

Central Frederick Neighbourhood
Public Meeting Regarding Pedestrian Safety

March 2, 2011
Suddaby Public School-Library, second floor 7-9 pm

AGENDA

7:00pm Introductions and welcome.
 Present from City: Ron Schirm, Supervisor of Crossing Guards
 Ken Carmichael, Supervisor of Traffic and Parking
 As well: Mr. Dan Glenn-Graham, Counsellor
 Margaret Santos, Pedestrian Safety Advocate

Identifying the problem.

- Someone will get hurt crossing at this crossing — Fear
- How kids come out of school — Funneling
- Close to the road
- Little space on either side of the street
- Lancaster is narrow
- Traffic on Chapel for p/u&drop off
- Congestion
- Ignore no stopping signs on Lancaster & Chapel
- No enforcement
- Confusion regarding where cars should stop
- Staff parking lot use — Delivery trucks, etc
- No enforcement of anything
- NO boulevards
- Lancaster — no stops
- Speed max 50km/hr. — too high when road is too narrow
- School Zone signs too small
- Crossing not marked well
- School Zone too narrow — should be extended full length from Frederick
- Tim Hortons Parking lot
- No longer a safety patrol
- No trust in the crosswalk, even with a light (Frederick St)
- School busses block the crosswalks & bus stop (Frederick St)
- Problem times 8:50 - 9:20 & 3:30 - 4:00
- School used year round & people cut across to destinations downtown
- Lancaster is a barrier
- no speed humps b/c of fire route — looking at speed “cushions”

Potential solutions to date.

- Speed hump - 30 km/hour zone
- 3 way stop
- larger school crossing signs,
- larger white lines on the road,
- narrow lanes for vehicles at crossing
- student safety zone sign in the driveway - patrolled
- indentation in the field to allow for more children to gather safely
- grass boulevards between the children and vehicles
- plant more trees along the street
- better snow clearing both sides of Lancaster. See CRA for quality snow clearing.

- speed “cushions” to allow for fire trucks
- designated community safety zone
- Lancaster one way
- Creating “in/out” system with Bethany
- halting all traffic in & out of Suddaby parking lot during entry & exit times

Any additional solutions? Brainstorming. Discussion.

- At Bethany - wider sidewalk - add a cement pad at Chapel
- Engage school & school board - need to respond
- Also, school council & CFNA
- Missing a valuable partnership in the school
- Busses off road - horseshoe built on front yard to get onto school property
- Reduce the speed limit to 40km/hr - 30km/hr if there is a speed hump
- Design tools to reduce speed limits
- Traffic calming measures (2 reviews per year by city)
- road narrowing
- Chicanes
- Bigger signage
- More pavement markings
- Mark where cars should stop
- Speed Cameras
- Change colour of pavement (but stay within Ont. Traffic Manual)
- Paint “School Crossing” on Pavement

Next steps.

Mr. Schirm and Mr. Carmichael left the meeting with action items.

From this meeting, the City of Kitchener will follow up as follows:

- School Transportation Services Waterloo Region (STSWR) will be contacted regarding the stopping of buses within the Frederick St / Otto St intersection - to ensure that this school bus loading is conducted away from the intersection, as well as to ensure that these buses are not “parking” unnecessarily for extended periods of time at this location.
- The Region of Waterloo will be contacted regarding the signal timing, in particular the pedestrian crossing time, for the Frederick St / Otto St intersection - to investigate the possibility of increasing green time for crossing Frederick St.
- Suddaby Public School will be contacted regarding the possibility to add a student safety patrol at the Lancaster St / Chapel St adult crossing guard location - to investigate the possibility of having the safety patrol control school children on the school side of this crossing, ensuring that the children stand back from the roadway in an orderly fashion.
- Suddaby Public School will be contacted regarding the possibility of blocking off access to, along with management of, the school parking lot access to/from Lancaster St.
- A review of the Lancaster St corridor to ensure that all school and traffic safety signs are appropriately posted.
- City of Kitchener Operations will be contacted regarding snow clearing along the Lancaster St corridor - to ensure that sidewalks maintain clearance and adequate width during winter months.
- The existing crossing location on Lancaster St at Chapel St will be investigated for the possible provision of additional pavement markings and/or signing to improve operating conditions at this crossing.
- The intersection of Lancaster St and Chapel St will be studied to determine if an all-way stop control is warranted at this location.
- Transportation Planning will schedule our summer Speed Advisory Student to monitor speeds on Lancaster St - to be executed during school hours.

- The CFNA is welcome to borrow the City's 2nd Speed Advisory unit to allow the local residents to conduct the speed advisory program - allowing for the time versatility of the local residents conducting this program.

I trust that this information accurately summarizes the action plan determined at our meeting on Mar 2/11. Should you have any questions, require additional information, or like to request borrowing our 2nd Speed Advisory unit, please contact me.

We look forward to working with you on these issues in an effort to improve traffic and pedestrian safety in the Suddably Public School area.

Further to the discussion

- Mr. Schirm said he would check on enhancements of the school crossing signs (staying within the Ont. Traffic Manual)
- May be able to enhance our crosswalk signs with an Amber light over head.
- See Ottawa/Midland flashing lights after 40km/hr school zone - this is in our toolbox. Without enforcement it is ineffective, giving a false sense of security
- Engagement with the Province
- Wider sidewalk
- very long distance without a stop encourages speed
- Lancaster/Chapel - all way stop. — The City will look at this.
- School driveway - Ron will look at this. Need School Board and signs to block. Maybe hiring a driveway monitor.
- School can provide safety patrols to stay back from sidewalk
- School busses parking and no camping!
- Ask Region about signal timing (Frederick St) Our bell times are different
- Otto St needs to be addressed - can drive through from Queen to Frederick
- Want more space for drop off rather than parking spots on Chapel
- Look at no stopping zone - Ron will check
- Timed drop off zone
- Speed advisors Program (in the spring we will be doing this, we will need some volunteers. Call Ken re this.
- Snow Removal issues - 519 741.2345 Call the contact centre for the CofK for any issue non-emergency. Snow removal, icy roads, etc.
- Safety Patrols to help Cathy
- Brent Charette from CFNA is in board.

A follow up meeting will be scheduled for May.

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact me at 519.585.0933 or ubertonic@yahoo.ca

Thank you for your support.

Teressa van Vliet and Joanne Davis-Hess