

**Dear Mayor and Council,**

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of [Strong Towns Langley](#), a community group made up of ordinary citizens who volunteer their time, energy and ideas to promote the insights of [Strong Towns](#) with local advocacy projects in Langley, BC.

Last year we conducted a public engagement survey on the intersections with right-turn slip lanes along and near 88 Avenue in Walnut Grove. We had concerns about the safety of these slip lanes and wanted to learn how local residents in Walnut Grove felt about them.

On October 24th 2023 we put up posters on the corners of each intersection along 88 Avenue from Glover Road to 200 Street that had slip lanes. The survey closed December 1st 2023. Each poster had a unique code so only local residents who scanned the code could respond to the survey for that specific intersection.

The intersections surveyed were:

88 AVE & 200 ST	88 AVE & 208 ST	88 AVE & WALNUT GROVE DR	88 AVE & 212 ST
88 AVE & 216 ST	WALNUT GROVE DR & 212 ST	87 AVE & 208 ST	88 AVE & GLOVER RD

You can view our survey results here: <http://strongtownslangley.org/docs/88survey-results.html>

Encouraging active transportation modes like walking and cycling is fundamental to Strong Towns principles, as it helps create healthier, more vibrant neighborhoods, reduces dependence on cars, and improves overall community resilience and sustainability. In short, this aligns with our belief that [we should be building cities for people, not cars](#).

As the conclusion to this project, we produced a 12 minute video, available on Youtube:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6Ahf3dtDXA>

The video outlines how the majority of local residents surveyed (63%) do not feel the slip lanes are safe, and this is supported by [a growing trend of other cities removing slip lanes](#) and [scientific research](#) that supports this movement.

Our proposal is that the Township of Langley start an initiative to eliminate existing slip lanes in Walnut Grove and other areas with high pedestrian traffic, and avoid their use in future projects across the Township.

**The intersections we surveyed and recommend prioritizing removing the slip lanes at are:**

- 208 St and 88 Ave - Received the most feedback and concerning comments in the survey, and is a primary hub pedestrians have to cross to get around Walnut Grove.
- Walnut Grove Drive and 88 Ave - Received the second most feedback, proximity to Walnut Grove Town Centre and Walnut Grove Secondary School.
- Walnut Grove Drive and 212 St - Due to proximity to James Kennedy Elementary School.

**However there are many other slip lanes we did not survey that also should be considered, such as:**

- 203 St & 68 Ave - Due to proximity to R.C. Garnett and Montessori Daycare.
- Willowbrook Dr & 196 St - Due to proximity to Willowbrook mall and other retail.

We would like to see efforts being taken to identify and remove all slip lanes township-wide where pedestrian traffic is expected.

At Strong Towns, we advocate for [making “Small Bets”](#) in a community to bring about incremental change, and we feel eliminating the slip lanes in these high pedestrian areas is a perfect place to start a relatively small, yet scalable project that would help bring about a lot of good will in the community.

Thank you,

James Hansen

[Strong Towns Langley](#)