

Kitchissippi WARD

Back to School on September 2 – Drivers: Slow down!

27 August 2015 – The kids start going back to school beginning September 2. Kitchissippi Councillor Jeff Leiper, joined by the Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association and Liveable Bayswater members want drivers to pay special attention as children begin walking and biking to school again.

To help remind drivers that the new school year is underway, community members are painting Beech Street at Bayswater with their footprints. It's a fun morning of colour and energy.

“The streets of Kitchissippi are seeing higher volumes of traffic as intensification continues. When main roads become congested, the temptation for drivers is to save time by cutting through residential neighbourhoods – sometimes with a lead foot. Summer is always quieter, but as people head back to the office and school, I want to remind drivers that the kids are cycling and walking to school again.



“Drivers need to drive safely and slowly – which doesn't always mean going as fast as the speed limit allows. And, of particular concern, I'm asking drivers to come to a full and complete stop at stop signs and signals. As my son and others head back to the classroom, their safety is very much a concern for me.”

George Laing, who has played a key role in both the Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association and Liveable Bayswater initiative, echoes Jeff's call.

“Bayswater is a fast, wide street designed for another era of thinking about traffic. After a summer of relatively low volumes, frustration about congestion often results in high-speed cut-through. People are in a rush and don't always take time to consider how their behaviour has an impact on pedestrian and cycling safety. I hope this temporary street painting will remind drivers about the need to consider the safety of everyone in our neighbourhood.”

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