

## Bryant, Shellie (Clerks)

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**From:** City Council  
**Sent:** August 25, 2018 2:45 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council  
**Attachments:** request\_to\_speak\_to\_reduced\_speed\_on\_the\_parkway.doc

Submitted on Saturday, August 25, 2018 - 14:45  
Submitted by anonymous user: 204.83.109.202  
Submitted values are:

Date: Saturday, August 25, 2018  
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council  
First Name: Louise  
Last Name: Jones  
Email: swalewatchers@gmail.com  
Address: [REDACTED] 111th Street  
City: Saskatoon  
Province: Saskatchewan  
Postal Code: [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Northeast Swale Watchers

Subject: Reducing speed through the Swale

Meeting (if known): Council meeting Monday August 30th

Comments: On behalf of the Swale Watchers, I am would like to speak to the attached presentation relating to reducing the speed limit on McOrmond from Wanuskewin Road to the entrance to the Northeast Swale Conservation Zone.

Attachments:

request\_to\_speak\_to\_reduced\_speed\_on\_the\_parkway.doc:

[https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/webform/request\\_to\\_speak\\_to\\_reduced\\_speed\\_on\\_the\\_parkway.doc](https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/webform/request_to_speak_to_reduced_speed_on_the_parkway.doc)

The results of this submission may be viewed at:  
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/252244>

Request to speak to the bylaw change proposed for speed limit on McOrmond crossing the Small Swale, August 13, 2018

The Northeast Swale Watchers continue to work toward the long term permanent protection of this critically important natural area. As you know we presented to this committee August 17, 2017 concerning reduced speed limits and traffic calming measures for wildlife and human safety and the closure of Lowe Road to protect the wetland area of the Swale through which it crosses. We have appreciated the opportunity to have discussions with the Transportation department, and look forward to continuing these important discussions in the context of the Northeast Swale Watchers Stakeholders' Working Group. Our research on safe passage of animals through natural areas crossed by major roadways suggests that there are measures to be taken to help reduce motor vehicle collisions and wildlife mortality. We support the proposal to reduce the speed of the North Commuter Parkway through the Small Swale from 70 to 60 as the speed limit on the section through the Northeast Swale is set at 50 kph.

We recognize that setting a speed limit in itself doesn't guarantee that the speed limit will be adhered to. There is a need to educate the public about the importance of reducing their speed, and there is a need to ensure that the speed limit is enforced. To be effective in accomplishing a reduction of speed by motorists traveling through the Swale, our group recommends an effective communication strategy prior to, and at the opening of the new roadway. This would involve speed readout signs, additional signage advising of the presence of wildlife, and a media campaign leading up to and at the time of the opening of the Commuter Parkway in early October.

It is important that the proposed reduced speed through the Small Swale be changed by the time of the opening of the Parkway so that motorists are not presented with a reduction of speed shortly after the road opening. It is also important that the public be advised that the City of Saskatoon highly values the importance of the Northeast Swale as wildlife habitat and asks the public to assist in the protection of this area by reducing their speed and keeping alert to their surroundings.

Our group had presented a number of traffic calming measure to help ensure the motorists observe posted speed limits in our presentation last August, but we have been advised that none are possible. This is disappointing as we have been involved in the work of the Stakeholders' Group over the past few months to try to determine best practices. Now the opening is less than two months away and it appears that there is little planned to engage the city's residents in protecting the Swale in a meaningful and practical way, and none of the measures to calm traffic are in place.