December 7th 2023 - SAC Meeting Minutes

Representatives present from:

- Gary Burrill's office
- Ali Duale (MLA)
- Sean Cleary (District 9 Councillor)
- Halifax Regional Police Community Officer
- HRM Traffic Authority
- IWK Pediatric Trauma Lead
- Halifax Shopping Centre Security
- SAC members (parents, teachers, admin)

Crosswalk Concerns

- → Extreme concern of staff, students, parents and community members over student safety in the main intersection (Mumford Rd)
- → Oct 24th, 2023: Student taken to hospital by ambulance with injury from being struck by car (student at fault)
- → Oct 25th, 2023: Second student hit by car, no injury but student rolled on hood of car (driver at fault)
- → Last week: Community member called to say that two students almost struck in crosswalk (driver at fault)
- → Concern that problem will increase with upcoming development planned for across the road
- → With new stores/development opening on West end of the mall, HSC Security expecting extreme increase in traffic near Romans Ave

Data

- → School has identified close to 50 students who are required to cross Mumford Rd intersection based on home address
- → From HRP: extreme increase in volume of traffic. In two months there have been 2 pedestrian crashes reported to HRP.
 - ◆ Two near misses on Romans Ave, but not on Leppert St where crossing guards are currently allocated
- → Data pulled a few years ago during Pandemic: 20,000 vehicles each day through the intersection with an average of 15 km over speed limit
- → This intersection was in the top 10 list locally for vehicle collisions not involving a pedestrian. (6 already in 2023, 13 in 2022, 15 in 2021)

Previous Action

- → Speed signage moved 10 ft for visibility
- → Lights added to sign

Crossing Guard Info

- → Sean Cleary: voiced that crossing guards are hard to hire
- → Parent asked for hiring information to share with newcomer community

Possible Solutions Suggested

- → Suggestion made to reallocate crossing guard from Lepert St to our intersection? Even just for the lunch hour?
- → Extending seconds to walk signals?
- → No Right turn on red turning?
- → Duale's suggestion:
 - ◆ Short term solution: Crossing Guard
 - ◆ Long term solution: Be included to provide input/suggestions to the new development happening in West-End to provide options for how the roads are connected to the school area. (Bridge, Pedway, etc).

Action Steps

- → HRP going to ask Sergeant to move one of the two crossing guards down from Leppert as soon as possible (Sean says that we should hear response likely early January)
- → Call 311 to report transit buses going over 30km speed limit when students present in school zone
- → Sean going to send us "Safe School Streets" act that is being proposed to council
- → Ali going to send letter to Minister so that request is on record
- → Sean going to use budget to permanently install speed/school zone sign