

ON TABLE ITEM

Date: Feb. 21, 2018
Meeting: Public Works + Transportation
Item: S-River Road

Schedule 6 to the Minutes of the Public Works & Transportation Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018.

Good Afternoon – my name is Lynda Parsons. I live at 2491 No. 8 Road.

December 11, 2017 City Council Meeting referral to staff - *That staff review the potential solutions to traffic calming measures along River Road prior to the installation of speed humps.*

January 29, 2018 City Council Meeting 5 delegates spoke and expressed concerns regarding the installation of speed humps and how this would impact safety and emergency response. Cyclists' behaviour was also discussed and Staff asked to address.

Mayor Brodie noted that a staff report on the matter is anticipated to be presented at the February 21, 2018 Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting and that area residents and business be notified of this.

In response to queries from Council, staff noted that all options, to improve traffic safety along River Road including enforcement, will be examined and that staff will communicate with cycling groups to encourage safe cycling.

The Report to Committee dated February 9, 2018 is stated to address the December 11, 2017 referral as well as the concerns raised January 29, 2018, and contain the report that Mayor Brodie noted.

Subsequent to reviewing the report we offer the following observations and requests:

1. Where is the report from WATT Consulting Group? We are requesting that we receive a copy of the full report. The "Executive Summary" is not a report.
2. We would like to know who actually performed the analyses and wrote the report.
3. We want to see the detailed data relating to the accident analysis – when, where, type of vehicle involved, cause of the accident, time of day etc.
4. We want specifics on speed and traffic volume - when the data was collected, time period, number of vehicles, type of vehicles, speed of vehicles, time of day when speed was an issue etc.
5. We want to see the analysis on the impact that speed humps would have to the resident's safety.
6. We want to see the analysis on the impact that speed humps would have on response times of emergency responders.
7. We would like to know where the cyclist behaviour has been addressed. Driving or riding a bicycle down the road on a Wednesday (January 17) or a Thursday (January 18) cannot possibly give any information on the weekend cyclist activity.



Staff is obviously aware that cycling volumes are noted on weekends as indicated by the signs, and so why was this time of the week not investigated?

8. Where is the review of potential solutions – Staff attended the December 11, 2017 City Council Meeting and knows that the discussion leading to the referral was to look at alternate methods to speed humps – not to hire a company that would promote more.
9. We want to see what options to improve safety have actually been examined following the January 29, 2018 City Council Meeting where Staff advised that all options would be examined.
10. If this report is endorsed potentially 102 speed humps could appear on River Road between No.6 Road and Westminster Highway – 6 existing + 20 approved by council + 43 phase 1 + 33 phase 2 = 102. (Staff Report page PWT – 67)
11. We are requesting that the Report to Committee from Victor Wei, P. Eng. Director, Transportation dated February 9, 2018 and accompanying “Executive Summary” of WATT Consulting Group is NOT endorsed. It is incomplete and does not address the issue tasked which was: *That staff review the potential solutions to traffic calming measures along River Road prior to the installation of speed humps.* This report does nothing more than focus on Staff’s original agenda of installing speed humps - 20 additional speed humps were approved by Council contrary to the majority of residents, please do not endorse an additional 76.
12. We are requesting that any public consultation with respect to safety enhancements on River Road be spearheaded by one of our elected officials and NOT be led by any of the current Transportation Department Staff, as they have demonstrated in the past that they are unwilling to accept our opinions.
13. We request that any public consultation begin first with the residents and business employees who must use River Road to access our properties.
14. That the installation of speed humps, speed cushions or other obstructions be prohibited on River Road. These road treatments are a safety concern for the residents and are scientifically proven to increase fuel consumption and emissions, and so go against the City of Richmond’s sustainability goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 33% by the year 2020.

We propose the following safety enhancements:

1. Install Radar Speed Signs or a similar type of speed reader signs. Depending on the type of sign a lot of information can be gathered, and users of the road alerted to changing road conditions as well as speed.
2. Enforcement of the Motor Vehicle Act on all users of the road including cyclists
3. Remove the excessive and dangerous signs and concrete bases, and replace with only the number of signs required to alert the users of the road, mounted safely into the gravel shoulder
4. Discontinue the removal of "cat's eye" road markers, and replace those already removed, or replace all with another form of in road markers.
5. Do not proceed with the placement of the "sharrow" road markers.
6. Remove the double solid line and replace with a broken line in areas where passing is safe.