June 8, 2026

Cliff McNeil-Smith, Chair
Capital Regional District
625 Fisgard Street
PO Box 1000
Victoria BC V8W 2S6

Reference: 341027
Your File: 0400-20

Dear Chair McNeil-Smith:

Re: Active Transportation Funding and Speed Limit

Thank you for your letters of April 1, 2026, regarding the B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program, as well as the speed limit in Ganges village on Salt Spring Island. I am pleased to have the opportunity to respond.

Ganges Village Speed Limit

I have shared the Capital Regional District's support for a reduced 30 km/h regulatory speed limit along specific roads in Ganges village on Salt Spring Island with local ministry engineering staff so they can initiate a speed zone review of these routes.

This process involves reviewing what changes have occurred since the existing speed limit was established, as well as studying traffic conditions for each season to determine if a speed limit change may be warranted. Any proposed change to a regulatory speed limit requires approval by the ministry's Chief Engineer.

As this process is comprehensive and can take more than a year complete, I encourage you to reach out to local ministry staff if you would like an update. Operations Manager Shawn Haley can be reached at 778 405-6290 or Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca and would be pleased to assist you.

In 2023, ministry staff conducted speed surveys and field observations along Fulford-Ganges Road through the village. They determined that the highest density of roadside activity, particularly during the busy summer season, was on the section from Drake Road/Seaview Drive to just past Rainbow Road. The 30 km/h speed zone was targeted along this section of roadway because drivers are more likely to comply with a speed limit that matches the surrounding environment over a short, well-defined section.

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B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program

As you may have heard, the provincial government released the independent review of all CleanBC programs on November 26, 2025. We are now reviewing the results and how they will impact the decision to pause the Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program. Updates will be posted on our website.

The ministry has committed to continue to support several active transportation education and encouragement programs, including the Everyone Rides Grades 4-5 cycling education program, GoByBike Weeks, the Walking and Biking School Bus, the School Streets program, the Bike Valet Grant Program and Project 529's bike registration service. We also continue to support the Vision Zero Grant Program, which funds road safety projects to enhance safety for vulnerable road users.

Our Active Transportation Capital Program continues to fund and build active transportation infrastructure on ministry rights-of-way that connect communities and complement municipal active transportation networks. We also continue to update our Active Transportation Design Guide and make it freely available to local governments to help them create safe and accessible active transportation infrastructure on their roads.

We recognize the importance of timely investments to support community safety and transportation planning. You can be sure we will carefully consider the recommendations of the CleanBC review as we continue to work to provide people with more options to travel to their destinations using active transportation.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Mike Farnworth
Minister

Copy to: Shawn Haley, Operations Manager
Vancouver Island District