

The Issue of Speed on Tudor Ave.

Shortly after moving to Ten Mile Point, I couldn't help but notice that a significant percentage of vehicles on Tudor Ave. are travelling too fast. It didn't take long to realize that my neighbours had concerns about the speed on Tudor as well. I joined the local Block Watch where the traffic on Tudor is a frequent topic of discussion. I spend a lot of time walking along Tudor Ave. & observing the speed of the traffic. I've met more than one pedestrian in passing who remarked "people drive too fast along here!" These were unsolicited remarks. I did not begin with my own opinion. One lady added "it's not just young people but older drivers as well". I took it upon myself to survey the residents along Tudor by going door to door. My question was "do you think that action is required to reduce speed & speeding on Tudor?" The response was an overwhelming YES! In doing this survey, I learned a lot about the history of the issue. Many people along Tudor have lived here for over a generation. Many people facetiously wished me luck with any attempt to make change. These people have been involved in attempts to control speed in the past. One of my neighbours on Tudor told me that his mother did the same thing that I am doing in 1954! Apparently to no avail. Another neighbour was the chairman of the Cadboro Bay Residents Association for 10 years. In those years, all attempts to make change were fruitless. Several neighbours expressed concern that they are going to be hit as they attempt to back out of their driveways. At least one neighbour (that I know of) HAS been hit when emerging from his driveway. One neighbour with a Tudor address whose house is on the corner of another street, had his driveway access moved to the side street to minimize the risk of collision when backing onto the road. Other people told me that they have been passed on Tudor – with all of its narrowness & blind driveways. Saanich recently did a traffic survey (October 2010) to satisfy a local Block Watch. They responded with statistics showing that 85% of vehicles were travelling at less than 60 KPH. They classify Tudor as a "Collector" road & the inference of their response is that the survey results are in line with the road category. So, what's the problem? The problem is that 50 KPH is too fast for Tudor! The problem is that a significant percentage of traffic is exceeding the existing limit! Call it whatever you want but Tudor Ave. is a narrow, unlighted, very residential *street* with a lot of pedestrians, a lot of deer, a couple of blind hills and a high volume of traffic. I have witnessed a lot of vehicles travelling along Tudor at LESS than 50 KPH. These drivers apparently have the sense to realize that the legal limit on Tudor is too fast for safety. Unfortunately, a lot of vehicles are exceeding the existing speed limit & many more are driving at a speed that is unsafe by any standard. Even the municipal survey statistics show this – 15% travelling in excess of 60 KPH. With a daily volume of 2400 vehicles, that equates to 360 vehicles travelling far too fast every day.

I have spoken to many people who have lived here for a long time. From my experience & theirs, one thing is abundantly clear to me:

Saanich needs to take action to reduce speed AND speeding on Tudor Ave.

Your opinion matters. Send me an e-mail with yours.

David Ferguson
dferguson1958@gmail.com

