Burianyk, Kathy LEG

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Sent: April-22-13 12:39 PM
To: Committees LEG

Subject: Special Committee On Traffic Safety - Public Recommendations

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

One of the problems I have seen over my years of driving is the tendency to more aggressive driving. You can go almost anywhere in the country and anyone who has driven here says the same thing. Drivers don't know how (or won't) merge properly and traffic will not allow them in either....drivers are not courteous at all. We get in trouble for not using our signal lights.....there is a reason for that, if you turn your signal light on, everyone in the lane you are trying to enter closes up the gaps and won't allow you in......now is this a control issue or ???. Once while at a red light on Albert, with about 10 cars in front of me, I waved a car in front of me who had been waiting at an entrance from a parking lot for quite some time.....the driver in the van behind me went ballistic.....honking at me, waving his fist and his mouth was going a mile a minute.....now, what difference did that one car make to him??....we weren't moving anyway.....red light.....it scared me enough though that I locked my doors just in case. He continued to shake his fist and yell for the next 2 blocks until I turned the corner. My offices used to be on the corner of 15th & Albert and to get out of our parking lot (behind the building), the shortest route was off the alley onto 15th...... had tried it a number of times and at rush hours, it just didn't happen......I ended up backing up and going back down the alley to the north to get out. Just for fun some nights, I used to try and test human nature and would pull my vehicle out into the parking lane on 15th to try and get into traffic.....not one driver would leave room or wave me in.....they would pull up directly in front of my car and never, ever glance my way......like I did not exist...out of sight out of mind I suppose. Maybe one in 100 drivers would let you in (as I say, I tested human nature many times to see if it was the time of day, the weather etc......didn't matter, it was just the mental attitude of the drivers). Now, I have no idea how you go about changing the attitudes of the drivers, what makes them feel they must be first, never give an inch.....it has me baffled as in much larger cities, the traffic moves much better and everyone seems to slow down, move over, adjust and everything keeps moving.

There definitely needs to be a spring blitz on vehicle awareness done though. Vehicle drivers need to be made more aware that bikes and motorcycles are now on the street, they are smaller, quicker and only around for a few months, but larger vehicles need to adjust their awareness to save lives. As far as bike/motorcycle riders, there should not be an easy to get learner license. I believe any licensing should not be approved unless they have completed the safety classes.....mandatory......at bikers expense......and, maybe have to repeat them every 5 years just to keep them on their best performance also. Maybe the larger vehicles involved in accidents with motorcycles, and found at fault in the accident, should be required to complete a mandatory safe driving course also......at their own expense.....this might imprint on them the need to be more watchful/safe.

There needs to be better monitoring of the growing crowd of senior drivers also. I don't believe it should be expected that the family take most responsibility as a lot don't live near, and most children can't tell their parents what to do......can't change a lifetime of being the "child" and then expect them to become the "parent". The doctors also should not be totally responsible as a number of their seniors lie to them and tell them they no longer drive when they in fact do. I believe the responsibility lies with the agency that