November 30, 2018

From: Queensborough Residents Association (QRA)

Mary Lalji motion of November 13, 2018

To: Board of Education of School District No. 40
City of New Westminster, Mayor and City Council

RE: Student Street Traffic and Crossing Safety at;

QEES Queen Elizabeth Elementary School (K to 4)
921 Salter Street, New Westminster, BC, V3M 6G8

QMS Queensborough Middle School
833 Salter Street, New Westminster, BC, V3M 6G8

This letter is written to convey the QRA's support for changes to safety measures and street infrastructure around Queen Elizabeth Elementary and the surrounding school/community complex. Both QEES and QMS are located on Salter Street, one of the three main residential thoroughfares running east/west in Queensborough. In addition, Howes Street to the south is a significant corridor to the 91 (A including non-residents avoiding traffic disruptions). There have been several complaints within the community regarding both volume and speeding on both routes. Furthermore, parking and safety infrastructure is also

bring their children across the street. There is no sidewalk on the south side, thus no cross walk nor crossing guards.

3. In some areas, general signage along Salter Street and Sprice Street is either lacking or knocked down. There is no parking permitted on the north side of Salter between the school and Howes, a safer alternative for Drop Off. There is no signage along Sprice, a narrow road with deep ditches on both sides.

4. There are no road markings such as a large white letter X or School painted on the road adjacent to QEES.
5. The corner of Howes and Salter (4-way stop) is missing crosswalk markings.
6. The south side alignment of Salter Street from Howes to Campbell is poorly planned and the road width varies along its route.
7. There are five speed bumps on Salter between Howes and Campbell street. They appear to be inadequate in slowing vehicle traffic and in certain areas appear to far apart.
8. Parents occasionally use the service road to the Queensborough Community Centre to pick up children, an extremely unsafe practice due to the volume of people on the road before/after school. Although Principal Manville has worked hard to ensure parents do not drive on this str

Figure 1 – Traffic lined up down Salter to Howes (note white truck parked beside barrier)

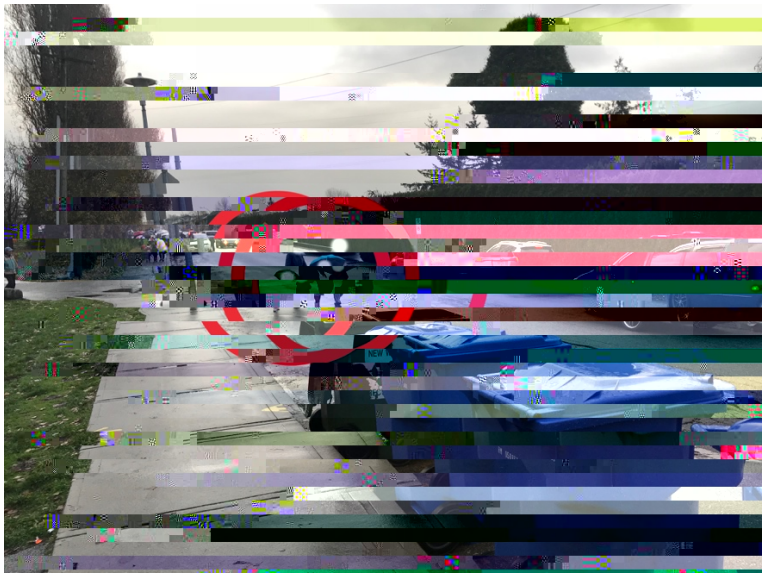

Figure 2 – Family crossing Salter Street (NO CROSSWALK)

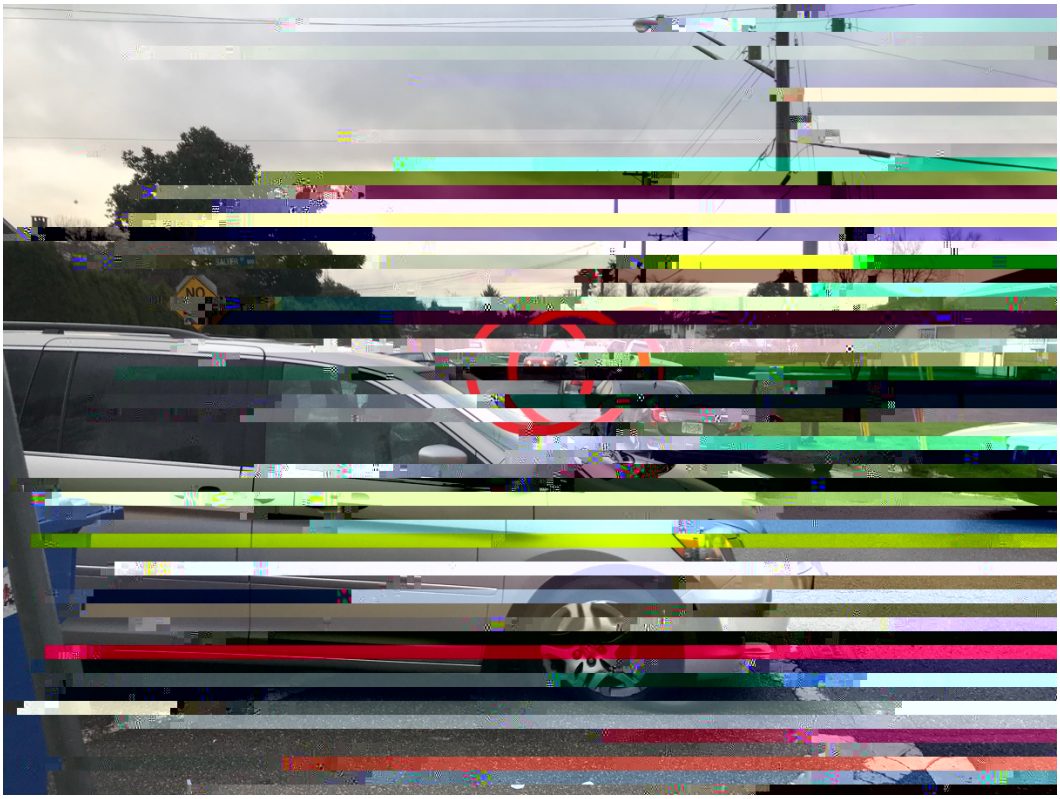

Figure 3A – Parking congestion on Sprice Street (note child in street). There are significant ditches on both sides of Sprice, with parents parking on both sides due to lack of parking restrictions along the street.

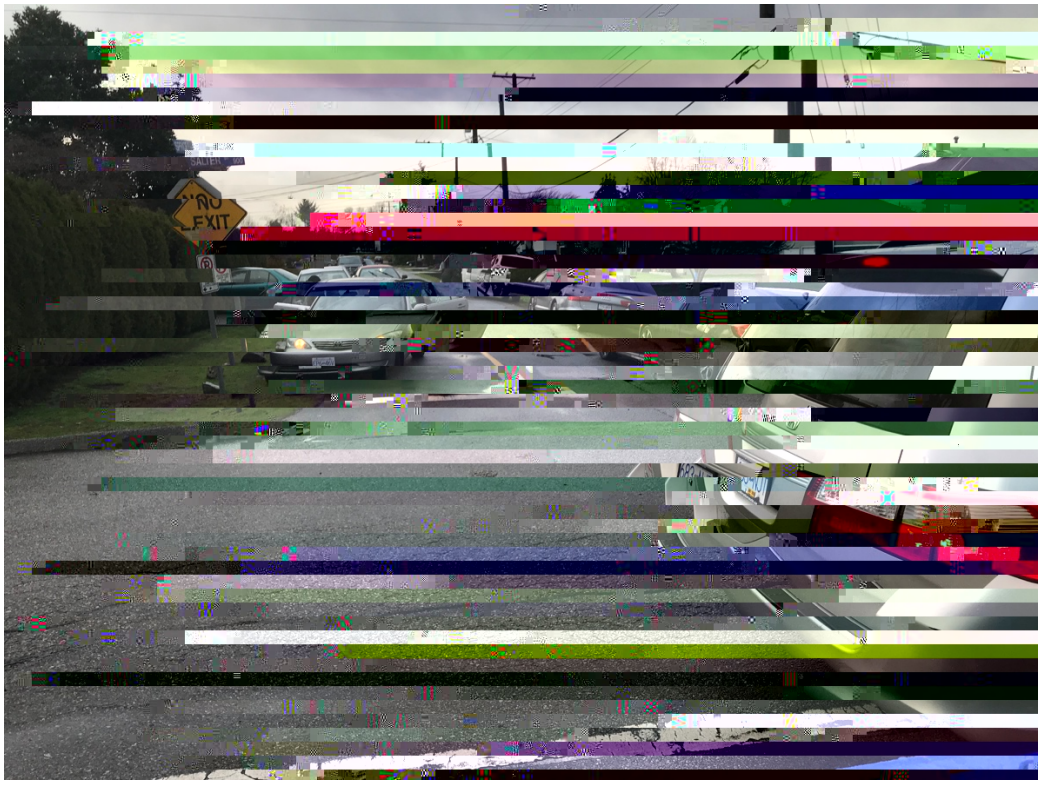

Figure 3B – A second image of Sprice Street. Note parking right at stop line (not uncommon).

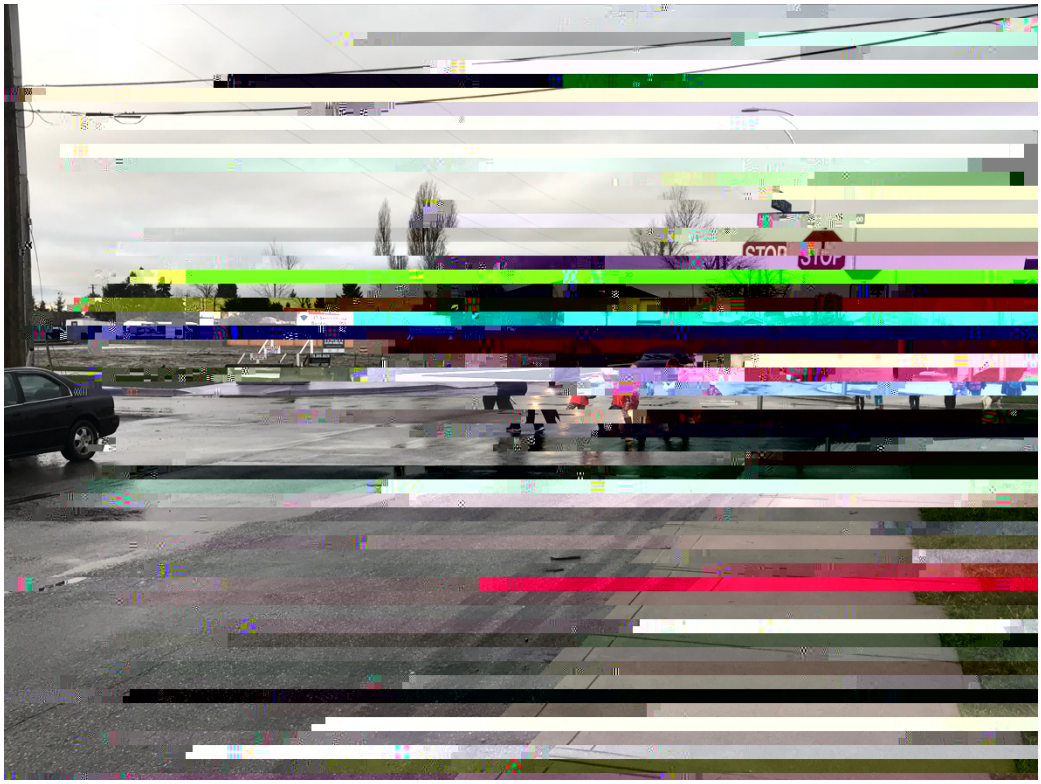

Figure 4 – Howes and Salter Streets: families use all four sides of the crosswalk yet only one is painted.

One further complication with the parking situation at QEES is the School Board policy that students from K to Grade Two need to be physically handed off to their teachers for the morning bell and again received following the afternoon bell. While this is an understandable policy for child safety, a significant population are not in walking distance from the school, meaning that many parents are leaving their vehicles in Parking zones or unsafe spaces to collect their children. Salter, Howes, Sprice and surrounding streets end up filled with cars, often double parked along deep ditches while parents wait to receive/