

**Janzen, Heather**

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Request to Speak - James Dobson - Road Safety Audit – College Drive and Wiggins Avenue - CK 6330-1 x 6000-5

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2024 3:41 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Request to Speak - James Dobson - Road Safety Audit – College Drive and Wiggins Avenue - CK 6330-1 x 6000-5

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

Submitted on Monday, April 22, 2024 - 15:38

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, April 22, 2024

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

**First Name:** James

**Last Name:** Dobson

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Henick Lane

**Ward:** Ward 4

**What do you wish to do ?:** Request to Speak

**If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely:** In person

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL Wednesday, April 24, 2024

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 9.2.1 – Road Safety Audit – College Drive and Wiggins Avenue [CC2023-0602]

**Comments:**

Good morning everyone –

My name is James Dobson. I live in ward 4 and ride my bike year-round through Saskatoon. I've really struggled to put into words what I want to say to you. To be honest, I've been without words since I saw the recommendation of the standing policy committee on Transportation's refusal to implement ANY of the recommendations that might have made our city just a little bit safer for people like Natasha, people like Darren, people like me.

The words I am able to find are angry, meant to be shouted, meant to hurt, meant to fill you with guilt and yet I know those words won't be effective. And so I look for kinder words, persuasive words, words that will inspire you to create something better. But the cycling community has been asking politely for so long, and things have not gotten better. Drivers continue put my life, our lives, at risk on a regular basis.

The day that Natasha Fox died I had to ride past the collision scene where I saw her mangled bike under that cement truck. I didn't know her, but I recognized the bike immediately; we passed each other regularly on our commutes. That could have been me, that could have been you, that could have been any number of people in this room. By taking the better part of a year to even consider making changes, let alone rejecting them, all we hear is that you don't care if I'm next, if he's next, if she's next. It's just a fact of life here in Saskatoon.

I can't understand the excuses given, all of our painted road markings disappear every winter and no one every says that we have illusions of safety, we have no rights on reds in other places in the city. Waiting for expanded infrastructure at Monroe won't help anyone. It doesn't go anywhere, and disconnected infrastructure is worse than no infrastructure at all.

You have a chance to do something about that. I don't have to tell you what the right thing to do is. You know what is right here and what is wrong. Are you brave enough to act on it?

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