

1st Submission on Road Safety to Fish Hoek Sub-Council.  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Re: Request for a sidewalk between Ocean View and  
Kommetjie.

Good morning Madam Chair and members of the sub council.

I greet you.

Firstly, thank you to the Western Cape for implementing a very proactive road safety strategy and for being the safest province in South Africa. It is a privilege working with you. Thank you for allowing me to represent the Kommetjie Residents and Rate Payers Association and an Internationally acclaimed and highly trained road safety NGO, SADD, to submit our formal request for a separated sidewalk and cycle lane between Ocean View and Kommetjie. This has been requested for the 10 past years, and Cllr. Simon Liell-Cock advised us that this has been requested by him for the past 10 years.

People with disabilities like wheelchair users, mothers pushing strollers, cyclists commuting to and from work or recreationally, and disadvantaged people who are trying to make a living by collecting scrap metal or wood and carting them in trolleys, are forced to use the road due to the fact that there is no adequately paved sidewalk that is separated from traffic. Due to the higher cost of fuel and cost of living, we see, and will see, more and more of these VRU on the road. Many of the Masiphumelele and Ocean View community commute in this way to get to and from work.

As we know many drivers are not compliant of our road rules, speed, and drive recklessly and make unnecessary

dangerous choices. We see taxis and other vehicles using the gravel pavements to bypass slow traffic.

There have been many incidents of cyclists being hit. It is also just a matter of time before the wheelchair users, or trolley pushers are killed or injured. The death of a disadvantaged person pushes the family even further into poverty. This has a big impact on the Provinces financial resources, with increased needs for grants for children, disability etc. As we know the people who are killed are usually between the ages of 15 - 39 i.e. the most economically active population. In addition the death of a loved one also puts an enormous emotional burden on the families left behind, and impacts on their mental health. SA is a signatory to the United Nations “Decade of Action for Road Safety” and Sustainable Development Goals. Goals 6.5 & 11.6 request we bring down road deaths by 50%, promote a healthier life style, healthier cities with less carbon emissions, noise and air pollution.

The United Nations Road Safety Council, W.H.O. and other international road safety organizations, in their Safe Systems approach ask for a big move away from concentrating on the rights of motorists towards the rights of non- motorized traffic.

40% of our road deaths are pedestrians, who deserve safe infrastructures like this call for a separated sidewalk and cycle path. We need to be proactive, rather than reactive to save lives/injuries.

We are calling for a move to non-motorized transport users, who are the majority of our population, having rights, taking back our streets, and ask for #StreetsForLife #SafeRoadsForAll, as is our Constitutional right.