

August 27, 2020

By Email: corporate@whistler.ca

Attention: Mayor and Council Members

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Alta Vista Traffic and Safety Concerns

My wife and I have lived in Alta Vista since 1977 and have observed the traffic and congestion grow each summer. Things have reached a breaking point this year. Tourists circle the subdivision looking for a place to park often stopping in restricted and dangerous areas. Pedestrians and cyclists are forced to weave their way through the traffic. The municipality needs to address these safety issues.

Increased traffic on the Valley Trail, the boat launch, Lakeside Park and Blueberry Docks has created a hazardous situation. Lakeside Road and others are typically one-way due to haphazard/illegal parking and pedestrian traffic. It is only a matter of time before a cyclist or pedestrian is struck. Lakeside Park should be designated as a community site rather than a destination. The excessive traffic is exacerbated by the service upgrades in Alta Vista scheduled over the next three years. There are road closures and heavy equipment working in the area leading to even greater traffic and safety issues. With increased traffic comes more garbage.

Some potential solutions could include the following:

- On-street parking for residents only.
- Capacity limits for Lakeside Park. When the limits are met, users are directed elsewhere. This is particularly relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Increased bylaw surveillance and ticketing for illegal parking and other infractions.
- Designate and communicate that larger Whistler parks are destination and smaller ones are community.
- More regular municipal worker garbage pickup with a focus on roadsides.
- Consider a spur of the Valley Trail to avoid the neighbourhood congestion.
- Bury the storm drain that parallels the boat launch to make it wider and safer.
- Signage that is clear, relevant and not obscured by foliage, especially at the boat launch.
- Regular observations by senior municipal staff and risk manager.

The level of risk during busy times in Alta Vista is unacceptable and exposes the municipality and taxpayers to unnecessary potential liability. Should an injury occur, and the municipality was made aware of the danger, legal exposure is even greater. We urge you and council to observe firsthand the congestion present every sunny day.

Thank you for taking these issues seriously and for acting on them.

Best regards.

Brian and Chris Leighton

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