



Traffic Safety Committee
Office of the City Clerk
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

December 8, 2014

Dear Councillor Dhaliwal,

As President of the Scandinavian Community Centre Society located at 6540 Thomas Street, I have received comments from our members following the completion of the Kensington Avenue and overpass project. The information is presented as discussion points for possible traffic safety improvement ideas rather than a criticism of the good work that has been completed.

The main comments include:

- The improved Kensington overpass and four traffic lanes appear to move vehicles more efficiently than before. When travelling north on Kensington Avenue approaching Thomas Street, drivers appreciate the left turn lane onto Thomas.
- Access to travel west on the freeway is at Sprott. Making a left turn north onto Kensington Avenue from Thomas Street is much more difficult than it used to be because of the need to watch for four lanes of traffic. Two lanes travelling south that need to be crossed and two lanes travelling north that the driver has to merge into.
- When making a right or left turn off Kensington onto Thomas and when making a right or left turn onto Kensington from Thomas, a "Shared Pathway" needs to be crossed. Bicycles along this shared path way travel quickly and are difficult to spot.
- When travelling north and south along Kensington Avenue, there is no signage that warns drivers that there is the Scandinavian Community Centre on Thomas Street. A community centre by its nature experiences higher volumes of traffic at different times of the day. Our purpose is to attract people to our Centre. Evening meetings and classes are held at the Centre. During the day large funerals are often held at the Centre. Midsummer Festival and other culture events attract a large volume of traffic.
- The look and feel of the final Kensington Avenue project reflects the idea that Thomas Street is a short, seldom used dead end road. Thomas Street is short and it is a dead end road but the Kensington Avenue and Thomas Street intersection is well used for traffic needing to make right or left turns. It becomes very busy very quickly at different times of the day.



The Scandinavian Community Centre Society Board feels that a meeting to discuss the intersection and traffic safety is warranted. We request a meeting with the City of Burnaby and interested parties.

Regards,

Norman Eyford
President
Scandinavian Community Centre Society

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