

Pilon, Janet

Subject: King Street Speeding: Gage to Melrose

From: Allison Barnes

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 2:39 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

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Dear Councillors,

I saw that Councillor Nann commented on Facebook that you welcome feedback regarding speeding and wanted to add my voice to the issue.

I live on Connaught Ave N, just 2 houses north of King Street E. I have lived here for 3 years now, and can say with absolute certainty that the stretch of King St E between Gage Avenue and Melrose Ave is being treated like a drag strip at all hours (not just at night). When the light at Gage turns green, vehicles and motorcycles are speeding at EXTREMELY high speeds all the way to the light at Melrose (or further if they get a green light). It is a perfect 4-lane straight stretch of wide open road that invites dangerous drag race-style driving at high speeds.

What is especially alarming, is that this stretch of King E is home to the popular Bernie Morelli Rec Centre AND the new Bernie Custis High School. This stretch is heavily populated by children and teenagers. To add to the danger, there is NO buffer or median between the sidewalk and King St E on this stretch. One of the many speeding cars on this strip could easily hop a curb and kill a child. The sidewalk is literally mere inches from the vehicle tires on this stretch.

I have reported this to the City of Hamilton Aggressive Driving division and did not hear back.

There is now a sign that indicates that drivers need to slow down to 40km/hr - but it only flashes for a few short periods of each school day, and does little to solve the problem, unfortunately. There should be only 2 lanes of traffic on this stretch and CHILDREN AT PLAY signs due to the Bernie Morelli Rec Centre (& EarlyOn Programming), and Bernie Custis school. I have seen numerous accidents at the intersection of King and Gage since living here and most involve vehicles hopping the curb. A driver that they could easily kill a child in this area. This is urgently in need of addressing. If a police car would just sit on a side street and wait, I guarantee they would catch one aggressive speeder every 15 minutes, easily. There seems to be no enforcement of any kind. I have never seen a police car stationed to catch speeders in this area, which seems like a major oversight.

I hope that Council will be able to effect change to make this stretch of King St E and the King & Main Street speedways safer (and quieter) soon. I appreciate your efforts.

With kind regards,
Allison Barnes