

Pamela Martin

From: Ken Wodlinger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: April 29, 2025 5:47 PM
To: Municipal Hall
Subject: Please forward to Mayor and Council. Speed limit on Wallace between West Saanich and Stellys Roads

Dear Mayor and Council,

I was extremely dismayed and rather angry to see a speed limit of 40 km/h applied to this section of road. It is my view that such an unreasonably low speed limit will decrease traffic safety, not increase it.

Roads tend to have a “natural” safe speed at which most drivers will drive at. My observation is that most drivers drive at about 60 km/h on this section of road. A relatively small fraction of drivers religiously obey the posted speed. These two groups of drivers don’t generally mix well as noted below.

This road is a main arterial route. There are few driveways, visibility is good, the road surface is now good. The negatives are that the road is slightly narrow and there are power poles too close to the travelled lanes. Perhaps the 40 km/h speed limit is related to the numerous bicycle markings—but in my experience, using this road on a regular basis, very few cyclists use this road. In any case, it has been posted at 50 km/h for decades, with the same negatives existing as at present—a situation that seemed acceptable.

When an unreasonably low speed limit is posted, it is ignored by the majority of drivers. When slow vehicles are encountered, tailgating can occur and often slow vehicles will be passed. If police enforce a speed limit, well below what most drivers would consider reasonable, disdain and disrespect for the police are not an unexpected result.

It is my hope that the decision to post 40 km/h on this section of road will be reconsidered. It is so much below that most drivers would consider a reasonable speed, that it will be largely ignored. At the very least, the limit should be returned to 50 km/h as previously posted.

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