

RECEIVED

October 21, 2020

REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

DATE: October 21, 2020

To: Regional Council – Region of Peel
From: Peel Safe and Active Routes to School Committee

RE: Installation of Automated School Bus Stop Arm Cameras supporting Region of Peel Schools

The Peel Safe and Active Routes to Schools Committee (PSARTS) wishes to add its collective voice in support of the Vision Zero actions taken by Regional Council, at the June 11, 2020 Regional Council meeting, (Resolution 2020-446 and Resolution 2020-436), requesting staff investigate options for the implementation of automated school bus stop arm cameras in school busses supporting the Region.

We understand from the Interim Update report submitted for Council's information on the October 22, 2020 agenda (Item 15.2), that, while Provincial changes to the Highway Traffic Act allow Municipalities to implement automated school bus stop arm cameras, there are legislative and operational constraints preventing a swift rollout.

Concern about safety is often cited by parents as a factor in disallowing their children to walk or ride to school. Safety and perceived safety is a key barrier to increased participation in active school travel. The estimate from the School Bus Stop Arm Camera Working Group that a full program roll-out would result in 150,000-500,000 offences in Peel per year indicates the significance and scope of the problem. The PSARTS stakeholders support Vision Zero objectives, and any actions that contribute to changing driver behaviour and improving safety for vulnerable road users in and around school zones.

We recommend that Regional Council receive the staff report and Chair Iannicca's letter to Caroline Mulrone, Minister of Transportation and continue to press the Province for legislative amendments that would allow the cameras to be operational as soon as possible.

Signed,

Peel Safe and Active Routes to School Committee

PSARTS VISION: An environment where the majority of Peel Children and youth regularly use active transportation (AT) to and from school, with bussing and public transportation as a necessary second choice.

PSARTS MISSION: By 2023 Peel School communities will embrace active and sustainable school travel (ASST) behaviours, infrastructure, and focused policies to facilitate both ASST behaviours and connected neighbourhoods.

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: The PSARTS Committee shall, as deemed appropriate, facilitate and advocate for education and outreach strategies, policies, and programs to further the stated Mission and Vision.

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED