

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Sheila Ragush - Road Safety Audit – College Drive and Wiggins Avenue - CK 6330-1 x 6000-5

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2024 1:42 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Sheila Regush - Road Safety Audit – College Drive and Wiggins Avenue - CK 6330-1 x 6000-5

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

Submitted on Sunday, April 21, 2024 - 13:33

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: Sunday, April 21, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Sheila

Last Name: Ragush

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: Sheela Ragish

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: 12th St E

Ward: Not Sure

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: April 24 2024 Council Meeting

What agenda item do you wish to comment on?: Road Safety Audit-Wiggins Ave and College Drive

Comments:

I live 8 blocks from the intersection at College Drive and Wiggins Ave and I have entered that intersection as a pedestrian, cyclist, and driver. It is a very busy intersection with multiple lanes running east and west and a busy much narrower road from Wiggins to campus. The deaths of Natasha Fox and Darin Kinniewess were a sobering reminder of how vulnerable I am as a user of Saskatoon streets, and I'd like to see as much done as possible to make my trips safer.

Councilor Block's June 2023 motions to address cycling issues were a good start. The move toward utilizing rapid deployment in new, adaptable infrastructure is something I support and the Road Safety Audit at College Drive and Wiggins Avenue is a subject close to my heart; it's where Natasha died.

I'm happy to see many of the CIMA+ consultant's recommendations (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, and 14) already being applied or supported by administration.

However, I am concerned that none of the cycling-specific recommendations (Numbers 8, 9, and 10) were supported by administration at this time.

I understand that these three recommendations are complicated, but I would urge council to strive to implement numbers 9 and 10 as soon as administration can resolve the issues around transit negotiations and staffing resources.

In the meantime, I also support recommendation number 8 (a painted bike box and lane along Wiggins Avenue, with a "no turn on red" prohibition).

While some of the reports' conclusions regarding this recommendation are valid (the physical space of the street may not lend itself to a perfect solution), the requiring of "driver adherence" or a supposed "false sense of safety" are not.

I do not believe that a heightened awareness of cyclists on this street could do anything but make it safer. Even if the finished infrastructure is not ideal in the eyes of administration, it could not be worse than the current configuration in which Natasha died. With concerted effort to keep the streets clear of debris, and signage highlighting the nature of the intersection, I believe recommendation 8 could add greatly to the actual safety of cyclists and pedestrians.

Please reconsider the SPCT's defeat of recommendation 8 and help make College and Wiggins a little bit safer than it was exactly 11 months ago.

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