



ECOLE MARIGOLD SCHOOL

P. A. C.



3751 Grange Road

Victoria BC V8Z 4T2

(250) 479 - 8256

February 24, 2009

Steve Holroyd
Engineering Designer/Planner
Saanich Engineering Department
770 Vernon Ave
Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

Dear: Mr. Holroyd

Thank you for your response to Norma Dowler's email regarding the new Admirals Road bridge. The Marigold Parent Advisory Council has reviewed the original and revised plans and we are disappointed that none of the concerns regarding young pedestrian safety have been addressed.

The ramp from Colquitz Avenue is a welcome addition to the design and certainly improves accessibility, but it is independent of our serious safety concerns for young pedestrians. We feel the following changes are required:

- **Add a physical barrier on the bridge to separate children and heavy truck traffic** while walking to and from school and during field trips. This is a top concern of our parent community.
- **Add a pedestrian-controlled traffic-light** instead of flashers. Vehicles are already unreliable about stopping, even when the lights are flashing; the constantly-flowing traffic facilitated by the new bridge design will increase the existing danger for our children.
- **Include a barrier from vehicles and add more space on either side of the crosswalk** for groups of children to assemble. This is a major route for our walking field trips as well as regular school commuters; we expect this usage to be given full consideration in the design.
- **Include a traffic-calming measure**, such as a planter, instead of a left-turn lane for the limited traffic onto Esson. This turn-lane will facilitate excessive speed in the travel lanes, posing a significant threat to our children, with only a negligible benefit to left-turning vehicles.

Extrapolating from the Admirals Road Streetscape is not an adequate substitute for addressing the expressed requirements of our school community.

If the municipality insists on re-opening this route to heavy truck traffic, parents expect Saanich to do everything possible to keep our children safe while travelling to and from school. Without our requested modifications, it is foreseeable that this bridge will be the site of a tragic accident. If anything happens to our children at this bridge, we will hold Saanich accountable.

Thank you for your attention to these very important issues. We await your response.

Yvonne Blair, President
École Marigold Elementary School Parent Advisory Council Executive

cc Mayor and Council, Municipality of Saanich

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Judy Brownoff, Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee chair
Tim Wood, Municipal Administrator, Municipality of Saanich
Colin Doyle, Director of Engineering, Municipality of Saanich
Carrie MacPhee, Director of Legislative Services, Municipality of Saanich
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