

## Hwy 762 Survey Results show Majority want Speed Limit Assessed

Jan. 2, 2014

The purpose of the 2013 Hwy 762 Survey was to find out which speed limit is democratically supported by local residents (living on or near Hwy 762) and determine if there is enough interest and concern to coordinate efforts with the M. D. of Foothills to represent residents in requesting Alberta Transportation to assess the current posted speed limit of 100 km/hr on this highway.

The survey was conducted Nov.-Dec. and results were compiled and released on Dec. 30, 2013. Residents were asked: Which speed do you support as the speed limit to be set on Highway 762: 80, 90, 100 km/hr, why and comments?

Results of this survey show that there are concerns about Hwy 762 and that **66.9%** (51.3 + 13.3 + 2.3) at least question the evaluation of the highway speed of 100 km/hr and have an interest in determining if the speed limit should be changed or left as is:

**80 km/hr** = 135/263 (51.3%); **90 km/hr** = 35/263 (13.3%); **100 km/hr** = 87/263 (33.1%); **Mix speeds** = 6/263 (2.3%)  
A summary of comments for all each speed can be found in the survey results document.

Over the last years, I have received many complaints related to issues on this highway which led to conducting this survey in an effort to represent residents' concerns. I wanted to find out if there was a silent majority and consider other relevant information that would come from inviting those who live along this road to give their opinions, before going forward to represent them to Alberta Transportation (AT).

There was a tremendous response of 84.6% (311 surveys were sent out and 263 replies were received), so this is not a vague or arbitrary result. In addition to many comments which were supplied, I have the measure of complaints to determine if a speed limit change has had any effect or not. It has been my experience that there were fewer complaints when the speed limit was reduced to 80 km/hr. Whether this measure and the survey results are to be considered in the final analysis is ultimately up to Alberta Transportation, the decision-maker. AT will determine if a different speed limit could be supported after their investigation.

Next steps to support residents:

- will respectfully present residents' opinions to Foothills Council, Public Works and to AT, and we will evaluate the next steps in consideration of all this information;
- meet with our provincial Minister of Alberta Transportation and present these SURVEY RESULTS and information to AT and request their input and evaluations;
- consider AT's response and represent residents towards a conclusion which respects all of their thoughtful comments and opinions about the speed and road conditions, AT's technical and traffic characteristic evaluations, and AT's protocols. We hope to have a decision on the speed limit and hear about plans addressing road conditions and repairs;
- discuss the amount of fundraising events and other events planned on Hwy 762 with AT (approving authority);
- request and discuss more enforcement for Hwy 762 with our Turner Valley RCMP Detachment, Sheriffs and M.D. of Foothills Peace Officers; and
- share these conversations with residents via my website, writing news articles or other means, and pursue awareness opportunities to share the concerns for safety in connection with the many uses on Hwy 762.

For the **full report**, visit: <http://suzanneoel.com>

Thanks to all who participated!

With Best Regards,  
Suzanne Oel  
Div. 4 Councillor  
M.D. of Foothills