Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Public Works & Transportation Committee meeting of Richmond

MayorandCouncillors

MayorandCouncillors City Council held on Wednesday,

February 21, 2018.

Sent: Monday, 19 February 2018 15:17

To: Wei.Victor Cc: Powell, Jo Anne

FW: Public Works and Transportation Committee Meeting - Feb, 21, 2018 Subject:

SpeedHumps toMayor Councillors3 Feb21.docx Attachments:

Categories: - DISTRIBUTED ON TABLE, - TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S

OFFICE

From: MayorandCouncillors

From:

Sent: Monday, 19 February 2018 15:17 To: Lynda Parsons (Parsons606@hotmail.com)

Subject: FW: Public Works and Transportation Committee Meeting - Feb, 21, 2018

Good afternoon Ms. Parsons,

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your email. Please be advised that copies of your email have been forwarded to the Mayor and each Councillor. In addition, copies will be available at the Wednesday, February 21st Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your concerns with Richmond City Council.

Hanieh Berg | Legislative Services Coordinator City Clerk's Office | City of Richmond 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

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ON TABLE ITEM

Meeting: Public Works + Transportation

Date: February 21, 2018

Item: 5 - River Road

From: Lynda Parsons [mailto:Parsons606@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, 19 February 2018 14:36

To: Loo, Alexa; McNulty, Bill; Day, Carol; Au, Chak; Dang, Derek; Steves, Harold; Johnston, Ken; McPhail, Linda;

Brodie, Malcolm: Mayorand Councillors

Subject: Public Works and Transportation Committee Meeting - Feb, 21, 2018

Dear Mayor Brodie and Council Members,

Please find enclosed details that I will present in a summarized form at the Meeting on Wednesday afternoon. I am sending this to you individually as well as through the City Clerk's office to ensure that you receive it, as this in a serious and important issue to the residents of this neighbourhood.

Because of the serious consequences to us, it is our hope that we will see many of you at this meeting

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynda Parsons

I would like to begin by stating that to date I have not received notification from Victor Wei, Director of Transportation that a report will be presented at the Public Works and Transportation Committee Meeting on February 21, 2018 as he was asked to do at the January 29, 2018 City Council Meeting. I located the report on the City of Richmond website, reviewed the report and offer the following:

#### Observations and requests following review of the report:

- 1. There is no actual report there is an "executive summary" with no indication as to who composed the report and performed the analyses. We would like this determined.
- 2. There is no hard data the only actual number in the summary is that 8 cyclists were involved in accidents. 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.
- 3. There is no information on where they obtained the data on speed or traffic volume we want to know 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.
- 4. There is no information on how installing speed humps would or would not affect our safety. We want to see their analysis on the impact of speed humps to the resident's safety.
- 5. We want to see the analysis on the impact to response times of emergency responders that speed humps would create.
- 6. We want to see where they recommend changing the double solid line configuration.
- 7. We would like to know why cyclists appear to be the main focus.
- 8. We are requesting that we receive a copy of the full report.

We have continuously stated that our safety – personal and that of our property - and how installing speed humps on River Road will impact our safety is our issue, yet the opening paragraph of the "Executive Summary" states:

WATT Consulting Group was retained by the City of Richmond to undertake an independent traffic operations and safety review of the River Road corridor from No.6 Road to Westminster Highway. The study was commissioned in response to safety concerns raised by the public, particularly related to off-road crashes and to crashes involving cyclists.

Speed hump installation and how this will impact our safety, was not the focus, rather cyclists were the main focus once again. In the Executive Summary by WATT Consulting Group, the word "cyclist or cyclists" appears 19 times "resident or residents" appears 0 times and "business or businesses" 0.

Our concern, which resulted in the referral to Staff at the December 11, 2017 City Council Meeting, is the impact that the installation of speed humps will have on our safety. This has not even been considered by the independent traffic safety consultant, based on the summary that we received.

A Proposal to spend \$1,147,000.000 to \$1,430,000.00 of the City of Richmond's tax money to appease recreational cycling groups and put the residents' and business employees' safety at risk is unacceptable. To not even consider residents or business employees is deplorable

In addition to receiving a copy of the full report produced by WATT Consulting Group, the following action from the City of Richmond Mayor and Council is requested:

1. That the Report to Committee from Victor Wei, P.Eng. Director of Transportation dated February 9, 2018 is NOT endorsed.

This entire fiasco began with the referral to staff at the November 7, 2016 General Purpose Committee Meeting to "to examine the circumstances and the area around the accident that occurred on River Road on November 6, 2016 and report back".

Report June 6, 2017:

"The Richmond RCMP investigation of the November 6, 2016 crash on River Road is substantially completed. The investigation concluded that roadway design did not play a factor in the crash and the likely cause is driver error."

This should have concluded the referral, but Staff grasped this opportunity to turn the only access to our property into an oversized cycling lane.

When this report was presented had Staff been advised that the report that they presented went beyond the scope of the referral, and that if cycling groups wish to turn River Road into a cycling lane by having speed humps installed then they would have to present this to Council, we would not be here time and again fighting for our right to be safe.

Please, do not let this happen again by endorsing this report.

- That any public consultation with respect to safety enhancements on River Road NOT be led by any of the current Transportation Department Staff, as they have shown that they are not able to accept our opinions as has been demonstrated in the past.
- 3. That the public consultation with respect to safety enhancements on River Road be spearheaded by one of our elected officials.
- 4. Acknowledge that the primary purpose of River Road is for residents and business employees to access their properties. Any non-resident traffic – either 2 or 4 wheel is using this road by choice. The residents and business employees are using River Road by necessity – it is the only access that we have to our property.
- 5. Ensure that ALL of the affected residents and Businesses are included in any discussions with respect to changes to River Road.
- 6. Place a moratorium on the installation of speed humps, speed cushions or other obstructions on River Road.
- 7. Deem the dangerous concrete sign bases unsafe and order that they be removed from River Road. There is already documented proof that these are indeed in an area where they can be hit.

These sign bases are a danger to all who use River Road. They have been installed in excess and in a place where they can be hit. It is of utmost urgency that these dangerous concrete sign bases are

removed immediately. Two of the concrete bases and signs were struck between February 14 and February 18, 2018 which clearly indicates the necessity for the immediate removal.

8. Install only enough signs as are necessary and required to give notice to the users of the road.

In accordance with the Manual of Standard Traffic Signs and Pavement markings – It is also most important to recognize that improper or excessive use of signs leads to disrespect and non-compliance of the sign.

- 9. Repeal the June 26, 2017 resolution that approved "safety measures" on River Road which was:
  - Replace existing "Share the Road" signs with "Single File" signs at more frequent intervals
  - Paint the road with "Sharrow" markings which is a white bicycle with arrows
  - Install "Caution" signs to advise motorists to expect cyclists
  - Remove the remaining "cat's eye" road markers and replace with delineator posts mounted in the gravel shoulder
  - Conversion of the existing double solid centerline to a dashed single centerline at select locations

More frequent intervals of signs is unnecessary and contrary to the requirements set out by the Province.

The "sharrow" road markings would be a distraction for drivers and another total waste of taxpayers' money.

"Caution" signs to alert motorists of cyclists is a waste of money – the cycling signs indicating "share the road" already advise that there are cyclists on the road.

Removing the "cat's eye" road markers is the exact opposite of a safety enhancement – we need these to remain or to be replaced with another type of in-road marker. Delineator posts mounted in the gravel shoulder at the side of the road would be unacceptable, as these would be hit by vehicles, knocked down and rendered useless.

We do want the centerline markings converted as indicated below.

10. Approve changing of the double solid centerline to a broken centerline on areas of River Road where it is safe for vehicles to pass.

For years River Road had areas where there were broken centerline markings. It is unclear when and why these were converted to double solid lines.

11. Pass a by-law that promotes safe cycling through enforcement of the law and licencing of bicycles within the city.

When I have lived in other Cities or Towns across Canada, every bicycle was required to have a licence issued by the City or Town. This was an actual licence plate with a unique number (like a miniature automobile licence plate). This made enforcement possible. The by-law could make it a requirement that, in order to ride a bicycle in the City of Richmond the bicycle must display a licence issued by and registered in the City of Richmond or registered with another jurisdiction that issues

bicycle licences. If the cyclist resides outside of Richmond and their home City does not issue bicycle licences they must register with Richmond and receive a licence prior to cycling in Richmond. Of course, latitude would be afforded to cyclists from outside of the GVRD. Fees for the licence should be minimal or free, however, the fine for not licencing the bicycle can be determined to cover the cost of enforcement. Having a licence on a bicycle also helps in returning lost/stolen bicycles to the owner.

My initial thoughts on the cycling by-law was considered too harsh by some, but I would like to share it with you regardless:

As River Road has clearly been identified by cyclists as unsafe, and this view is supported by the Department of Transportation, the residents of this neighbourhood are requesting:

# That the City of Richmond pass a by-law that restricts cycling on River Road by non-resident cycling groups.

Our tax dollars have paid for multiple cycling lanes and these groups are welcome to use these, providing that they do so safely and with respect to Richmond residents. As the non-resident cycling groups have continually demonstrated that they are unwilling to be respectful in our neighbourhood they should not be welcome. This is a road that we require to access our properties – this is not a cycling lane.

Cost to the taxpayers \$0.00. Relief for neighbourhood taxpayers – priceless!

- 12. Ensure that RCMP Officers are present to enforce the motor vehicle act, including issuing tickets for illegal cycling as necessary including on weekends.
- 13. Ensure that By-law Enforcement Officers are present to enforce City By-laws as necessary, and assist RCMP with enforcement including on weekends
- 14. Monitor Staff to ensure that they are doing what is asked of them and not delving into projects that go beyond the scope of the referrals that lead to wasting of our tax dollars.

Of course Staff members taking initiative and bringing forth ideas that enrich the City should be encouraged, however, these ideas should not be allowed to be slipped into reports and convoluted into the information that is to be approved by Council.

15. Listen to and act for the Voting Public.

60% of those allowed to participate opposed the installation of speed humps - to ignore this is unacceptable – why was the voting public's will dismissed? Canada is a democratic country and when we vote in our representatives, we expect that they will be our voice and not be swayed by the personal agenda of Staff members,

60% were against the installation of speed humps and had their concerns reduced to "perceptions" by City of Richmond Staff. For Staff to call their concerns perceptions in order to push through their personal agenda of speed humps is insulting and just wrong. Why are Staff allowed to waste our tax dollars to go against the will of the people who vote in this City?

MayorandCouncillors

Date: February 21, 2018

Meeting: Public Works + Transportation

Item: 5-RIVET ROOM

From:

MayorandCouncillors

Sent:

Tuesday, 20 February 2018 07:13

To: Cc: Wei, Victor Powell, Jo Anne

Subject:

FW: Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting on February 21, 2018

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From: MayorandCouncillors

Sent: Tuesday, 20 February 2018 07:13

To: 'Steve Dee'

Subject: RE: Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting on February 21, 2018

Good morning Mr. Dee,

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your email. Please be advised that copies of your email have been forwarded to the Mayor and each Councillor. In addition, copies will be available at the Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your views with Richmond City Council.

Hanieh Berg | Legislative Services Coordinator City Clerk's Office | City of Richmond 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

From: Steve Dee [mailto:stephen@dee.ca]
Sent: Monday, 19 February 2018 22:12

**To:** MayorandCouncillors **Cc:** Parsons606@hotmail.com

Subject: Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting on February 21, 2018

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councilors:

I am unable to attend this meeting in person and request that this email be read into the minutes of the meeting.

I live on our agricultural property on River Road where I operate a nursery for ornamental plants. I also lease another property on the road where we operate another farm. As part of our growing operation we use the road to make numerous trips between our 2 locations as well as deliveries. The installation of speed bumps would seriously inhibit our operations.

I was under the impression that it was a priority for the city to preserve agricultural land and promote local agriculture. I agree with the importance of safety but I do not agree with hindering the intended use of the road for the sake of

recreation. It is too long to be restricted by speed bumps. I believe the current dyke reinforcing and widening which is happening will help make the road safer.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stephen Dee, 21200 River Road.

Date: February 21,2018

Meeting: Public Works + Transportation

Item: 5 - River Road

MayorandCouncillors

From:

MayorandCouncillors

Sent:

Tuesday, 20 February 2018 07:11

To: Cc: Wei,Victor

Subject:

Powell, Jo Anne FW: River Road speed humps proposal

Attachments:

River Road speed humps.docx

Categories:

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From: MayorandCouncillors

**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 February 2018 07:11

To: 'andyhobbs@shaw.ca'

Subject: FW: River Road speed humps proposal

Good morning Mr. Hobbs,

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your email. Please be advised that copies of your email have been forwarded to the Mayor and each Councillor. In addition, copies will be available at the Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your concerns with Richmond City Council.

Hanieh Berg | Legislative Services Coordinator

City Clerk's Office | City of Richmond 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

From: Andy Hobbs [mailto:andyhobbs@shaw.ca]

Sent: Monday, 19 February 2018 20:54

To: MayorandCouncillors

Subject: River Road speed humps proposal

Good evening,

Please find my comments regarding the speed humps on River Road attached.

Thank you,

Andy Hobbs

Dear Mayor & Council:

Re: River Road Speed Hump Plan

Recently, I became aware of a plan to install about 54 speed humps along River Road between #6 Road and Westminster Hwy.

I can not attend the meeting this Wednesday due to a previous commitment so I am forwarding an email to express my opposition to this plan.

As a retired police officer, I've attended countless tragedies & numerous sudden death scenes including many gruesome traffic fatalities. I understand that River Road has been the location of some fatalities lately and, as a retired officer who had to investigate and notify family members, I'm more than familiar with the carnage and the human cost involved.

I have also been the officer in charge of a 90 member traffic section responsible for enforcement, education and engineering initiatives from a policing point of view and for working in close collaboration with our City and Provincial counterparts in improving road safety. In that role, I also served as the vice-chair of the B.C. Chiefs of Police Traffic Safety Committee.

I very much support road safety in our community.

However, it seems that this proposal places too much emphasis on the effectiveness of speed humps and that the City is listening to one particular interest group's agenda over all others.

First, the City seems to have a fixation with speed humps and seems to be willing to plunk them down on roads, in the middle of a neighbourhood, where they remain for decades. Once done, they will be there, effectively, forever.

Speed humps are not a panacea. They are a blunt, simplistic solution. Some concerns include:

• Speed humps are frequently too high & not deep enough (front to back). In my neighbourhood (Homma), the City installed two and if you slow down below 30 k, they are manageable. However, the speed limit is actually 50 kmh other then when school is in session. Although most people drive less than 50 k in the neighbourhood, even at 35 k or 40 k, a car gets rocked driving over them. They are too high and not deep enough. A speed bump is a different traffic device than a speed hump. Richmond tends to build big speed bumps and they are not desirable.

- Likewise, along #3 Rd south of Steveston Hwy leading to the south arm, the speed limit is 50 k, except for a short school zone, 30 k school days. The point is, you can't drive 50 k comfortably over those humps because they are too high & not deep enough.
- Speed humps affect large and shorter vehicles differently. Farm equipment, trailers, bins, motorcycles and short axles all react differently.
- Speed humps don't address the issue of congestion on River Road which is narrow and a necessary route for commercial vehicles including trucks, cars and cyclists and other road users. Primarily though, it is not a cycling route and the speed hump solution seems to be designed, almost exclusively, to address concerns of the cycling community.
- Speed humps are a 24/7 blunt instrument that do not account for times of the day and days of the week where it's predictably busy. They are not an intelligence based solution.
- Speed humps can aggravate congestion if there are too many and if they are too high. That is a likely outcome with this proposal.
- This plan has far too many and Richmond has demonstrated that they make them too high & not deep enough. This can negatively impact the efficient flow of traffic.

Importantly, speed humps don't address distracted driving and driver inattention.

Generally, it's agreed that road traffic safety is improved through engineering, enforcement and education.

**Engineering:** There are many options. Although, on this stretch of road, there are limitations since it's a narrow road with not much room for affordable changes like widening. It's an area with a very mixed road use of commercial, agricultural, residential as well as being a minor commuter route.

One (engineering) technology solution would require the Province to allow for "radar" speed enforcement. Set the threshold at a reasonable limit and the minority of irresponsible drivers would be penalized and change their behaviour. This isn't in the City's ability to change but the City could advocate through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). High tech enforcement of traffic laws is widely used throughout the world and B.C. is lagging behind. The City should lead the municipal charge to have the Province make the legislative changes required for speed on green, new versions of photo radar, and far greater red light intersection enforcement.

Education is important through the use of media, social media and signage.

Education is a constant. It can be timed to seasons like the spring & summer when cycling increases or the fall when it's darker and the weather worsens. Clearly, it applies to all roads as well but it can be focussed on a particular road locations too. Australia has some of the best road safety education awareness programs.

**Enforcement** is a key. Road users including drivers and cyclists have to believe that there's a reasonable chance that violations of the rules will have consequences. This doesn't mean police have to be there 24/7. This can be intelligence based and focused on days of the week, hours of the day and weather when the predictive analysis maximizes the impact of enforcement. Behaviour can be changed. Outliers will exist but you can change the norms. Richmond has a very hard working Traffic Enforcement Unit.

Enforcement can be augmented by volunteer speed watch members and the Integrated Road Safety Unit (IRSU).

#### Other Solutions & Options

Rather than 54(?) speed humps, engineering solutions could include less permanent, less intrusive and more affordable options including:

- Appropriate signs, alerting road users to the speed limit, share the road, pass when safe etc.
- Electronic speed warning signs.
- · Better street lighting.
- Rumple strips patterns (small bumps, in patterns, that alert drivers at key locations) that are easier to travel over with bikes, trailers etc. These can include speed limit changes. These are very effective tools.
- Road/lane delineators (plastic dividers) at key spots (driveways, curves).
- · Road reflectors.

To reiterate the speed limit issue, I do not support the proposal to lower the speed limit to 30 k, 24/7.

Perhaps, trucks could be 40 k and cars could be 50 k.

There is no justification to have cars restricted to 30 k on a 24/7 basis. It's important to remember that laws (rules) should be seen to be legitimate and 30 k, 24/7, along the entire road, is not legitimate. It's overkill and enforcing it 24/7 would put police officers in unnecessary potential conflicts with the public who

would not see receiving a ticket for going 53 k in a 30 k speed zone, at 9 pm, on a nice summer evening, as legitimate or fair.

50 k in a car is a completely safe, reasonable and legitimate speed limit on City Streets, including River Road.

A very limited use of speed humps, done properly (not too high and deep enough), can be effective but they seem to be the flavour of the day in Richmond. Speed humps seem like a solution and give the impression of having done something but this proposal is overkill.

This plan is extremely expensive and very permanent.

Speed humps are not magic bullets and I encourage Council to listen to Richmond residents who live in the area and to not proceed with this plan.

Thank you,

Andy Hobbs

Date: Feb. 21,2018

Meeting: Public Works + Transportation

Item: 5-River Road

From:

MayorandCouncillors

Sent:

Wednesday, 21 February 2018 08:37

To:

'Alec Herrmann'

Subject:

RE: Richmond Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting on February 21,

2018

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- TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, - DISTRIBUTED ON

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Good morning Mr. Hermann,

MayorandCouncillors

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your email. Please be advised that copies of your email have been forwarded to the Mayor and each Councillor. In addition, copies will be available at the Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your views with Richmond City Council.

Regards,

Claudia

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Claudia Jesson

Manager, Legislative Services

City Clerk's Office

City of Richmond, 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Phone: 604-276-4006 | Email: cjesson@richmond.ca

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From: Alec Herrmann [mailto:alech@shaw.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 February 2018 23:05

To: MayorandCouncillors

Cc: Wallie Sohl; Parsons606@hotmail.com

Subject: Richmond Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting on February 21, 2018

To the City of Richmond,

I am unable to attend the meeting in person and I request this email be read into the minutes of the meeting (in subject line).

I currently live at 23280 River Road (5 years) and previously lived at 23220 River Road (10 years).

23220 River Road just so happens to be the exact address where a fatal bicycle – car collision occurred on 2016 November 6 – the very incident that is prompting the city to install up to 76 speed humps on River Road.

In the several months after this terrible incident I was in agreement with a small number speed humps and even answered a city-issued questionnaire with that opinion. Now, after thinking about it more, and hearing

that there may be up to 76 speed humps installed, and realizing the various implications speed humps will have, I have changed my stance and am now very much OPPOSED to speed humps on River Road.

Speed humps will not only affect the cars driving on River Road - they will also affect the very bicycle riders we are trying to protect.

Much better to have a dedicated bicycle lane on River Road than speed humps.

Speed humps will slow down the response time of emergency vehicles that are trying to get to residents on River Road. I hear a fire engine go by my house at least 6 times a year and that is just during evening hours and weekends.

Speed humps will greatly annoy drivers who already have to put up with frequent long lines on River Road during rush hour traffic.

If you want to reduce the speeds on River Road, making the road harder to drive at higher velocities is not a good answer and this is a road that is already considered to be a narrow road with only 2 lanes. River Road is already somewhat difficult to drive in various sections, and even more so during inclement weather, so we do not want to make it worse for drivers. A better answer is proper enforcement of a speed limit. Maybe even consider bringing back speed cameras as a possible enforcement method for River Road?

Thank you for your time in listening to my opinion.

Alec Herrmann 23280 River Road Richmond V6V1M4

Date: Feb. 21,2018

Meeting: Public Works & Transportation

Item: 5-River Road

From:

MayorandCouncillors

Sent:

Wednesday, 21 February 2018 08:40

To:

'Avtar Thandi'

Subject:

RE: Presentation on Feb 21 Transportation Committee

Categories:

- TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, - DISTRIBUTED ON

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Good morning Mr. Thandi,

MayorandCouncillors

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your email. Please be advised that copies of your email have been forwarded to the Mayor and each Councillor. In addition, copies will be available at the Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Public Works and Transportation Committee meeting.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your views with Richmond City Council.

Regards, Claudia PHOTOGOPIED

Cladala

FER 2 0 2018

Claudia Jesson Manager, Legislative Services City Clerk's Office

City of Richmond, 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Phone: 604-276-4006 | Email: cjesson@richmond.ca

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From: Avtar Thandi [mailto:avthandi@live.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 February 2018 16:00

To: MayorandCouncillors

Subject: FW: Presentation on Feb 21 Transportation Committee

To all,

I do have concerns that the speed bumps will cause further accidents especially drivers that are not familiar with river road.

The bumps must be engineered properly so cars do not get out of control especially in wet and snow conditions... that saying it will further cause serious accidents then help relieve the problem.

I will not be able to make the meeting but will forward this message to mayor and council and hopefully someone will read my email and my concerns

Avtar Thandi