

VILLAGE OF MACOUN

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June 5, 2013

Special Committee on Traffic Safety
Room 7, 2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, SK
S4S 0B3

Dear Kathy Burianyk,

We are writing this letter today in response to your newspaper ad in the Estevan Mercury regarding Traffic Safety Issues in Saskatchewan.

According to Census Canada, between 2006 and 2011, our population has seen an increase of 46.4%. These numbers have inherently meant a substantial increase in traffic within our community.

There are two major concerns we have regarding traffic safety, both of which require financial assistance from the government.

1) Turning Lanes into Village of Macoun on Highway 39 - Majority of our residents work in or near Estevan or Weyburn and with the increased traffic on Highway 39, there have been many close calls for residents turning into either entrances to the Village of Macoun. On the south entrance, there is no turning lane heading northwest which means if someone is turning into Macoun from Estevan, there can be up to 3 vehicles on the highway at the same point forcing the turning vehicle to use the shoulder and most often part of the ditch.

The north entrance into Macoun from Highway 39 lacks a turning lane heading southeast whereas forcing thru traffic to use the shoulder and RM road to travel past the vehicle stopped to turn left into Macoun.

These two issues have never been crucial until we have seen the increased traffic on Highway 39 in the past few years.

2) Railroad Crossing on Main Street Macoun - There has been one fatality at this crossing on June 10, 2012, however there have been many accidents at this crossing that have not been documented by our office over the past years. Residents living near the railroad have declared that there are at least two

accidents per year at this crossing on average and we are very fortunate that there have not been more fatalities at this crossing.

This railway is an 80km/hr railway and this translates into high speed trains intersecting a 40km/hr roadway. The angle of the railway and roadway is odd whereby creating hazards for motorists as you have to physically turn your body to see the full railway properly. We have lobbied CP Rail to increase safety at this crossing but to date, there have been no improvements made. CP Rail has agreed to a meeting this summer regarding this issue which is encouraging.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns and we would welcome an opportunity to discuss these safety concerns with your committee at your convenience.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amanda Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amanda" and last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Amanda Smith
Project Manager on behalf of Macoun Village Council