



P 403.287.1335 F 403.243.6759 A 65, Highfield Place SE, Calgary, AB, Canada T2G 4Z7 SOUTHLAND.CA

Tony Churchill,
Sr. Traffic Engineer, Leader of Traffic Safety
Roads - Traffic Engineering,
2808 Spiller Road SE - (Floor 4 - South Tower)
P.O. Box 2100, Station M,
Calgary, AB Canada T2P 2M5



September 1st 2017

Dear Tony,

Thank you for contacting Southland Transportation with regard to the use of the 8 way light system within the City of Calgary.

My first observation is that the existing City bylaw, Bylaw Number 26M96 has been in place for more than 20 years and has been reviewed on at least 2 occasions with both previous reviews recommending that the bylaw remains in place. Within the City, there are many marked and unmarked crosswalks at every intersection and children in the city have been taught that the safest way to cross a street is at the intersection crosswalk. The purpose of the 8 way light system and stop sign is to create an artificial crosswalk to allow the children to cross safely in rural areas where safe-crossing locations do not exist. These artificial crosswalks in an urban environment will ultimately create some confusion with drivers and children alike and likely create a less safe environment than the existing crosswalk system in the City. We see numerous "fly-bys" in the rural environment and the confusion caused by the implementation of the 8 ways will create increased danger for the children and drivers alike as they come to terms with this significant change.

In addition, there are more than 1000 school buses on City streets every morning and afternoon, stopping an average of 4 times on every journey. That is potentially an additional 8000 additional stop signs in the city creating traffic delays and a significant impact upon the city traffic flow. This will lead to frustration amongst the drivers and cause extra stress as we are all aware of the low tolerance in this city for anything that impedes the journey to and from work.

As a company with more than 45 years' experience of providing school transportation within the City of Calgary, we believe that along with the school transport providers, The City of Calgary should be educating our citizens on how to drive more safely around schools and observing the 30km/h speed limit in school zones. There is a far greater danger to our children outside of the schools that is caused by parents parking illegally and stopping in traffic and encouraging their children to cross the road away from the crosswalks. Generally, children who travel on our school busing system are far better educated on road safety than those who travel with their parents in cars, in my opinion. If the City were to look for a change to the current Bylaw, it would be far more safety conscious to require drivers to reduce their speed to 20 km/h when passing a school bus loading or unloading within the City limits.

In conclusion, Southland Transportation does not support the removal of City Bylaw 26M96 and we would support a recommendation to remain with the status quo.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Weal
Regional Director, Southland Transportation Ltd.