

## Molly Harris

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**From:** Jessie Lane [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** December-13-25 12:45 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Deprioritizing wychbury sidewalk

**Categories:** Late Agenda Item, Inputted in to Mail Log

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am submitting this comment in advance of Monday's council meeting, and request that it be read into the record there.

I also plan on attending the meeting to express my significant safety concerns about deprioritizing a sidewalk on the 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue.

I am so disappointed to see that the Esquimalt City Council is voting on a proposal that would deprioritize putting a sidewalk on the 1100 block of Wychbury Ave, a main thoroughfare for children walking to Macauley Elementary school, from a short term project (3rd on the list), to a long-term project (11 on the list). In my opinion, it, alongside Kinver (which is not being deprioritized), should be at the top of the list.

I watch children walking in the middle of the road every morning and afternoon, recently in wet, dark, low visibility, and it is hard for me to imagine more of a priority for the township than ensuring that there is a safe way for children to walk to school on one of the only three streets that intersect the school.

Our province encourages walking to school in their Active Transportation Plan, and the British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide specifically states that sidewalks are the foundation of walking networks, and provides specific considerations for sidewalks being built near school zones.

It is common sense that the 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue should have a sidewalk, when the local elementary school is located at 1010 Wychbury Avenue.

Please consider the safety of our youngest students, and consider moving Wychbury to the top of the priority list. Walking conditions to the school are unsafe, and we should be working together as a community to address this before something terrible happens.

## Molly Harris

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** December-13-25 1:04 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Urgent Need for a Sidewalk on the 1100 Block of Wychbury Avenue

**Importance:** High

**Categories:** Late Agenda Item, Inputted in to Mail Log

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my strong concern regarding the proposal before Council to deprioritize construction of a sidewalk on the 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue, moving it from a short-term priority to a long-term project. I respectfully urge Council to reconsider this decision and to recognize this block of Wychbury Avenue as a critical safety priority.

The 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue is a main thoroughfare for children walking to and from Macaulay Elementary School, located at 1010 Wychbury Avenue. It is one of only three streets that directly intersect the school. Each morning and afternoon, children are forced to walk in the roadway itself, often weaving around parked cars on both sides of the street and stepping directly into traffic. During the darker winter months, and especially in wet and low-visibility conditions, this situation is deeply concerning.

Wychbury Avenue is not a quiet residential side street. It experiences significant traffic, including school drop-off and pick-up vehicles as well as drivers using Wychbury as an alternative route to avoid congestion on Lyall Street. With cars parked along both sides, there is frequently no safe space for pedestrians. Children are routinely pushed into active traffic lanes simply to navigate their walk to school.

As a parent who previously had a child attending Macaulay Elementary, this issue was a constant source of worry for our family. Nearly every second house along Wychbury Avenue is home to young children, meaning a significant number of families are directly affected by the lack of safe pedestrian infrastructure on this street. Like many residents on Wychbury Avenue, we have advocated for a sidewalk along this central section of the street for years. The current conditions place an unfair and unnecessary risk on children and families who are doing exactly what our community and province encourage them to do: walk to school.

The Province of British Columbia's Active Transportation Plan explicitly promotes walking and rolling as healthy, sustainable modes of travel. The BC Active Transportation Design Guide is clear that sidewalks are the foundation of safe walking networks and provides specific guidance for sidewalk infrastructure in school zones. Deprioritizing a sidewalk on a street that directly serves an elementary school runs counter to both the spirit and intent of these provincial policies.

It is difficult to imagine a more appropriate or pressing location for sidewalk infrastructure than the 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue. Ensuring children have a safe, designated space to walk to school is not simply a convenience—it is a matter of safety and common sense.

I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the proposed deprioritization and to maintain, or elevate, the sidewalk on the 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue as a short-term priority. Our children's safety deserves to be at the top of the list.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to the wellbeing of Esquimalt residents.

Sincerely,

Tammy Anderson  
1217 Wychbury Ave  
[REDACTED]

## Molly Harris

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**From:** Carling Helander [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** December-13-25 1:30 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** ATNP Refresh

**Categories:** Late Agenda Item

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Council,

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of the active transportation network. The progress made in the past year has been tremendous, making a very noticeable impact in how we move around the Township in a safe and enjoyable way. For example, not only does the Lampson bike lane make it possible to cycle on that route, it has also noticeably reduced vehicle speeding and noise.

I want to voice my support for continued ATNP development and implementation, including Esquimalt Rd Phase 2 and the new additions to the ATNP plan proposed by staff. These actions will close gaps in the network and result in a very robust and functional transportation network for the Township, which is increasingly critical with Esquimalt's rapid densification.

As a resident of Rockheights Ave near Lampson, I'd like to comment specifically on the plans for Devonshire Rd. Implementing a neighbourhood bikeway on Devonshire between the rail trail and Dominion is a wonderful idea, and I would encourage that being expedited as a short term rather than medium term action. The state of the pavement in that section is dire and urgently in need of repair for the safety of cyclists. I also support the south-side sidewalk proposal for Devonshire to Lampson, as the north side sidewalk requires a treacherous navigation of industrial driveways and electrical poles sitting in the middle of the sidewalk. Lastly, I encourage Council and staff to consider alternative design options for the diagonal rail trail crossing on Devonshire as the current approach is confusing and risky for trail users.

Thank you again to both Council and staff for the excellent work on the ATNP. Continuing to invest in this infrastructure is critical for our growing community.

Carling Helander  
887 Rockheights Ave

## Molly Harris

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**From:** Blake Crouch [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** December-14-25 8:09 AM  
**To:** Council; Council  
**Subject:** Wychbury Avenue

**Categories:** Inputted in to Mail Log, Late Agenda Item

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I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the proposed deprioritization and to maintain, or elevate, the sidewalk on the 1100 block of Wychbury Avenue as a short term priority. Our children's safety deserves to be at the top of the list.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to the wellbeing of Esquimalt residents.

Sincerely,

Blake Crouch

## Molly Harris

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**From:** Meagan Klaassen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** December-14-25 2:22 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Feedback on Active Transportation Staff Report 7.5a, Dec 15 council meeting

**Categories:** Inputted in to Mail Log, Late Agenda Item

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to support moving the south side Lyall St sidewalk upgrades to immediate priority. I have been a resident of Lyall St for 25 years and have watched it deteriorate ever since. This sidewalk was last improved in 1974, with the installation of the now-defunct sidewalk bike lane. It is the worst section of sidewalk on main or collector streets in the township.

Lyall St from Admirals to Lampson is heavily used by people driving, biking and walking, including as a main route to Macaulay School and the base. The current condition of the south side sidewalk is poor to very poor, with many sections crumbling, plant-infested and prone to large puddles after every rain. There is no curb on most blocks, and many sections are asphalt instead of concrete. People park their cars partly the sidewalk. It can be a struggle for strollers and mobility devices, I regularly see mobility scooters on the road instead of the sidewalk.

Intersections on Lyall are designed for cars to travel as fast as possible, with many people ignoring stop signs. My youngest child was struck by a hit and run driver at Lyall and Fraser 8 years ago, and driver behaviour has only gotten worse.

I strongly support fixing Lyall for pedestrians as soon as possible, particularly the most heavily used blocks from Admirals to Macaulay and the intersection of Fraser and Lyall.

Thankyou for your time,

Meagan Klaassen  
1217 Lyall St  
Esquimalt BC  
V9A 5G8  
[REDACTED]