



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monday, March 2, 2015
SCRD "Cedar" Room, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC

AGENDA AMENDED

CALL TO ORDER 10:15 A.M.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda

MINUTES

2. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 03, 2014 – For Information **Annex A**
pp. 1 – 6

REPORTS

3. Sunshine Coast Speed Watch Reports, October 2014, November 2014, December 2014, January 2015. **Annex B**
pp. 7-10
4. Barry Cavens, Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee, provide updates on BC Ferry decisions and BC on the Move – 10 Year Plan submission. **Verbal report**

COMMUNICATIONS

5. Rob Williams, Manager Transit and Fleet, update on ferry traffic congestion at Earls Cove Ferry Terminal. **Annex C**
pp. 11-12
6. Alun Woolliams, Transportation Choices (TraC) Sunshine Coast, regarding Selma Park bike lanes, west from Hwy 101 & Selma Park Road. **Annex D**
pp.13-19
7. ⇒ **ADD** Safety concerns with excessive vehicle speed on North Road and Marine Drive in Hopkins Landing. **LATE ITEM**
pp. 20-25

ROUND TABLE

NEXT MEETING May 4, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

1766 North Road
 Gibsons, BC V0N 1V1
 Phone: (604) 840-0204

February 16, 2015

Gary Nohr, Chair
 SCR D Board of Directors
 1975 Field Road
 Sechelt, BC V0N 3A1
 (cc: John France, Chief Administration Officer, SCR D)

Dear Mr. Nohr:

Re: Safety concerns re: excessive vehicle speed on North Road & Marine Drive in Hopkins Landing

Our home is straddled by North Road on one side and Marine Drive on the other. We are located near where North Road and Marine Drive join, very close to the Langdale Ferry Terminal.

We have active twin boys that will turn five in March. There are other families in the area with young children. Like all parents, we do our best to keep an eye on our kids and keep them from harm's way. Kids, however, can create a dangerous situation for themselves in an instant. Those instants can potentially turn into family tragedies when fast moving vehicles are involved.

To give an example: We regularly tell the boys to "stay in the yard", or "don't go near the road without an adult around", or "be careful of cars", etc. We watch over them as best as we can. One afternoon in mid-January our boys were playing in the yard. Our yard slopes down to Marine Drive. At some point in their play an object was tossed and it fell onto Marine Drive. Our son impulsively ran down to get it. He was focused on getting the object off the road and was not as careful as he "should be". We did not see this particular incident (there have been close calls on the other side of our property [the North Road side] as well). A neighbour watched this particular incident and told us about it later.

Two things are problematic with this: (1) Despite our warnings, our son put himself in harm's way in an instant without giving it too much (or any) thought, and (2) on a wider level, if a children's object were to land in the middle of the road just as a speeding car was going by, the driver could possibly react in such a way as to lose control of the vehicle and very easily drive into a person on the (very narrow) shoulder or onto/into a property. Of course, this potential danger increases with speed. And speeding vehicles are very much a regular concern in the area.

Every couple of hours in the off-season, and every hour in the summer, cars make their way to/from the Ferry Terminal. Most drivers drive at a safe speed. There are always those that are in a hurry, entirely focused on zooming to make the ferry. On both Marine Drive and North Road we have had cars zip by us and our kids (while we are standing on the road shoulder) at over 80 km/hr. The speed limit on Marine Drive is posted at 50 km/hr. Incredibly, the limit on North Road is posted at 60 km/hr at the junction with Marine Drive, despite the fact that there is a hairpin turn about 500 metres up the road. When the ferry unloads, some drivers choose not to take the by-pass road and zip onto Marine Drive and North Road instead. Because North Road goes up a fairly

steep hill, some drivers will "gun it" well above the posted limit, only to then slow down less than a minute later to make the hairpin. As they zoom by, they come very close to where our car is parked in the driveway. We often find ourselves amazed how fast cars zip by us when we are (un)loading our kids out of the car. Sometimes drivers are yapping on their cell phones as they zoom by. It is plain crazy!

What to do about all this? We respectfully ask you and your fellow board members to take action on behalf of the community and make some or all of the following safety changes:

- (1) The 60 km/hr speed limit sign on North Road at the junction with Marine Drive should be removed and replaced with a 40, 45 or 50 km/hr sign;
- (2) A request should be made to the RCMP to monitor/enforce automobile speed in the area (especially around ferry arrival/departure times);
- (3) Perhaps one of those "your speed is" digital signs could be put up to let drivers know their speed. This would alert them to the fact that there is concern about excessive speed in the area;
- (4) Better roadside signage should be emplaced on both North Road and Marine Drive so that drivers will slow down and to let them know that there are children playing in the area (in the summertime, it is not uncommon to see kids + adults walking alongside the roadway to get to the wharf and beach at Hopkins Landing);
- (5) Shoulder widening would be a great help where possible (we acknowledge that it is not easy or possible in spots because of space issues);
- (6) Speed bumps (with clear signage) could be installed as a reminder for drivers to slow down;
- (7) The roadways could be striated in select spots (with clear signage) so that as drivers would be physically reminded to slow down as they hear their wheels rumbling. (Similar striations are sometimes on highway shoulders to alert dozing or otherwise inattentive drivers that they are going off the roadway); and
- (8) A public education campaign could be started asking drivers going to/from the ferry to slow down. This could include a coordinated effort with the BC Ferry Corporation. It could include newspaper ads alerting people to watch their speed wherever they are on the various roadways that lead to the ferry.

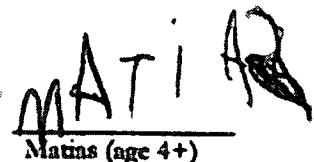
Thank you very much in advance for your time and consideration in addressing this important issue. We look forward to hearing from you...and seeing some changes soon (hopefully before the busy summer traffic season gets under way).

Sincerely,


Michael Gannon


Ozgur Oner


Koray (age 4+)


Matias (age 4+)

We agree that excessive speed along Marine Drive and North Road in our neighbourhood is an issue and would welcome some or all of the above changes to reduce it. Thank you.

H Blackwood signature 173 Hopkins name Heather Blackwood Address/phone speed limit comments

changed all
need all for
North Rd.

Wanda Nawicki signature Wanda Nawicki name 1295 Evans Rd Address/phone

concern for cyclist
too!!

R. S. Steinhilber signature Rona Steinhilber name 1253 Port Road Address/phone

comments

J Lamont signature S LAMONT name 1245 Point Rd Address/phone

too fast
comments

B Hueston signature Bonnie Hueston name 1784 North Rd Address/phone Definitely comments

need enforcement
of speed limit

G P Walsh signature GRANVILLE WILLIAMS name 1794 N ROAD Address/phone

comments

Bob signature F Lebel name 741-2130 Address/phone

too fast here.

George Skea signature GEORGE SKEA name 1800 NORTH RD Address/phone HOPKINS LANDING comments

AGREES

Tabor Baldwin signature TABOR BALDWIN name 1815 NORTH RD Address/phone PEOPLE SPEEDING TO comments

BEAT FERRY TARI
HOPKINS
LANDING
My mother died in a
by a speeding car.
ON THIS ROAD.

Aravenbergen Aravenbergen -1221 Macneville - Speeding 15
 signature name Address/phone comments
 ves) much as possible
 North Holston
 for the S curve

Kerry Jess KERRY JESS 1215 MARINE concerned about
 signature name Address/phone comments
 speeding on Marine

Algin Liska Higgins Algin Liska Higgins 1754 North Rd please monitor/change
 signature name Address/phone comments
 speed to

Algin Paul Higgins Algin Paul Higgins 1754 Higgins Rcmp need term
 signature name Address/phone comments
 4000 sq

JANE SPROULE JANE SPROULE 1748 NORTH RD need signag
 signature name Address/phone comments
 at turn to left
 local traffic

FRANK ROSERB. FRANK ROSERB. 1748 NORTH RD. accid speeding
 signature name Address/phone comments
 took out a tree in
 driveway

signature name Address/phone comments

signature name Address/phone comments

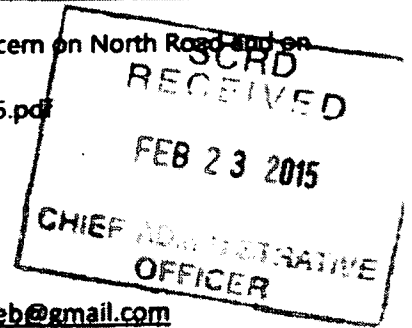
signature name Address/phone comments

signature name Address/phone comments

Susan Hunt

Subject: FW: letter to John France @ SCRD re: excessive speed concern on North Road and on Marine Drive near Langdale Ferry Terminal

Attachments: Letter to John France and Gary Nohr @ SCRD Feb 16, 2015.pdf



From: Michael Gannon [<mailto:nwtmike@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 3:00 PM

To: John France

Cc: acceptwhatisc@gmail.com; pattykiloh@gmail.com; bonniehuesden@gmail.com; crombieb@gmail.com

Subject: letter to John France @ SCRD re: excessive speed concern on North Road and on Marine Drive near Langdale Ferry Terminal

Hi John,

I have enjoyed speaking with you about our family's concerns over the excessive speed along both North Road and Marine Drive near our home. It is clear to me that you are taking this matter seriously...and I thank you for that.

Attached is the letter we spoke of (thank you for agreeing to send it along to Gary Nohr). I have a partial list of neighbor signatures attached to it. I will go around the neighborhood some more over the next week or so and add to the list. When I have that, I will send it along to you.

Some neighbours asked me to send them the letter to forward to other neighbours. I am cc'ing those people here. They may also send along their support for this matter to you.

I wanted to add some additional comments that arose from conversations with neighbours (so far):

1. One neighbor had her hedge taken out by a speeding driver that lost control going down north road near our home. The same neighbor had a speeding driver along North Road lose control and drive into a tree in the middle of her yard, almost colliding into her house in the process.
2. Several neighbours commented that drivers getting off the ferry often zoom up North Road to avoid the bottleneck that often forms where the by-pass joins with North Road up by Persephone Brewery.
3. One neighbor (Flora Lebel) advised that a bicyclist collided with her husband outside their home on North Road in January of this year. The incident happened at about 6 AM when it was dark and the cyclist was rushing down the hill (without a light apparently) and clipped her husband as he walked onto the roadside to get into his driver side door. Both parties required medical attention. While this is not a "car" issue, it relates to the problem of excessive speed and distracted

drivers of all kinds rushing to (or from) ferries. This is only going to get worse as the summer approaches.

4. Many residents expressed general dismay and powerlessness at the nature of this problem. They were extremely thankful that I was doing something to advance this. They were – truthfully – also very skeptical that anything would be done. I found that distressing. At the end of the day, this is an important issue that we all agree needs a remedy. I advised everyone that I had had very good conversations with you and that you were very supportive about finding an effective solution. I remain very confident that you will do what needs to be done from your end to make the wheels turn on this so that we have a solution ASAP.

5. Lastly, as we discussed, one day a tragedy is going to happen on these roads – which will be too late. To my surprise, apparently, it already has. One neighbor (whose written English is only so-so) advised that his mother-in-law was killed by a speeding driver (in the attached letter he says “mother”, but in our conversation he indicated it was his wife’s mother and not his) while she was walking on the roadside down by North Road and Marine Drive (I believe this may have been just before the by-pass was installed). The reality is that the bypass has deflected a great deal of traffic; but it has not remedied the problem of excessive speed. Another tragedy is waiting to happen (It could have happened with the cyclist incident in January).

6. Drivers are sometimes seen zooming by while on their cell phones, which makes a bad problem even worse.

Please ask Mr. Nohr to respond to me as steps are taken to resolve this issue. Our collective hope is that something will be done well before the busy summer season starts.

My hope is that Mr. Nohr and the Department of Highways people and the RCMP will take this very seriously. Changing a 60 kmh sign on North Road to 45 or 50 kmh is NOT going to resolve this issue. It needs something more. This is a neighbourhood with people of all ages (not just the young kids in the neighbourhood) whose safety is a real concern. This is not a freeway, but many drivers act like it is. Quite frankly, it is a bit scary sometimes.

Thanks again for everything.

Regards,

Michael

PS: I am sending this to you via my Gmail email, as the attachment appears to be too long to send with my regular email for some reason: michael@gannonlawethics.com