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Policy Resolutions 2015

Photo Speed Enforcement in Saskatchewan

2015

Category: Transportation and Infrastructure

Issue: Photo speed enforcement is being conducted only in select areas in Saskatchewan that are deemed high risk and only as a pilot project.

Background: Other provinces in Canada have had photo speed enforcement for a number of years with positive results. 1)-Installation of Photo Speed Enforcement has been proven to prevent traffic collisions, injuries and deaths on roadways. It has also been proven as an effective way to reduce speeding and calming traffic in school zones. A 1996 British Columbia study showed a 26% reduction in fatal collisions and a 14% decrease in traffic collision injuries after the introduction of Photo Speed Enforcement in high-risk areas. An evaluation of Winnipeg's use of Photo Speed Enforcement in school, playground and construction zones in 2011 indicated there were a 24% decrease in speed-related injury crashes at camera intersections and a 13% decrease in property-damage-only crashes at camera intersections.

The Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police have passed motions in support of utilizing technologies such as photo radar and red light cameras as tools to reduce collisions and promote safer streets.

Despite numerous studies showing the effectiveness of speed enforcement, especially automated speed enforcement, in reducing crashes, public debate still continues in regard to the revenue raising aspect of speed enforcement. Using speed camera enforcement data from a large urban city, this study found that catching offenders had a significant effect in reducing injury crashes that was beyond the deterrent effect provided by the presence of police on the roads alone. The apprehension of offenders is therefore a key component needed to maximize the effectiveness of the speed camera program and not solely as a means to raise revenue. Revenue raised can be put towards other prevention programs that will keep our streets safe. The pilot project in Saskatchewan has indicated that 2)- "any revenues that are generated above the program costs will be used to fund traffic safety improvements and initiatives in the City."

Resolution: The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce encourages the Government of Saskatchewan to consult with municipalities to ensure that Photo Speed Enforcement is implemented throughout the entire province giving the police another tool towards a safe roadways.

In addition, the Government of Saskatchewan needs to provide promotion of the program and education about the benefits of the program in order to dispel myths concerning the "cash grab" mentality associated with the program.

Saskatchewan Funding for Policing in Lloydminster

Issue:

Currently Saskatchewan does not provide funding for policing services in Lloydminster.

Background:

The City of Lloydminster straddles the border of Alberta and Saskatchewan with slightly over 30% of the population or 11,472 people living in Saskatchewan.

The Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce has a membership of 600 businesses with about 1/3 of the businesses located in Saskatchewan providing tax revenue to the Province. In addition, the oil, gas, manufacturing and agricultural industries of the Lloydminster region has provided royalties and revenues to the Saskatchewan government through times of prosperity and during the years of challenging times.

The City of Lloydminster is policed by the RCMP and all costs associated with policing are paid for by the City of Lloydminster to the approximate amount of \$5,800.000.00 which provides police services to all residents of Lloydminster both on the Alberta and Saskatchewan side.

In 2013 over 40% of the calls to the RCMP were received from Saskatchewan. This has been consistent for the last three year period.

The Province of Alberta provides grant funding which includes base grant funding, per resident funding based on Alberta residents, & MOG grant funding in the total amount of \$580,000.00 per year and the Province of Saskatchewan provides \$0.00 funding.

Lloydminster should be treated consistent with other Cities in Saskatchewan, receiving funding at the 70/30 municipal/provincial split. This would mean that Lloydminster should be receiving from the Province of Saskatchewan between \$713,000.00 and \$715,000.00 per year.

Resolution:

The Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce strongly recommends that the Province of Saskatchewan immediately provides proportionate funding from Saskatchewan Government for delivery of policing services in Lloydminster.

Dangerous Goods Route around the Core of Lloydminster

2015

Category: Transportation & Infrastructure

Issue: Currently there is no bylaw or enforcement mechanism in place to ensure that the large truck traffic, and particularly the trucks hauling dangerous goods, are prohibited from driving in the core of the city.

The large trucks that need to stop and go in the core, slow down the traffic which has also been noted as an issue.

Background: Lloydminster is rapidly growing and expanding not only in the physical sense but also in terms of the goods and services provided from our central location in the Midwest. Many of the trucks and tanks moving through our city core on Highway 16 and 17 are carrying goods and substances that could endanger the lives and wellbeing of our Lloydminster citizens.

Streetscapes Co, the downtown business improvement district organization, have voiced their concerns about the heavy truck traffic moving through downtown on Highway 17.

Resolution: The Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce strongly recommends that the City of Lloydminster:

- Immediately pass a bylaw and put into place an enforcement plan, with substantial penalties, that restricts vehicle traffic hauling dangerous goods from travelling in the city core except for those trucks who are delivering goods to local businesses.
- 2) Put in place the infrastructure necessary to move the heavy truck traffic on and off Highway 16 and 17 at the designated truck route exits and entrances. This may include turn lanes and traffic lights. (Suggested light at 67th Street and highway 17).
- 3) Immediately designate a dangerous goods route and clearly sign it so that truck traffic is alerted and aware of their options.

Fair and Equitable Funding for and Timely Implementation of Health Care Services in Lloydminster

2015

Category: Health Care

Background:

The City of Lloydminster and its surrounding community is unique because it straddles the boundary of both provinces and serves as a centre for health care services for citizens from both provinces. The Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan need to agree to formally recognize the Lloydminster Bi Provincial Health Care Services Area as an accurately defined Bi Provincial Health Care area of joint provincial responsibility in order that the required services be appropriately funded. Furthermore, the Alberta and Saskatchewan Provincial Health Ministries must agree to actively participate in the ongoing integrated operational health care services planning and agree to contribute appropriate planning resources and financial funding for the Lloydminster Bi Provincial Health Care Services Area. Both provinces must mutually agree and be accountable for fair and equitable funding to support the service planning, capitol, operational and administrative costs of the Lloydminster Bi Provincial Health Care Services Area.

Lloydminster has not received funding from Alberta Health Services based upon the same formula as other regional health centers in Alberta and for that reason Prairie North Health Region has fallen drastically behind in its ability to provide the required basic services for Lloydminster and surrounding area. There are also discrepancies between Saskatchewan regions and Lloydminster, with Lloydminster receiving less per capita than other Saskatchewan regions. Thus both provinces need to ensure the financial economic well being of this interprovincial health service area. This lack of funding and inability of the two provincial health authorities to work in a collaborative fashion delays the development and implementation of required health services for the Lloydminster population.

The ability of the community of Lloydminster to attract a labour force to meet the demands of business is limited by the fact that Lloydminster does not offer comparable health services to other areas of similar size in either province.

The Chamber of Commerce business community and the community as a whole are no longer willing to be the "fringe" of either province, but rather the "core" of a dynamic, prosperous region that adds significantly to the government coffers

each year, including those health care dollars that are distributed throughout the provinces. We are not asking for special treatment, just equitable treatment.

Therefore be it resolved that: the Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce demand both the Government of Saskatchewan and Government of Alberta through their respective Health Ministries;

- abide by their signed Memorandum of Understanding dated 2014 in regards to provincial responsibilities for health services for the Lloydminster Service area, and
- adhere to the governance structure as outlined in the Bi-Provincial Health Services and Infrastructure Assessment, and
- commit the necessary finances to, as expeidiently as possible, correct the
 inequities in health services funding and ensure the timely implementation
 and enhancement of the services required to bring health services in
 Lloydminster to the level that could be expected by citizens in other areas
 of either Alberta or Saskatchewan of comparable size.
- implement an accountability structure to ensure funding received for the Lloydminster Health Services area is utilized to provide service for citizens residing in this bi-provincial jurisdiction.