



The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

REGULAR COUNCIL REPORT

For the Regular Council meeting on Monday, February 24, 2025

Re: Q4 2024 Traffic Safety Committee Update

PURPOSE:

To provide Council with a Traffic Safety Committee Update for Q4 2024.

BACKGROUND:

The Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) is comprised of members of the Central Saanich Police, Engineering, and the Bylaw Departments.

Staff meet every two months, or as frequently as required to respond to traffic safety concerns identified by Council, staff, or members of the public. During each meeting, staff review any correspondence referred to the Committee, or to discuss other traffic safety concerns identified since the previous meeting.

Items received between scheduled meetings deemed high importance are addressed without delay. Those items consist of downed signs, traffic light malfunctions, potholes, sight visibility problems, debris on roadway and other similar calls received.

DISCUSSION:

In the fourth quarter of 2024, the TSC met on October 29th and December 5th to review referrals received regarding traffic safety concerns. Listing of all Q4 TSC business is attached at (Appendix A). The concerns consisted of:

- Crosswalks/signage/lighting
- Bicycle safety
- Speed limit reduction request/speed humps
- Bylaws and truck routes
- Parking issues/signage/curb painting
- Traffic concerns due to Keating Flyover Project
- Road surface quality/potholes/debris
- Bus stops/temporary closures/improvements

Staff have addressed most of the concerns raised. Some items are more complex in nature and will require detailed assessments through with the undertaking of speed and traffic counts or capital funds to complete. Items raised that are listed in the Active Transportation Plan will be reviewed for implementation as the overall ATP progresses through Annual Capital Planning and is updated in Q4

2025. Other measures based upon the BC TAC Manual, and the BC Active Transportation Guidelines will be considered and implemented as appropriate to the concerns raised.

Concerns raised due to the Flyover project were referred to the MOTI representative or addressed by Staff as appropriate.

Traffic Safety actions and implementations completed in Q4, 2024:

- Correction or removal of several regulatory traffic signs
- Street marking repairs
- Requests for signage reviewed and implemented as warranted
- Signal timing changes at Central Saanich and Keating Cross Road for improved flow and turning movements from Central Saanich Road
- Meeting with Tsawout community members to discuss and address concerns around safety to cyclists and pedestrians on Central Saanich Road around the Tsawout First Nations community
- Speed limit reduction on Oldfield Road to 40km/h and Veyaness between Stelly's and East Saanich Road to 30km/h
- Initiated design of the district-wide speed reduction pilot
- Procurement of 3 new speed reader boards (2 for replacement of failing units plus one addition at Keating and Willow Way)

Crosswalk Improvements – Engineering Project

Five crosswalks in Central Saanich have been or will be upgraded with rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB's):

1. (new) Mt. Newton Cross Road north side of Central Saanich Road
2. Wallace Drive south side of Hovey Road
3. East Saanich Road south side of Jeffrey Road
4. East Saanich Road south side of Polo Park Crescent
5. (new) Wallace Drive at Willow Way

The new crosswalk on Wallace at Willow Way will be constructed as part of the Wallace Drive Sewer Replacement Project.

Priority Intersection Review – Engineering Project

Central Saanich Engineering staff has engaged traffic consultants to prepare options for several of the District's high-conflict intersection. McElhanney Engineering provided a recommendation report on improvements for Mt. Newton Cross Road at Central Saanich Road and East Saanich Road; WATT Consulting Group provided analyses for Wallace Drive at West Saanich Road, Marchant Road, and Benvenuto Ave.

These intersections require improvements to support current and future traffic needs, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists. Engineering will further develop the assessments into short and long-term phasing options for presentation at a future Council meeting.

Advocates for Children and Road Safety Update

On January 21, 2025, engineering staff respectfully met with members of the Tsawout lead *Advocates for Children and Road Safety* group to discuss safety concerns faced by residents of Central Saanich Road.

Discussion Items:

1. Speed humps on Central Saanich Road following the 2025 CRD Watermain replacement project
2. New additional crosswalk fronting 7753 Central Saanich Road near Mt Newton Cross Road to be designed by a local Tsawout artist, following the 2025 CRD Watermain replacement project
3. Bike rack at the CRD pump station on Central Saanich Road at Mt Newton Cross; a temporary location until the completion of the 2025 CRD Watermain replacement project
4. Lighting improvements along Central Saanich Road fronting Tsawout; letters have been sent to impacted residents for feedback until February 26, and a request for additional lighting has been submitted to BC Hydro along this stretch
5. Larger signage update and revised layout on Mt Newton Cross Road to emphasise the new crosswalk

Project Updates:

6. The Central Saanich Road Pathway – Phase 2 Project, on Mt Newton Cross Road between East Saanich Road and Highway 17 is still in conceptual stages and will move forward with partner consultation in 2025 with Construction planned for 2026.
7. The Central Saanich Road Pathway – Phase 3 Project, on Central Saanich Road between 1401 Central Saanich Road and Mt Newton Cross Road, is also in conceptual stages with partner consultation and design development set for 2026 with construction planned for 2027.

The Advocacy Committee also had to opportunity to discuss alternate lighting solutions and flashing stop signs, and voice concerns regarding local flooding on Central Saanich Road, roadside parking, speed limit reduction, and local traffic impacts. These items will be considered by Engineering and Bylaw.

Bylaw Actions from the TSC Q4, 2024

- Approximately 5 new bylaw files in Q4 related to parking
- Responded to several resident inquiries related to truck routes
- Addressed sightline concerns specifically at Marchant and West Saanich Road

Police Actions from the TSC Q4, 2024

- continue speed enforcement in areas of frequent driver behaviour is noted by residents,
- continue enforcement of the commercial truck detour route for the Flyover project,
- provided observations to Engineering on signage, site lines, road conditions, operation of speed reader boards or other operational matters relating to traffic safety,
- provided in-depth assistance with the development of the speed limit reduction project

CONCLUSION:

The District maintains a record of issues identified and discussed by the Committee, as well as any decisions made, and action taken (or not taken) to address concerns.

Report written by:	Amy Lafontaine, Active Transportation Project Coordinator
Respectfully submitted by:	Dale Puskas, Director of Engineering
Concurrence by:	Ian Lawson, Chief Constable, Central Saanich Police
Concurrence by:	Jarret Matanowitsch, Director of Building & Planning Services
Concurrence by:	Christine Culham, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix A: Q4 Traffic Safety Items