

Dear Member of Council,

It has recently come to my attention that the administration at Sir Arthur Currie Public School has requested a change to have no stopping designation added to the drop off lane in front of the school for the coming year effective between 8:30 am - 9:30 am and 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday, from September 1st through June 30th. I would like to have this letter seen as my formal opposition to this change.

My name is Jason Brodie and my son is attending senior kindergarten at the school. My wife and I have been residents of the Fox Field Neighborhood for the last 8 years. We built in this neighborhood knowing the amenities (parks, school, splash pad) that were going to arrive over the years would be beneficial and allow us to stay here for a long period of time. Working at InfoTech Research Group as a Software Developer; I work normal office hours. Being able to quickly drop my son off in the morning is paramount in allowing me to make it to the office in a reasonable time without having to spend extra for before school care.

I have spoken with both Councillor Josh Morgan and Schoolboard Trustee Jake Skinner on this matter. Councillor Morgan has been of great assistance with the issues surrounding the roadways of the school, unfortunately I can not say the same for Trustee Jake Skinner.

I had reached out to Councillor Morgan last winter time about the roadway problems in front of the school. The issues were driver parking on the north curb side of the street restricting traffic flow for both directions, and executing U-turns in the middle of the road to get into the drop off lane. Councillor Morgan was kind enough to work along side the city to have no parking signs put up on the residential (north) side of the street. Since these signs have gone up there has been no issue with the restriction of traffic.

Over the last couple of weeks, I began to notice there were vehicles parked in the drop off lane from a very early time in the morning. I spoke with one of the administrators in the office and was informed of their intention to change the drop-off lane to be no stopping between the previously noted window. After speaking with one of the teachers, I learned that they were asked to park in this drop of zone to consume the spaces forcing parents to drive through the school parking lot to drop their children off or pick them up.

At no such time were the parents consulted of this potential change. Rather notice was sent out in the monthly newsletter via email on April 12th stating that this would be in effect as of March 19th, implying that the decision was already made. On April 19th, we received a letter home from the school about these changes dated April 16th. At this point, the changes had already been sent through Civic Works Committee [1], and had been referred to council to approve them.

I would like to offer an alternative to their proposed changes. Rather than having to redo the signage on the front area of the school, and try to enforce a less than standardized time frame in the area, I believe with a little enforcement from the Commissionaires Office for a couple of weeks during the morning and afternoon times, the issues with drivers would be resolved.

I feel that Trustee Skinner and the administration of the school have been working in bad faith to have these changes implemented. Again, not once have any of the parents been consulted on this change, whom of which this will have the largest effect on.

In closing, I am asking that council vote against this change, instead, opting to try the route of short term traffic enforcement in the area. This alternative approach will remove unnecessary and permanent costs in changing the signage for the area.

Sincerely,
Jason Brodie

1 - <https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=41762>