

Standing Policy Committee on Public Works - January 8, 2026
Expanding Leading Pedestrian Intervals Across Winnipeg

Chairperson Lukes and Committee Members,

I would like to address the Committee as a resident who experienced the type of accident that Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPIs) are designed to prevent. I support the City of Winnipeg's commitment to this initiative and want to acknowledge the tremendous progress that has been made introducing LPIs just within this past year.

I am writing in response to the proposed timeline of five years to install LPIs across the city. I feel that this timeline should be expedited in light of the urgency of protecting vulnerable pedestrians.

In May 2025, my foot was broken in a pedestrian-vehicle accident at St. Mary's Road at Tache Avenue. I entered the intersection at a walk signal and was struck by a vehicle that failed to yield to me while turning left. While this accident would be classified as a "minor" injury, this statistic does not capture the hardship that it caused me as a mother with a young family, nor does it convey that I brushed within a second of being much more seriously hurt.

An LPI was installed at St. Mary's and Tache soon after I contacted the City about it in summer 2025. I am grateful to Councillor Matt Allard's office and the Public Service for advancing my request. I take comfort that this small change has made the intersection a lot safer to cross. I do remain concerned that pedestrians are still exposed to an unacceptable level of risk at intersections that do not yet have LPIs. In one instance this fall at nearby St. Mary's and Traverse, I witnessed a vehicle rush to make a left turn and narrowly miss a young girl crossing on her way to school.

I would urge the Committee and the Public Service to treat the installation of LPIs as a high priority and to allocate resources to this work so that all candidate intersections can be addressed sooner than five years. LPIs are a cost effective, practicable way to make pedestrians safer, as the report to the Committee demonstrates. Installing them in a consistent, less piecemeal way will also create more predictability for everyone on the road.

LPIs give us an opportunity to be proactive and use our existing infrastructure to prevent an accident like mine from happening again. I hope that the Committee will consider a way to expedite the citywide plan. Thank you for taking the time to review my comments.

Sincerely,
Erika Thomson