SUBMISSION – JOHANNA KROETSCH

Item 3 of the Report of the Standing Committee Policy on Public Works dated March 4, 2026 (Reduced-Speed Neighbourhood Pilot and the City's Default Speed Limit)

Submitted: Wed, 03/25/2026 - 11:04

Delegation information

Committee you want to address
Council

Agenda item you want to address (number and title)
REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS DATED MARCH 4, 2026 - 3. Reduced-Speed Neighbourhood Pilot and the City's Default Speed Limit

Support or oppose recommendations
I am opposed to the recommendations

Submit comments in writing checkbox
Submit comments in writing

Comments
It is promising that there is a proposed reduction in speed, however we know that best practice for residential streets is 30 km/hr. While 40 km is an improvement for the safety of vulnerable road users, it is a compromise which appeases drivers and still puts vulnerable road users in danger of injury or death if they are hit by a car. With a safer speed of 30 km/hr, we encourage active transportation, and ensure safety for everyone using the road. The speed limit on residential streets needs to be 30 km/hr, as this is the safest speed for all who use the road. When we focus on drivers as the primary and most important user of the road, we put all vulnerable road users (walkers, rollers, cyclists) at risk. This risk impacts how people think about active transportation, and many people feel unsafe using active transportation as a way to get around. People using active transportation would feel safer and more comfortable while walking, biking or rolling if the speed limit for cars was reduced to 30 km/hr. Promoting and normalizing active transportation will be a major benefit to public health as a whole, and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
When considering any speed limit amendment, we need to consider all users of the road, and shift the focus away from those who drive cars being the primary focus. Drivers are still welcome and able to use the road, but need to do so at a speed that will not impede the safety and mobility of our vulnerable road users.
Thank you for the report recommending a lower residential speed limit. For calmer streets, and the safety of all who use the road, please lower the speed limit of residential streets to 30km/hr.

Personal information

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