

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 5, 2017

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council

From: Councillor Jonathan Galgay

Re: Signal Hill

On Monday August 14, 2017, residents and concerned citizens of Signal Hill and the Battery came together at St. John's City Hall for a public meeting to discuss traffic, parking, and vehicle noise levels impacting their neighbourhood.

The meeting was chaired by Ward 2 Councillor Jonathan P. Galgay, and included the following representatives; Stephen Fagan (Traffic Division), Sgt. Paul Didham (Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Traffic Services Division), and Glen Keough (Parks Canada).

The City of St. John's has a responsibility to improve neighbourhood liveability and to improve road user safety including the use of traffic calming measures when required.

It was made clear during the meeting that motorists operate vehicles at speeds which are not appropriate for the residential roadway and the safety of all road users has decreased due to traffic volume, speed and other identified issues.

Officials noted that the implementation of some traffic calming measures may account for minimal delays to emergency response times and to other transit services.

It was also noted that during the winter season, snow removal operations may be delayed due to the additional time required to clear snow around some traffic calming measures. Hence, there are implications to neighbourhoods due to the implementation of traffic calming measures.

I concur with residents that traffic calming on Signal Hill Road may help to reduce vehicle speeds, the amount of non-local traffic that passes through the neighbourhood, and the negative effects of motorized vehicles in the neighbourhood.

ST. JOHN'S

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

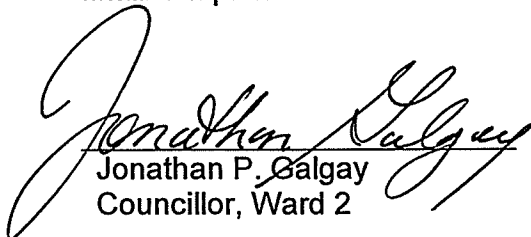
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I recommend the following measures:

- 1.) Installation of driver feedback signs on Signal Hill Road (Radar)
- 2.) Implementation of a new speed limit of 30km (down from 50km)
- 3.) Speed cushion or curb extension in the vicinity of Walsh's Square.
- 4.) Raised crosswalk at the bottom of Signal Hill Road.
- 5.) Initiate discussions with Parks Canada on hours of operation, parking and traffic plans.
- 6.) Seek direction from the St. John's Regional Fire Department (SJRFD) on the impacts to of emergency response to Signal Hill (National Park) after hours.
- 7.) Undertake a comprehensive parking study for Signal Hill Road and all areas of the Battery including Cabot Ave.
- 8.) Open discussions with Memorial University (former Battery Hotel) on opportunities for public parking on site during evenings / weekends and peak tourism season. This will offset illegal parking and congestion on Signal Hill Rd and all areas of The Battery.
- 9.) The City of St. John's open discussions with the Provincial Government on the implementation of photo radar systems for the city; include signal hill as part of a pilot project. (City to negotiate a share of fine revenues to offset costs).
- 10.) Undertake traffic count & speed study prior to November 2017 in conjunction with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary for Signal Hill Rd.

I recognize the City of St. John's must take proactive measures to address ongoing traffic concerns throughout our City and note that some of the recommendations will require additional support and resources to study and implement; particularly in areas impacting the delivery of emergency services.

In closing, I ask council to adopt this memo for the public record and ask that all recommendations be referred to the Police and Traffic Committee at the earliest opportunity to finalize a plan of action.



Jonathan P. Galgay
Councillor, Ward 2