

I am writing to you about the increased traffic on 9th Avenue North which has increasingly become a real concern.

My first concern is around winter conditions. I have backed this road for over 20 years. In the winter, especially when the winds are strong, this road becomes a real hazard to cars. I have seen many cars lose control and hit the ditch on one of our many stormy winter days. There are numerous times that the snow from the field adjacent to the road blows across 9th Avenue making visibility zero. It is not foreseeable how treacherous this road is going to be until you have turned out of the community and started down the road. There is nowhere to turn around and many times vehicles have become stuck in the middle of the road because of the huge snow drifts. What happens if someone is stuck in the road and a semi cannot see them or cannot stop in time to avoid them? What happens if a semi loses its bearings and ends up losing control into the ditch?

My second concern is the speed at which these heavy trucks are travelling. In my experience, this road can be a bit of a raceway at times. It has always made me wonder why there isn't more radar set up along this road. In saying that, passenger vehicles travelling down this road at a high speed is not good but semi-trucks speeding down this road with no shoulder is outright dangerous. There is no doubt that some of these semis are travelling above the speed limit. I assume they are in a hurry and that is why they are avoiding our \$2 billion dollar Bypass and this is absolutely scary not only for the residents backing this road but for the oncoming vehicles. I have also seen walkers and cyclists often using this road and a mistake by a semi driver on this road with no shoulder whatsoever would be tragic. With the 70 km/hr speed limit on this road as opposed to the 110 km/hr limit on the bypass and the 4 traffic light controlled intersections they have to contend with on the 9th Ave north route, how are they possibly saving time and reducing emissions? Add the regular vehicular traffic to the mix and they cannot possibly be saving much time or fuel. The councillors designated Dewdney Ave a non truck route and it was a four lane main artery and it is now being twinned out to the bypass yet 9th Ave North, a narrow single lane road with no shoulder, is deemed a heavy truck route?

Thirdly, we should be thinking about the future. The property north of 9th Ave North is slated to become a residential area. The increased traffic competing with semi-trucks could potentially look like Victoria Avenue before the Bypass. Let's have some foresight so that this does not become an issue. This should not be a heavy truck route. As taxpayers in Regina, we don't need to spend tens of millions of dollars to twin 9th Ave North to accommodate heavy trucks when a multi billion dollar bypass was built to give the trucks a safer route and to save Regina's residential roads from excessive wear and to increase safety.

Finally, I have been told and have seen it happen, that some trucks coming through the lights at 9th Ave North and Courtney, are not slowing down for a light turning yellow. They have been seen to fly through the intersection as the light turns red. This intersection is also the continuation of the Devonian pathway and adults with children and pets as well as adults and children riding their bicycles are often crossing here.

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