

March 31, 2021

Attn: White Rock City Council

We are asking White Rock City Council to evaluate the feasibility of improving the 30km/hr speed limit signage at the Alan Hogg Park entrance on Roper Avenue between Finlay Street and Best Street.

Specifically;

- make the current speed limit signage larger
- extend the length of the 30km/hr area at the crest of the hill in front of the park
- position the signs so they are not obscured by trees/leaves during spring and summer
- paint "30" on the asphalt in strategic locations

Rationale:

We currently live in the area along Roper Avenue. Roper Avenue between Stayte Rd and Johnston Rd is the corridor between White Rock's only 2 elementary schools. Roper Avenue is a hill beginning at Stayte Road that crests right in front of the Alan Hogg Park. Roper Avenue is known for speed despite the existing posted speed limit of 30 km/hr in front of both elementary schools and for a short distance in front of the entrance of the Alan Hogg Park.

Addressing the speed is particularly important for pedestrian survivability should the unthinkable occur. While survivability is low at 20% for vehicle speeds of 50km/hr, it rises to 90% for vehicles travelling 30km/hr. Addressing the speeds will protect some of our most vulnerable neighbours like children who use Roper Avenue to reach our 2 elementary schools, or seniors who live in the Peace Arch Senior Citizens Housing Society on Roper Avenue.

On March 23, 2021 we met with Staff Sargent Kale Pauls and Councillor Anthony Manning. During our brief outdoor, physically distanced observations, several vehicles drove past exceeding the current 30km/hr speed limit. Enforcement of the current posted speed limit is an important part of the success of any speed reduction plan. However, Staff Sargent Pauls indicated that one of challenges is that the park entrance is less visible from the road, eye catching landmarks like an obvious park or playground are not present, and most importantly people cannot see the 30km/hr signage. By addressing our proposed improvements, we can support our local law enforcement to help reduce vehicle speeds.

We believe our request is cost effective and very achievable in the short term. There are other longer term, more costly considerations like speed bumps, which are proven to reduce speeds without the need enforcement resources. In addition, given that there are 3 existing stretches of 30km/hr along Roper Avenue between Stayte Road and Johnston Road, moving to 30km/hr along the entire length of Roper between Stayte and Johnston and increasing the 30km/hr to be in effect from dawn to dusk could improve speeds substantially and improve the safety and walkability of the area. We would like to see consideration for some of these longer term solutions in the years to come.

Warm Regards,

Amy Da Costa and Fred Kline

On behalf of concerned residents of Roper Avenue.