



PR COMMUNITY ROADS DISCUSSION

Tuesday November 26, 2024



WELCOME

- Good afternoon, everyone, and thank you for taking the time to join us today.
- Your presence here speaks volumes about how much we all care about the safety of our roads and the well-being of our community.

GROUND RULES

- I would like to set a few ground rules to ensure a productive and respectful meeting.
 - This is a space where everyone's voice matters, and every perspective is valuable.
 - When sharing your thoughts, please keep your comments concise and on topic so that we can hear from as many people as possible.
 - Let's also strive to maintain a constructive and respectful tone throughout the discussion.
 - *Please state your name and the neighbourhood area you are from when speaking*

Why Did WE Call This Meeting

- Over the past few years, I have received numerous emails from residents regarding roadway safety concerns.
- These messages have highlighted challenges across various parts of our community and have been instrumental in shaping today's discussion.
- Two areas of repeated concern have been:
 - *Traffic Volume and Speed*
- We formed a small committee to talk about the challenges and discuss possible solution,
 - Before we go any further we need to have community feedback and support

Our Community

Our transportation system is shared by a diverse range of users, including:

- **Residents Walking Dogs:** Frequent foot traffic in the area.
- **Hikers:** Both local residents and visiting guests enjoying nearby trails.
- **Cyclists and Mountain Bikers:** Regular use of roads and trails for recreation and commuting.
- **Walkers and Runners:** Individuals using pathways and roadways for exercise.
- **Golfers and Golf Carts:** Sharing the roads, especially near golf course areas.
- **Vehicles:** A mix of sports cars, regular vehicles, and very large trucks contributing to traffic.
- **Wildlife:** Critical corridors for deer, bears, and other animals intersect with our transportation routes.
- **Resort Guests:** Both resorts PR and SH guests

All these factors highlight the need for careful planning and shared responsibility to ensure safety and harmony on our roads and trails.

Possible Factors Contributing to The Traffic Concerns:

■ New Development:

- brings additional residents, leading to increased vehicle traffic.

■ General Traffic Growth:

- Local companies that provide services
- UPS, Purolator, Canada Post deliveries etc.

■ Construction Activity:

- Ongoing development result in increased tradespeople and various types of vehicles on the roads.

■ Workforce Growth:

- An increase in staff working at SP and PR adds to the traffic load

■ Tourism Increase:

- A rise in visitors has contributed to heavier road use.

■ Irresponsible Driving:

- Irresponsible driving behaviors has added to the problem.

Current Areas of Concern

- Predator Ridge drive
 - *Volume of traffic and speed*
- Birdie Lake Drive
 - *Volume of traffic and speed*
 - *Stop sign at the junction of Birdie Lake Dr and Falcon Point Way*
- Longspoon Area in Particular Longspoon Drive
 - *Speed*

Possible Solutions

- **Engage** further with the City of Vernon: Work with the CoV Planning and Transportation Departments to address traffic issues and design effective solutions.
- **Engage with PR:** Coordinate with PR management to address the impact of construction vehicles on local traffic.
- **Partner with the RCMP:** Hold discussions with the RCMP to address speeding concerns and enhance enforcement efforts.
 - *Community speed record program*
- **Involve Residents:** Focus on educating and communicating with the community about the importance of safe speeds and sharing the road responsibly.

Progress So Far

- Formed a small community committee to discuss challenges
- Sent letters and engaged with the CoV Planning and Transportation Departments
 - Results – some work done on corner of Birdie Lake and FPW.
 - Attended the CoV community Planning open house
- Engaged with Predator
 - *PR sent notices out to all contractors asking their staff drive responsibly*
 - *Talked to PR about Speed Humps*

Communities Facing Similar Transportation Challenges

- Many communities across British Columbia face challenges similar to ours when it comes to managing roadway safety. These include:
 - Kelowna
 - Surrey
 - Victoria
 - Vancouver
 - Vernon
- One common approach these communities have all adopted is implementing **Traffic Calming Programs**.

Traffic Calming Program

- The goal of a traffic calming program is:
 - To create vibrant, livable neighbourhoods by reducing the negative impacts of vehicles on residential streets.
 - Address driver behaviour issues which will help create safer and more comfortable environments for all transportation modes such as walking, and cycling.
 - Control speeding and other driver behaviour issues that can reduce the number of conflicts between road users and increase quality of life.

Examples of Traffic Calming Measures

- Speed Humps
- Speed Cushions
- Street Signage and Pavement Markings
- Education
- Enforcement

Breakout Discussion

Are there other key road safety issue?

Are there other possible solutions?

What are your thoughts on Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Program would you support it?

Report back

What are we Prepared to Do?

- I am asking for your support to engage with the COV and request Neighbourhood Traffic Calming measures be considered and possibly implemented.

Traffic Calming Processes and Procedures

- Apply to the city
- City does a desktop review of the request
- If the areas are not deemed suitable for TCP then we will look at different options.
- If the area is deemed suitable for TCP the following will take place
 - *Evaluate based on vehicular speed, traffic volume, existing active transportation facilities, number of people walking or cycling, presence of vulnerable road users, (seniors, children)*
 - *Community engagement by the city to ensure residents understand and are in favor of TCP.*

- Kelowna Traffic Calming Document Links:

-

- <https://www.kelowna.ca/roads-transportation/traffic/traffic-calming>

-

-

- Traffic Calming Vancouver:

- <https://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/traffic-calming-and-safety.aspx#:~:text=Traffic%20calming%20helps%20encourage%20safe,humps%20on%20their%20local%20street>

-

-

-

-

- Traffic Calming Vernon:

- <https://www.vernon.ca/roads-transportation/driving-carpooling/road-safety>

-

- <https://www.castanet.net/news/Vernon/334956/Vernon-council-debates-moving-traffic-calming-at-Paddlewheel-Park-after-learning-signs-hit-multiple-times-a-year>

-

-

- <https://www.vernonmorningstar.com/news/traffic-calming-strategies-called-for-after-child-clipped-in-armstrong-crosswalk-3325366>

-

- Traffic Calming Survey

- <https://www.surrey.ca/services-payments/parking-streets-transportation/roads-in-surrey/traffic-calming>

-

-

- BC Road Safety Tool Kit:

- <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/driving-and-transportation/driving/consequences/vision-zero/resource-kit-community-road-safety-toolkit-module2.pdf>

- In addition to collecting and reviewing community feedback, we have reached out to the City of Vernon, specifically with the Planning and Transportation Departments, on road safety concerns with Falcon Point and Birdie Lake blind corner. Which resulted in the stop sign being realigned, and a new sign being installed. We also sent a letter over to the Transportation Department requesting outlining a few of our concerns, to which we received back, please attend our Community Plan open house.

- We also engaged with Predator Ridge on the issues, they did send repeated notices out to contractors asking their staff to be more conscious on our road ways.

- We also did some exploring around other municipalities with similar issues.
 - One of the promising solutions we are exploring is the **Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program**.
 - This initiative could provide a structured and community-driven way to address road safety concerns. Later in the meeting, we'll learn more about this program and how it might work for us.

- After that, we'll take time as a group to identify key issues in our neighborhoods. Together, we'll brainstorm potential solutions that we can bring forward for action.

- Let's make this meeting a meaningful step forward for road safety in our community. Thank you all for being part of the conversation, and let's get started!