To whom it may concern,

I'm writing today on behalf of Safe Speeds Winnipeg in support of item #3 of the report of the standing policy committee on infrastructure renewal and public works dated April 6, 2022 - Extending the Sunday / Holiday Bicycle Route – 2022 Enhanced Summer Bike Route Program.

Safe Speeds Winnipeg is also in support of extending the Sunday / Holiday Bicycle Route – 2022 Enhanced Summer Bike Route Program. Lowering the speed on these streets makes good sense. As you may already know, the United Nations and The World Health Organization both endorse 30 km/h as a maximum speed where pedestrians, cyclists and motorists share space. A maximum speed of 30kmh on these routes will not only make the space safer for vulnerable users, it will also make the space comfortable for people walking, riding a bike or using an electric micro mobility device. We would like to encourage the public service to monitor the speeds on these routes and to install traffic calming where 30 km/h speeds are being exceeded. We would like to encourage the mayor, council and public works to expand the network so that it can be used to commute safely everywhere in Winnipeg and to operate the open streets 24 hours a day, 365 days a year as the need for active transportation doesn't end between 9pm and 7am or on October 31st.

There are so many good reasons to adopt safe speeds in Winnipeg! Climate change and the cost of energy are on many people's minds these days. There is also a growing understanding that our reliance on petroleum-based energy is helping fuel wars against civilian populations in countries like Ukraine and Yemen. There is a growing public desire to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and the city should seize the opportunity to help Winnipeggers get out of their cars. As we electrify our automobiles and trucks, we also need to focus on less costly and less intensive modes of transportation. Walking, riding a bike, operating a micro mobility device, using public transportation and car sharing would be a good solution for many Winnipeggers that only drive because they don't have feasible alternatives. A 30 km/h speed limit in areas where vulnerable road users share space with cars should be a key component of the city's strategy to help Winnipeggers develop sustainable transportation practices.

Thank you for considering the advice from the World Health Organization and the United Nations to lower speed limits to help Winnipeggers reduce their reliance on energy and resource heavy modes of transportation in favor of more sustainable and energy efficient modes of transport! For more information on the World Health Organization's Streets for Life campaign, please visit their website. Safe Speeds Winnipeg would also be happy to speak with the mayor, council and/or the public service anytime.

Sincerely,

Ian Walker (on behalf of Safe Speeds Winnipeg)