddled more than a thousand kilometers throughout the city so I know that we need safer cycling in the city and I am here to voice my concerns about bicycle transportation and how it can be improved in the city of Saskatoon.

Throughout our city we lack safe infrastructure and ways to cycle and I'm here to tell you how protected bike lanes will help our city's commuters and its economy. In Saskatoon we only have a limited number of bike lanes and even fewer protected bike lanes, this is a problem that needs to be solved. Protected bike lanes have proved to help cyclists, pedestrians, motorists, and even the economy if built in a good location. The more protected bike lanes there are in the city the more people will bike to work or school leading to less cars on the road, protected bike lanes create a more 'friendly' aura around commuting by bike as you are safe away from cars and you don't need to have loads of experience on a bike to get through the city fast and effectively. Protected bike lanes also help pedestrians by getting younger cyclists off the sidewalk and onto a safer spot to bike. They also help the economy by creating more foot and bike traffic on busy streets where they are more likely to stop and shop rather than driving on by. Lesser cars on the road leads to less traffic accidents and a safer city overall. People might say that cars are the future of transportation as they are quicker and keep you sheltered, but biking is healthy for your body and does not emit poisonous carbon dioxide that destroys our planet and plagues our city. Cars are also far more dangerous than bikes and more bikers could mean less cars and traffic on the road. Safe biking is extremely important to me as lots of my friends and family bike to work or school and I worry for them as we don't have nearly enough safe cycling in our city. During the 1970's in the Netherlands the amount of traffic deaths and pollution became 'unacceptable' so activists promoted cycling as a cleaner alternative. As a result, various cities started to make streets more bicycle friendly and Eventually the Dutch transport ministry instated a national strategy - "Bicycle plan in the Dutch" to increase bicycle usage, invest in bicycle infrastructure,

and create more public confidence. I believe that as a city or even a province we could do something similar that will help all commuters. Some ideas for safer cycling and adding more bike lanes could be A road diet, a road diet is a recommended safety countermeasure that reduces the number of lanes designated for vehicle traffic, typically from four lanes to three. Road diets can help create safe infrastructure on your urban streets for protected bike lanes and cyclists on the road. On some streets this could be very effective, like clearance avenue from 8th street to college drive or college drive from clearance to Preston avenue. Another way to have safer cycling is to create better signage that clearly states that it is a shared road or a single file lane with no passing. I have peddled all over our city from the far north airport area, to the far east residential area so I can tell that we don't have safe cycling as most of the time I'm on edge and wondering about stuff like "does that car see me? Will it stop or give me enough room when passing?" when I shouldn't have to as a 13 year old child. There has been many examples of safe biking in even bigger cities like Vancouver where 13% people commute by bike to work because they have over 400 lane-km of on and off road bike paths in the city, this puts into perspective how little we have and what we could have if we put in the money and resources. Protected bike lanes could help us all so we hope you include them in future city plans.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and I hope you take my remarks into consideration when planning our city as I hope to be able to cycle without fearing for my life.

The right time to improve cycling safety is NOW.

Thank you,

Brennen Montgomery

Resources:

Dutch cycle program and other misc information:

https://www.3mcanada.ca/3M/en_CA/road-safety-ca/applications/urban-mobility/protected-bike-lanes/

Vancouver cycling:

<https://vancouvermap360.com/vancouver-bike-map>