

## Sian Bell

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**From:** Leeanne Guthrie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2024 10:34 AM  
**To:** Municipal Hall  
**Cc:** Dawn Ainsworth Worth; Dan Gentile Gentile; Leslie Gentile Gentile; Toni Fish; Mike & Michele Watteyne; Wayne Watkins; Stephanie Albrecht; Mayor Ryan Windsor; Niall Paltiel; Sarah Riddell; Bob Thompson; Gordon Newton; Chris Graham; Zeb King; Dale Puskas  
**Subject:** Concerned citizens of the 7000 block of Wallace Drive  
**Categories:** Council Correspondence

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February 21, 2024

To; the District of Central Saanich

We are writing to you as concerned community members regarding motorists along Wallace Drive. Specifically, the stretch of Wallace Drive between Brentwood Elementary School and Bayside Middle School, where we have collectively witnessed countless near miss incidents and overall continuous irresponsible driving on a regular basis. With the number of pedestrians (many being students) who travel along this stretch of road on a regular basis, these encounters are particularly troubling.

Residents are noticing drivers are unaware that the stretch of road in front of Brentwood Elementary School is in fact a playground zone, where the speed is still 30 km/hour on weekends and holidays, dawn to dusk. There are many baseball tournaments, young children playing, and families walking along this "playground zone" stretch at any given time, and the speeding during daylight hours is constant. After dusk, many loud vehicles go speeding through this stretch and continuing along toward Bayside School at dangerous speeds, unlikely to have the ability to stop if needed.

During peak traffic congestion before and after school, motorists (including school buses) frequently ignore the cross walk at Sluggett Road and Wallace Drive and drive through it when there are children waiting to cross, or even worse, already in the cross walk.

A group of concerned residents from this stretch of road came together on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, to voice their concerns and discuss potential solutions. Councillor Gord Newton attended this gathering and expressed his sympathies regarding the challenges this stretch of road has faced for many years.

Some suggestions that were discussed in terms of traffic slowing strategies included:

- Increased police enforcement along this stretch of road during peak hours
- Increased signage throughout the school and playground zones (possibility of painting school zone signs on the road as has been done in other municipalities – View Royal for example)
- Installation of a cross walk light signal for the cross walk at Sluggett Road and Wallace Drive
- Speed bumps, and/or raised crosswalks within the school zones
- Speed limit reduced on the entire stretch on Wallace Drive from West Saanich to Hagan from 40km to 30km (for informations sake ... a parent dropping off at Bayside Middle School, speed reader; displayed 78 km/hr) These same concerns have been raised by residents in the past, with no action taken to address them. With population density increasing at a rapid pace, it is inevitable these issues will only worsen over time if no strategies are put in place to address them.

Thank you for your consideration, we look forward to further discussions on possible solutions for this stretch of road.

Sincerely, the following concerned citizens of the 7,000 block of Wallace, Dawn Ainsworth James Albrecht Stephanie Albrecht Toni Fish Leslie Gentile Dan Gentile Matt Gillespie Jack Guthrie Leeanne Guthrie Wes Maine Wayne Watkins Michele Watteyne Mike Watteyne

C/c by email to the Central Saanich Mayor and Council and the Central Saanich Director of Engineering

Sent from the Guthrie iPad

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