

Executive Office

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January 16, 2024

File: 0400-20

The Honourable Mike Farnworth Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Room 128 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Via email: PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Farnworth:

RE: INTERSECTION SAFETY CAMERA AND SPEED PROGRAMS

At the December 13, 2023, Capital Regional District (CRD) Board meeting a motion was adopted to advocate to the provincial government to expand the Intersection Safety Camera Program, installing new red light and speeding cameras in the capital region in locations with high levels of casualty crashes.

The BC Road Safety Strategy 2025 identifies a series of tools to make BC roads safer. Two of these tools are intersection safety cameras (red light cameras) and intersection speed cameras. The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) <u>data</u> shows that in the capital region, during the period 2018 – 2022, there were twelve thousand casualty crashes (crashes resulting in injury or fatality, as opposed to crashes involving only property damage). The number of property-damage-only crashes is significantly higher.

Casualty crashes in the capital region from 2018 - 2022

Central Saanich	332	Oak Bay	230
Colwood	449	Saanich	4134
Esquimalt	289	Sidney	166
Highlands	22	Sooke	315
Langford	1410	Victoria	4087
Metchosin	58	View Royal	481
North Saanich	117	TOTAL	12,090

Currently there are only two intersections in the capital region with red light cameras and none with speed cameras. Those two cameras are in Saanich at TransCanada Hwy at Tillicum Road and in Victoria at Hillside Avenue and Shelbourne Street. According to ICBC data, more than 98% of the casualty crashes in the capital region during 2018 – 2022 occurred at locations other than those two intersections. Approximately 60% of all crashes on BC roads occur at intersections and crashes at high speed greatly increase the risk of death and serious injury. The province's vision of moving towards zero fatalities and serious injuries on BC Roads cannot be achieved without substantial improvements to safety at intersections including the expansion of the Intersection Safety Camera Program.

Installing additional red light and speeding cameras at high-risk intersections within the capital region would enhance road safety and discourage drivers from creating unsafe conditions through excessive speed.

We look forward to your reply and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant

Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board

Dean Murdock, CRD Traffic Safety Commission Chair, CRD

Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD

Kevin Lorette, General Manager, Planning and Protective Services, CRD