

April 17, 2026

Dear Owner/Occupant:

RE: Selkirk Avenue Traffic Volumes

The Township of Esquimalt is looking for resident feedback on the current traffic concerns on Selkirk Avenue. Selkirk Avenue has been a cut-through route from Victoria West to Tillicum Road for many years, but the issue has increased over time. This cut-through traffic uses various local roadways between Craigflower Road and Selkirk Avenue with many vehicles travelling above the posted speed limit.

Present conditions:

- Township staff have worked with VicPD to perform speed enforcement on the corridor.
- Township staff recently installed 2 additional speed humps along Selkirk Avenue to slow down average speeds.
- Despite this work, there is still a high volume of cut-through traffic during afternoon peak traffic hours, primarily westbound.
- The recent Point Ellice bridge closure has exacerbated the traffic volume concerns on Selkirk Avenue to a point where either a pilot or permanent changes are recommended.

Traffic speeds can be mitigated with current road designs, but excess traffic volume is better addressed through physical changes to travel patterns. These changes help move traffic back to major roads that are more appropriate for these traffic volumes.

Addressing the issue:

- Township staff are recommending a pilot period (6 months) of a westbound closure of vehicle traffic on Selkirk Avenue between Uganda Avenue and Agnes Street (currently identified west of 946 Selkirk's driveway) to prevent cut-through traffic.
- Local examples of this type of permanent vehicle closure can be found at Richardson Street and Foul Bay Road, Pandora Avenue and Chambers Street, Vancouver Street and Balmoral Road in Victoria.
- These types of closures could be temporary or permanent depending on resident feedback, staff analysis, budget availability, and pending Council direction on next steps.

Considerations:

- Design will maintain pedestrian and bike access.
- We will consult with emergency services prior to any changes to ensure there are no concerns.
- Any temporary and permanent closures is anticipated to be funded out of the existing annual traffic calming budget unless a more substantial installation is desired beyond this budget, then, it will be subject to the annual budget process.

We understand that this would be a significant change to the circulation in the neighbourhood, so we would like to hear from you to ensure that residents in the areas support such a change.

We would like to hear your feedback on the following:

- a. If you support or oppose a westbound closure of vehicular traffic on Selkirk between Uganda and Agnes
- b. If you support a closure, do you feel a westbound closure would resolve the traffic concerns, or should a full closure in both directions, or other treatment be considered
- c. If you support a closure, for how long (6-month trial, permanent, other)

Please email (eng@esquimalt.ca) or mail (1229 Esquimalt Road, Esquimalt B.C. V9A 3P1) your thoughts on the above options to the Engineering Department. Email or mail lets us appropriately track your feedback and follow up with you when needed.

Short term steps:

In the interim, prior to receiving neighbourhood feedback, we will be installing “local access only” signage, barricades and yield points at various points along Selkirk to encourage vehicles to return to Craigflower Road (see below for rough sketch).

The goal is to maintain access to residents and allow time for staff and residents to observe any changes in traffic patterns to help find additional solutions and inform resident feedback on a more substantive pilot or permanent closure. We will install these yield points/signs in three locations along Selkirk: west of each intersection of Arm St, Arcadia St, and Agnes St.

These installations will be in place for the duration of the engagement period (June 15, 2026) or until an alternate closure/treatment is in place.

An example of what the temporary signage and barriers could look like is below.



If you have any questions prior to providing your response and wish to discuss further, feel free to email eng@esquimalt.ca or call 250-414-7108 with questions.

We will receive feedback until June 15, 2026. We will then compile the feedback and report back on the findings and provide site specific design concepts prior to any subsequent changes (if supported by residents).

Thank you for your patience while we attempt to mitigate these traffic concerns.

Regards,

Charles Davie
Manager of Engineering