



# The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich

## REGULAR COUNCIL REPORT

For the Regular Council meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025

Re: Q1 2025 Traffic Safety Committee Update

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### **PURPOSE:**

To provide Council with a Traffic Safety Committee Update for Q1 2025.

### **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 first quarter of 2025, the TSC met on February 13th to review referrals received regarding traffic safety concerns. Listing of all Q1 TSC business is attached at (Appendix A). The concerns consisted of:

- Road infrastructure and traffic flow
- Pedestrian safety at intersections
- New crosswalk requests
- Sight line improvements
- Traffic calming and speed humps

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 the capital planning process. 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 Q1, 2025:**

- 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 (was Q4 2024)
- Speed limit reduction on Oldfield Road to 40km/h and Veyaness between Stelly's and East Saanich Road to 30km/h
- continued the design of the district-wide speed reduction pilot
- Procurement of 2 new speed reader boards (for installation at Keating and Willow Way plus one spare)

**West Saanich Road at Wallace Drive Intersection**

Central Saanich Engineering staff has engaged traffic consultants to update the signal timing sheet and traffic light configuration to accommodate the growing volumes experienced during rush hour times. Improvements may include leading pedestrian intervals which would place pedestrians in the middle of the crosswalk before cars are given the green light to go, making them more visible to drivers.

Work on this is planned for implementation on completion of final Sewer Project work in the intersection, as the intersection will be repaved and include the installation of new vehicle detection loops.

**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. While many of the proposed improvements are scheduled to take place after the CRD Water Replacement Project, slated to start in Summer of 2025, some smaller but meaningful initiatives are in the works to help address some of the concerns.

1. Updated signage in the area
  - Larger signs have been installed to help improve visibility of the crosswalk on Mt Newton Cross Road
  - A new "share the road" sign has been installed with plenty of space to allow pedestrians to navigate around it on the north side and away from traffic
2. Bike rack installation near the pump station at the intersection
  - The bike rack has been temporarily placed with plans to pour a permanent concrete pad after the CRD project is completed
3. BC Hydro SLIM lighting request
  - A request has been placed with BC Hydro to add street lighting along Central Saanich Road fronting the Tsawout First Nation
  - Letters were sent to residents who would be most affected by added street lighting and the response was unanimous support
4. Speed reduction
  - The speed along Central Saanich Road will be reduced to 40km/h as part of the anticipated Speed Reduction Rollout planned for the summer of 2025

The District is working with a local Tsawout artist to design a painted crosswalk that is planned for Central Saanich Road. Additionally, the District plans to install speed humps along the Central Saanich Road corridor as a traffic calming measure. This work will take place after the CRD project is complete.

**Bylaw Actions from the TSC Q1, 2025**

- No bylaw issues raised in TSC in Q1

**Police Actions from the TSC Q1, 2025**

- Continue speed enforcement in areas of frequent driver behaviour is noted by residents, particularly along Wallace Drive near Marin Park.
- 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: Q1 Traffic Safety Items