
SAFETY TASK FORCE

Let's Slow Down



We all know that there are issues with speeding in our village. In an effort to address the issue, Council recently installed 6 speed bumps throughout the Village. However, Council recognizes that there may be more efficient means to calm traffic.

An example of a digital speed sign

Village Council has funding set aside to co-purchase a digital speed sign with the Village of Shields. If it proves to be an effective method of speed reduction, they may purchase one exclusively for our Village use.

Safety Task Force

To help identify other potential solutions, Council has initiated a Safety Task Force which will be researching various traffic calming measures. The Safety Task Force will be made up of 4 residents and 1 Council member. It is anticipated that the Safety Task Force will take a few months to come up with a recommendation which they will then present to Council.

Safety Task Force Members:

- Ryan Bradley
- Brad Helstrom
- Marie Lindenschmidt
- Desiree McBroom
- Cheryl Reid



Example of special signage used in a traffic-calmed neighbourhood.

Safety Task Force meetings will be open to all residents in the Village. It is important that we work as a team to come up with the best solution(s) for our community.

Safety Task Force meetings will take place at the Village Centre. Dates and times will be circulated once finalized.

Better a thousand times careful than once dead.

~PROVERB

Traffic Calming

Traffic calming consists of physical design and other measures put in place on roads for the intention of slowing down or reducing motor-vehicle traffic as well as to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Traffic engineers refer to three "E's" when discussing traffic calming: engineering, education, and enforcement. The most effective traffic calming plans entail all three components— engineering measures alone will not produce satisfactory results.

Engineering measures involve physically altering the road layout or appearance to actively or passively retard traffic

Enforcement and education measures for traffic calming include:

- Reducing speed limits near institutions such as schools and hospitals
- Vehicle activated sign, signs which react with a message if they detect a vehicle exceeding a pre-determined speed.
- Watchman, traffic calming system which comprises various methods to reduce traffic speed including cameras which do not issue fines or penalty points to the driver, but record the number plate, speed and time of vehicles.

Speed limits which are set below the speed that most motorists perceive to be reasonable for the given road require additional measures to improve compliance. Attempts to improve speed limit observance are usually by either education, enforcement or road engineering. Education can mean publicity campaigns or targeted road user training.



The speed limit in our Village is 20 km/h.

Driver Distraction

“You’re only here for a short visit. Don’t hurry, don’t worry. And be sure to smell the flowers along the way.”

— WALTER HAGEN

Driving is a skill that requires your full attention to safely control your vehicle and respond to events happening on the roads around you. Driving involves constant and complex coordination between your mind and body. Events or things that prevent you from operating your car safely are distractions. There are three types of distractions and they are anything that takes your:

- eyes off the road (visual).
- mind off the road (cognitive).
- hands off the steering wheel (manual).

Driver distractions are the leading cause of most vehicle crashes and near-crashes.

When you are driving, the condition of the roadway you are on and the behaviour of other drivers can change abruptly, leaving you little or no time to react. When you are driving, follow these rules:

- Stay focused.
- Pay attention.
- Expect the unexpected.

New Saskatchewan Traffic Laws

(EXCERPT COURTESY OF GLOBAL NEWS - [HTTP://GLOBALNEWS.CA/NEWS/1414372/WHAT-YOU-NEED-TO-KNOW-ABOUT-NEW-SASKATCHEWAN-TRAFFIC-LAWS/](http://globalnews.ca/news/1414372/what-you-need-to-know-about-new-saskatchewan-traffic-laws/))

Saskatchewan traffic safety laws are changing today in an effort to prevent deaths, serious injuries and property damage.

In 2012, the province saw a spike in traffic deaths; 183 people were killed on provincial roads that year, making it the deadliest year on record.

“Distracted driving and excessive speed are high-risk behaviours that lead to collisions,”

—ANDREW CARTMELL, SGI CEO AND PRESIDENT.



According to preliminary figures from Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI), there were 134 fatalities in 2013, but there were also 4,212 impaired driving-related convictions.

While alcohol remains the number one cause of traffic deaths in the province, distracted driving was cited as the leading cause of fatal crashes in 2012.

Starting today, vehicles can be impounded for a week for a drivers’ second use of cell or smart phone offence within one year.



The fine for using electronic communication equipment while driving remains \$280 and four demerit points under SGI’s Safe Driver Recognition program.

There is a new offence for driving twice the speed limit in Saskatchewan. (40km/hr is twice the speed limit in our community)

The fine starts at \$140, plus four dollars for each km/h in excess. Drivers will lose four

points under the SDR program and a second offence within a year could result in vehicle impoundment for a week.

SGI is reminding motorists to always plan a safe ride home, put cell and smart phones away while driving and slow down to make sure everyone arrives alive.