

Stephanie Ivall

From: David Ritcey <>
Sent: July-27-20 11:47 AM
To: Council
Subject: Slow Streets - Council Agenda item 5.13

Dear Mayor and Council,

I look forward to the discussion and outcome of this week's Agenda item 5.13 on "Slow Streets."

On St George Street during the Covid pandemic we are blessedly and temporarily not overrun by commuters blowing through the One Way - Do Not Enter barrier. The middle segment of St George roughly from Kyle to Moody has become a de facto 'Slow Street' as increased numbers of pedestrians, many of them family groups, share the roadway and sidewalks. Physical distancing is often achieved by walking on the gravel shoulders or even the paved roadway because it is generally safe to do so with limited vehicle traffic. This is of course jaywalking, and the situation would be much better if formally controlled or officially sanctioned in some way.

By far the more dangerous areas for pedestrians on St George are farther east: at the Hugh and Williams intersections. At these sites there have been accidents and numerous near misses; The appropriate solution is permanent installation of 4-way stop signs at both intersections.

As traffic returns to normal volumes that exceed the capacity of St Johns Street, the recent decision to make parts of Spring Street one-way will put increased pressure on St George as an alternative route for rat-running commuters. It's time for a holistic view of traffic flow through Moody Centre is required. Only when the inadequacies of St Johns Street east of Moody are rectified will the residents of St George Street and the rest of Moody Centre be able to live in peace and safety.

Thank You,

David Ritcey
St George Street Port Moody