



March 10, 2017

To Peter Brown,

Parry Sound Area Active Transportation (PSAAT) supports the proposed amendment to the Traffic By-law that recommends the speed limit in school and community zones be reduced to 40 kph from 50 kph. Lower speeds can have a significant impact on improving both cycling and pedestrian conditions in our community.

The rationale for this amendment is clear: Wherever pedestrians are involved in car collisions, severe injury and fatality rates are shown to greatly increase when they involve impact speeds over 40 km/h. When children are struck by vehicles, their injuries often result in life threatening or permanent damage. The faster a vehicle is moving, the greater the impact, and the more devastating the results.

We believe speed limit reductions along the identified routes to school are a critical step toward easing the safety concerns of parents and students, and to ultimately getting more of our children walking and biking to school again. Research shows that when children are allowed to walk and bike to school, their health and readiness for learning improve significantly.

We appreciate the Town of Parry Sound's ongoing efforts to promote healthy transportation options by improving the walk- and bike-friendliness of our town and better protecting vulnerable road users.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendall Fisher".

Wendall Fisher, Chair