

From: Russell Bailey [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:25 AM
To: Clerks <Clerks@burnaby.ca>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Traffic Concerns at Union and MacDonald

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Good Morning,

I would ask for this message to please be passed to the Traffic Safety Committee.

My wife and I own and live at [REDACTED] We moved here in February 2020. As you know, the lower portion of Union Street from Boundary to Ingledon is part of the bicycle street network. We've noticed that many cyclists use Union from Boundary straight through to Willingdon.

When we put our young kids in the car (and especially in the mornings), I've noticed that a lot of cars will also use Union Street as a quick detour or shortcut from Gilmore eastwards and will speed down Union Street. Others use MacDonald as a highspeed Gilmore-alternative to get from Hastings to Parker. There are also a lot of cyclists who have electric bikes that will speed up and down Union Street in both directions. Frankly, I've nearly been hit more than once. There are also some young guys in the neighbourhood who will often drive up and down Union Street on motorcycles doing wheelies the whole way. Although this is a somewhat impressive feat, it's not safe, especially with such a narrow street and many young children who play in the area.

I have noticed that Union Street on the east side of Gilmore has a lot of traffic calming devices such as speed bumps and round-a-bouts. Other streets such as Georgia have speed bumps in the neighbourhood. However, there is only one set of often-ignored stop signs at the intersection of Union and MacDonald. Working from home this last year with an office that looks directly at the intersection of Union and MacDonald, I have personally witnessed many near misses as cars or bikes come whizzing through that intersection. It seems to me that the most dangerous local section of Union Street is from Gilmore to Ingledon.

I fully expect that my neighbours would agree with me that a round-a-about at MacDonald and Union would make a huge difference to increase traffic safety in the area and would likely prevent what could be a horrific accident. I have cc'd my neighbour, Mark Nykolaichuk, who lives at 3986 Union Street. Although I don't speak for him, I understand that he has similar concerns about the high speed traffic on Union.

I also cc'd my wife, Ping Ho. We are both hoping that a traffic study can be done in the area, especially during the morning commute and perhaps the City can consider some sort of traffic calming device in the area.