

From: Mike Crane [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Mike Crane

Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 9:40 AM

To: Jack Crompton <jcrompton@whistler.ca>; Arthur De Jong <adejong@whistler.ca>; Duane Jackson <djackson@whistler.ca>; John Grills <jgrills@whistler.ca>; Ralph Forsyth <rforsyth@whistler.ca>; Jen Ford <jford@whistler.ca>; Rose Lawrence <rlawrence@whistler.ca>; Cathy Jewett <cjewett@whistler.ca>

Subject: Elementary School Bus Route Cuts

Importance: High

Mayor and Council,

With the return to school, the SD48 has reduced the normal bus services citing a new allowable walking distance that cuts several routes out of service.

As a parent, I feel this does not take into account the full impact on the community.

1. A reduction of safe transit will have a large increase on traffic thus increasing congestion during peak times and also increasing greenhouse gas emissions as parents will have no alternative but to drop off and pick up their children.
2. Having children starting at just aged 5 walk approx. 3 km's which include a long stretch of valley trail far from any residential assistance, that will often be unplowed before school hours and will have children leaving in the dark during winter periods to arrive on time does not seem like a safe option.
3. This fails to account for children travelling through a forested area where wildlife frequent as well.

Please address this at tomorrow's council meeting as I understand the school trustees will be present.

I hope that Mayor and council can work with the Trustees and the SD48 to have a favourable outcome for the safety and goals of our community.

Mike

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