

I've attached a letter I had sent to the Mayor's office on August 20th, 2020 and would like the following salient points to be noted:

- I would like it brought to the attention of the Mayor and Regina City Council the significant safety concerned as a result of semi-truck traffic travelling on the single lane roadway on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, between the intersection of Pinkie Road to Courtney Street. Since the opening of the Regina ByPass semi-trucks are now using this roadway in order to enter the city and as a “short cut” vice using the intended Regina Bypass to continue their routes to Highway #6, Highway #11 and Highway #1.
- Prior to the opening of the Regina Bypass, semi-trucks were never seen using this stretch of roadway and as this stretch of road is narrow, with no shoulder, it is obviously unsafe especially when combined with regular traffic and thus is a recipe for a disaster. Since the opening of the Regina Bypass I have counted anywhere from 17 to 38 semi-trucks travelling down this road within an hour and this goes on 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- My family and I, as well as several neighbours, have witnessed accidents and many near misses as not only is this road too narrow, but when attempting to turn left travelling west on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave N and onto Fairway Road we find ourselves in potential head-on collision situations with east-bound traffic attempting to go around vehicles making a right turn also onto Fairway Road. It is unsettling to say the least and only a matter of time before a major and possibly fatal accident occurs. When we expressed our concern, the City of Regina roadway crew opted to erect yellow road markers which are not only ineffective but are struck by vehicles on an almost daily basis. Once again, this is another recipe for disaster as semi-trucks and other vehicles are seen swerving to not only miss hitting oncoming traffic but to avoid hitting these yellow road markers.

I would like to request that the City of Regina ensures the safety of its citizens by removing the trucking transportation route from 9th Avenue North between the intersections of Pinkie Road and Pasqua Street.

Thank you,

Julie Derby  
8532 Thurston Crescent

August 20, 2020

Office of the Mayor  
City of Regina  
PO Box 1790  
Regina SK S4P 3C8  
Sent via e-mail to: mayor@regina.ca

Your Worship,

I have been a resident in this amazing city for the past 11 years and have enjoyed living, working and exploring all the City of Regina has to offer, I especially appreciate the fact that we as citizens feel a part of and are free to express concerns for our fine city.

I write this letter to bring to your attention a significant safety concern that has arisen since the opening of the Regina Bypass. Your attention to address the safety concerns of semi-truck traffic travelling on the single lane roadway on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, between the intersection of Pinkie Road to Courtney Street. Since the opening of the Regina ByPass semi-trucks are now using this roadway in order to enter the city and as a "short cut" to continue their routes to Highway #6 and Highway #11.

Prior to the opening of the Regina Bypass, semi-trucks were never seen using this stretch of roadway and as this stretch of road is narrow, with no shoulder, it is obviously unsafe especially when combined with regular traffic and thus is a recipe for a disaster. After speaking with my neighbours, both combined, we have witnessed accidents and many near misses as not only is this road too narrow, but when attempting to turn left travelling west on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave N and onto Fairway Road we find ourselves in potential head-on collision situations with east-bound traffic attempting to go around vehicles making a right turn also onto Fairway Road. It is unsettling to say the least and only a matter of time before a major and possibly fatal accident occurs. When we expressed our concern, the City of Regina roadway crew opted to erect yellow road markers which are not only ineffective but are struck by vehicles on an almost daily basis. Once again, this is another recipe for disaster as semi-trucks and other vehicles are seen swerving to not only miss hitting oncoming traffic but to avoid hitting these yellow road markers!

After witnessing, hearing horns and screeching brakes, all of the above-mentioned points have been passed along by myself and neighbours alike to the following personnel:

Chris Holden, City Manager, City of Regina;  
Jason Mancinelli, City Councillor for Ward 9; and  
George Galloway, Regina ByPass.

After follow-up phone calls and meeting with neighbours none of us has received word back regarding a resolution. It appears that no one wants to assume responsibility for this grave error in unsafe roadway planning. It is our fear that nothing will be done in order to stop the semi-trucks from travelling down this road and as previously mentioned, this is not safe and not what the Regina Bypass was intended to provide and that is to keep semi-trucks out of the city, thus the word "Bypass" to keep our residents and

travellers safe. Semi-trucks never travelled down this road prior to the opening of the Bypass, they should certainly not be allowed to travel down it now as it's simply not safe.

I would also like to point out, in addition to this immense safety concern, the following additional pertinent points that should be brought to your attention:

- When the Bypass was first under construction we were informed that the Bypass ramp off of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North was to be built farther west from the intersection of Pinkie road and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. It is currently situated too close to our homes and the use of jake breaks can be heard all hours of the day and night. As well, having these semi-trucks and vehicles travel so close to residential properties the noise level is so extreme we cannot even hear each other speak or carry on a conversation while we're sitting outside!
- Semi-truck traffic was to merge onto Armour Road from the Bypass ramp or use the Pasqua Street Exit to enter the city, they are currently using 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and heading through the city - no where, in the City of Regina does semi-truck traffic and heavy vehicle travel so close to residential properties.
- It is this writer's fear that if and when there is a semi-truck turned on it's side or cannot stop in time, it will end up in one of our back yards! Not sure who would be liable, but I would imagine it would fall onto the City of Regina's "lap".
- In 2013 City Council adopted the Cooper Town Neighbourhood plan which seems to be at a stand-still which means to me, that we are stuck with a view of the Cooper Town weed-ridden berm that runs along 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North between Pinkie Road and Fairway Road. City Councillor Jason Mancinelli commented that this berm is on private property which means there's nothing the city can do about it. This information provided does not seem to be correct as I do believe if the city adopted this Cooper Town plan, they can surely request something be done with this awful looking weed-ridden berm.

The solution seems so obvious, to re-direct semi-traffic to a much safer route away from residential properties. It also seems obvious to have this berm removed, build a noise barrier along 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, and create another lane on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North (further to the north of residential property) with a shoulder for safer travel for cyclists and motor vehicles.

It is our hope that this letter will result in providing a safe solution to this problem and we will not have to pursue a citizen petitions, notify the press or other political actions. In summation, we would like a response back and updates provided for the following concerns:

1. Keep the truck traffic on the Bypass and off of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North between Pasqua Street and Pinkie Road. Diverting truck traffic out of the City is the purpose of the Bypass.
2. Removal of the Cooper Town berm built in 2013 which is impacting the residential neighbourhood negatively by funneling the traffic noise towards the homes as well as looking unsightly with weeds growing three to five feet high. This berm was supposed to be temporary until Cooper Town was established.
3. Advocate the development of comprehensive Noise Attenuation Measures to reduce the traffic noise from 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and the Regina Bypass on Edgewater and Westhill neighbourhoods.

I feel that our quaint little neighborhood that we keep clean and well maintained has really been affected in a negative way by this poorly planned redirection of traffic. We pay well over \$4,500 per year in property taxes and feel that our property values have decreased. Your prompt attention to this issue is sought and I understand that there are policies and procedures to follow, however, we don't want this issue to be forgotten about and are hoping for a better solution as soon as possible.

Thank you for "the floor" and always great to live in a city where the opinions of its residents has value.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Derby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'J'.

Julie Derby