

September 23, 2025

The Honourable Devin Dreeshen
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors
320 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton AB T5K 2B6
transportation.minister@gov.ab.ca

Re: Ongoing Communication and Community Engagement – Highway 16 & Highway 16A Intersection Safety Improvements

Dear Minister Dreeshen,

Thank you for your continued attention to traffic safety at the intersections of Highway 16 and Range Road 20, as well as Highway 16A and Range Road 20. Parkland County appreciates the Ministry's commitment to improving safety through the design and construction of new services roads and other improvements, as outlined in your June 18th, correspondence.

Given the significant ongoing concerns raised by our community, along with the tragic incidents that have occurred, we respectfully urge the province to take additional steps to keep residents informed throughout the planning and implementation process. Transparent communication is essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring that residents feel heard, supported, and actively engaged.

To this end, we propose that the Ministry host an open house or public information session in the affected area to provide an opportunity for residents to receive current updates, ask questions, and share their perspectives on the proposed safety improvements. We believe such engagement will foster a collaborative approach and help address any ongoing concerns.

Parkland County remains committed to the safety and well-being of its residents and will continue working collaboratively with the Ministry to ensure all voices are heard. We look forward to your response and to working together to build a safer transportation network for all Albertans.

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Sincerely,



Allan Gamble
Mayor, Parkland County

Cc: MP Dane Lloyd, Sturgeon River – Parkland
Shane Getson, MLA, Lac St. Anne – Parkland County
Parkland County Council
Laura Swain, CAO, Parkland County
Deputy Minister, Transportation and Economic Corridors
Chief of Staff, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

Attachments:

1. 2025 06 05 Highway 16 – Highway 16a – Intersection Safety Improvements
2. 2025 06 18 Minister letter to Parkland



June 5, 2025

The Honourable Devin Dreeshen
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors
320 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton AB T5K 2B6
transportation.minister@gov.ab.ca

Re: Traffic safety at the intersection of Highway 16 and Range Road 20 (Hwy 16 & RR 20)

Dear Minister Dreeshen,

I am writing on behalf of Parkland County Council to share our concerns and request your support to address traffic safety at the intersection of Highway 16 and Range Road 20 (Hwy 16 & RR 20). As you may be aware, two fatal collisions have occurred at or in proximity to this intersection in the last two years.

The most recent fatal collision occurred on April 25, 2025, where 45-year-old Pastor Andy Esponilla lost his life, leaving behind his wife and children. As each road traffic collision is one too many, we are requesting that the province study and address safety concerns at the intersection of Hwy 16, as part of the planned intersection improvements for Hwy 16A and RR 20.

As you will recall, the Hwy 16A and RR 20 intersection has been long identified as dangerous, due to numerous fatal accidents in recent years. It is located approximately 400 metres from the Hwy 16 and RR 20 intersection of concern. In 2023, your government committed to investing \$22M to address traffic safety at 16A and RR 20. Since then, there have been interim improvements made to the 16A intersection, such as a reduced speed limit, rumble strips, advanced warning signs, and flashing stop signs for drivers approaching Hwy 16A from RR 20. The County sincerely appreciates these efforts, and we look forward to seeing further improvements at Hwy 16A and RR 20.

However, with collisions at the nearby Hwy 16 and RR 20 intersection, we feel that it is imperative to raise awareness and reiterate the importance of traffic safety in this area as well. As shown in the attached aerial photo, the intersections in question are within close proximity of each other. The fact that multiple fatal accidents are occurring within such a small area is of great concern for the County. We feel that it would be best to assess concerns at both locations at the same time. We respectfully request that the province implement a solution to improve the safety of both intersections for travellers in the Tri-Region area. We believe this is an important step towards building a safer transportation system and a more efficient network in Alberta.

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Should you wish to discuss our concerns further, please contact Laura Swain, CAO, Parkland County at 780-968-8888 or laura.swain@parklandcounty.com

Sincerely,

Allan Gamble
Mayor Parkland County

Cc: Parkland County Council
Laura Swain, CAO, Parkland County
Deputy Minister, Transportation and Economic Corridors
Chief of Staff, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors
Dane Lloyd, MP, Sturgeon River - Parkland
Shane Getson, MLA, Lac St. Anne – Parkland County

Attachments:

1. Aerial Photo – Portion of RR 20 between Highway 16 / Highway 16A

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ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION and ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

June 11, 2025

AR 102793

His Worship Allan Gamble
Mayor, Parkland County
53109A Highway 779
Parkland County AB T7Z 1R1
allan.gamble@parklandcounty.com

Dear Mayor Gamble:

Thank you for your letter regarding the speed limit on Highway 759 approaching the Hamlet of Tomahawk. As Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors, I am able to provide the following information.

To satisfy your request to implement a transitional speed zone of 80 kilometres per hour (km/h) prior to the existing 50 km/h zone through the Hamlet, a speed limit amendment is required. Amendments to speed limits require a Ministerial Order, which involves several steps to process. I copied my colleague, the Honourable Andrew Boitchenko, MLA for Drayton Valley-Devon to provide any feedback or concerns related to the requested proposed change.

If you have any further questions regarding the speed limit amendment or process, please contact [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] can be reached toll-free by first dialling [REDACTED], or at [REDACTED].

Thank you for taking the time write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Devin Dreeshen'.

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Andrew Boitchenko, ECA, MLA for Drayton Valley-Devon
Michael Botros, Regional Director, Transportation and Economic Corridors