

Legislation Text

File #: 1.1, Version: 1

OPEN DELEGATION BY MYRNA CLARK CONCERNING TRAFFIC NOISE AND SPEEDING VEHICLES

Myrna Clark provided an Open Delegation concerning the traffic noise and speeding vehicles on City of Barrie streets.

Ms. Clark advised that she would like consideration to be given to increasing the number of photo radar sites throughout Barrie. She noted that she felt that this would decrease the number of vehicle-related injuries and deaths. Ms. Clark also noted she wanted to seek further input from the Committee as to what can be done and for possible suggestions to curtail the dangerous driving behaviour.

Ms. Clark described her 16-month quest to decrease the level of speeding and to make streets safer. She noted that she had reached out to her Ward Councillor, the Barrie Police Service as well as writing a number of letters to local news media addressing her concerns. She commented that she has observed minimal decreases in the number of speeders or changes in driving patterns. Ms. Clark acknowledged the many issues the City is currently experiencing due to COVID-19 and she noted that she felt that traffic safety needs to be a priority as it is also an issue that affects everyone. She discussed her experience related to reporting incidents to the non-emergency police line, but that she was unable to provide the licence plate numbers for the vehicles due to their passing her at excessive speed. Ms. Clark stressed that Barrie streets are not safe as she feels it is a vehicle dominant City with the vehicles pushing through traffic lights.

Ms. Clark provided suggestions of increased radar presence and speeding ticket issuance to help contribute to safer streets and treating the dangerous behaviour with a more concerted intent for the safety of the citizens and before Barrie streets become worse. She commented on the number of vehicle accidents over the summer and she noted that she felt that speed was a contributing factor in most incidents and that excessively noisy vehicles with modified exhausts continue to be ever dangerous. Ms. Clark advised that she has spoken with Barrie Police Service to discuss her concerns associated with speeding and noise. She indicated that Barrie Police had conducted a blitz to try to address modified noisy vehicle exhausts in June, 2020 but noted that she has observed that these issues still exist.

In conclusion, Ms. Clark advised of her concerns that there has been little to no change in the dangerous driving habits of drivers in the City. She suggested that the Committee consider the use of photo radar as she felt that an increased radar presence and significant fines would deter dangerous drivers and send them a clear message.

Members of the Committee and Ms. Clark asked several questions associated to her Open Delegation and received responses from Ms. Clark, Committee members, and City Staff.