

Matthews, Rayanne

From: Back Road Campaign <makebackroadsafe@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2025 11:59 AM
To: Matthews, Rayanne
Cc: Hillian, Doug
Subject: Delegation Request - Conditions on Back Road

Categories: Delegation

Today, residents are less safe than we were two years ago when we launched our campaign. We now live in a constant state of fear and anxiety, suffer from sleep deprivation fatigue and stay indoors to escape the chaotic noise. Writing these words is as disturbing as the reality of how dramatically our lives have been impacted.

Courtenay residents on Back Road have borne the greatest burden and a level of disruption that exceeds that of any other resident in the Comox Valley. We have a right to be heard by this Council. The CVRD and City of Courtenay have for over four months stood by while their ineffective detour/local traffic signs failed miserably. Arguably no one expected the Plan to succeed and that's why there are no expressions of concern and the motion on the table changes nothing for at least another year or maybe not at all. A Plan that kicks our issues down the road, while knowing that Back Road is a dangerous daily speedway for thousands and thousands of vehicles, is unacceptable. We can't imagine that any one of us can survive another five months.

We are demanding that the City STOP putting our concerns on hold while they engage with the Province because they have had two years and taken no action. The Province has for 10 years, in spite of all the compelling evidence, refused to allow a Municipal Photo Speed Enforcement (PSE) - making this feel like another in a growing list of delay tactics. This motion is two years too late. A long term goal, perhaps, but we need immediate and urgent ACTION from this Council.

A similar motion supporting Photo Speed Enforcement was adopted by Council over a year ago and there has been zero follow up or promising news from the Province. Further, the Comox Valley Mayors, First Nation and CVRD signed onto a letter addressed to the Ministry of Transportation in June 2024, a copy of which they provided as proof they were doing something, and that letter may still be sitting on someone's desk in Victoria because there was no follow up. The Mayor's office has verified there are no notes, reports, pending actions or anything that confirms a meeting was planned or held.

We will not give up our fight to protect the integrity, safety and liveability of our neighbourhood. The City needs to place a barricade on Back Road, as was promised by the CVRD, and it needs to be a priority. Once in place, we will celebrate by *walking* to our neighbour's house because we will no longer fear being killed along the way, we will *sit outside* on a sunny day and we will *open our windows* once again to breath the night air with the promise of a good night's sleep.

We are asking that the City of Courtenay reserve the permitted delegation time to our group, who in good faith and with respect, have asked that their voices be heard. We are available for either the July 16th or 30th meeting. Thank you.

Regards,
Carolyn Rice
Campaign to Make Back Road Safe