

## Janzen, Heather

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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Boston Kovitch-Mudrey - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5  
**Attachments:** To Saskatoon City Council.pdf

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**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@saskatoon.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 26, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@saskatoon.ca)>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Boston Kovitch-Mudrey - Councillor C Block - Cycling Safety - CK 6000-5

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

Submitted on Monday, June 26, 2023 - 11:35

Submitted by user: Anonymous

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:** Boston

**Last Name:** Kovitch-Mudrey

**Phone Number :** [306-683-7550](tel:306-683-7550)

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** City Park School 820 9th Ave North

**Neighbourhood:** [Confederation Park](#)

**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, 2023 Regular Business Meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 14. Cycling Safety

**Comments:**

The address used represents our school, City Park School but we live in Confederation Park and City Park

**Attachments:**

- [To Saskatoon City Council.pdf](#)50.34 KB

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

To Saskatoon City Council,

The reason I am writing this letter is to help raise awareness of unsafe biking in Saskatoon.

My name is Cain Hilderman and I am a student in the Ecoquest program and I ride my bike every week. Even though I am very experienced and educated in bike bylaws and biking, I don't always feel safe when biking. I was biking away from the CPR train bridge via the bike lane on Spadina Crescent E and I came to the intersection where Spadina and 33rd Street meet. I was biking on the sidewalk and was about to head off onto the bike lane when I noticed the bike lane starts way too late. When the car behind me was not even paying attention and started driving on the first part of the bike lane, I had to jump off the road to avoid getting hit. Whenever any of my family members go biking I always worry about their safety and mine. I think drivers should be more educated in bike infrastructure, bylaws and navigation symbols and they should be more aware of their surroundings. In my family, we've had my mom who's gotten hit by a car and an animal run over by a car and I've been chased down on my bike through a parking lot by a truck.

Hello City Council, my name is Boston Kovitch-Mudrey. Ever since I started the school year, I have been using my bike nonstop. It was that I learned later in the year that people above the age of 13 have to bike on the street, and not on the sidewalk, however, that is not the reason we are writing to you. The program I am attending, Ecoquest, shows us how to bike safely using the

road and bike lanes, however, this concept has always scared me. Every time we went for a bike ride down Spadina, the road is always filled with cars and it is very nerve-racking to merge with the vehicles before entering the bike lane. I always worry about everything I'm doing. Am I supposed to be on the road right now? Can they see me? I especially worry if they are frustrated with the way I'm biking, but they shouldn't be, I'm doing everything right. The problem is that people behind the wheel of the car don't know the rules of biking on the street. They don't know hand signals and most likely do not know that I am allowed to lane block, not on the sidewalk. This could be a frightening experience for people that are new to the city, or even new to biking. So let's make a change in what drivers see in bikers.

You could argue that not everyone bikes, but on the city of Saskatoon's website it states "Saskatoon is a bike-safe city!" this is untrue, if it was we wouldn't have any bike accidents. From 2012 to 2023 there have been eleven people killed in bike accidents and many more that got badly injured, that doesn't seem very safe to me. To make it safer to bike in Saskatoon some expectations have to be met. We think that with driver's ed, drivers should also be properly informed of bike bylaws, rules, rights, and signals. Drivers are taught to respect fellow vehicles, once a bike is on the road, it is a vehicle, so they should respect us, just as we respect them. Based on the research we were doing on driver's ed, we did not find much about bikers and their rights. We feel scared and paranoid knowing that the driver behind us doesn't know that we should be on the road, or if they are getting angry at us for doing what we're supposed to be doing. This has happened to many people we know, we were biking on the road because of the lack of a bike lane and we would get honked at, almost run over and forced to the shoulder of the

road. This is unsafe biking conditions and we need changes for bikers in Saskatoon.

Thank you for taking the time to read our concerns, and we hope you take them into consideration. We hope you understand why we are writing to you about the education in bike bylaws on the road.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
**Cain Hilderman, Boston Kovitch-Mudrey**