



Study urges a slow-down on Deerfoot Trail.

First look at Deerfoot Trail safety audit

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A city committee has gotten its first look at a safety audit of Deerfoot Trail.

"It was a road that was built many years ago and to a certain extent it's failing," says Diane Colley-Urquhart the alderman for Ward 13.

Deerfoot Trail has the reputation of being the most dangerous stretch of the road in Calgary. "Last week there was an accident in front of my car, but people don't pay attention," says driver Akbar Hasani.

Every day 22,000 vehicles travel on the Deerfoot and most crashes happen during the morning and evening rush hour.

The safety audit shows rear-end and side-swipe collisions account for 81 percent of all accidents. Most collisions occur near interchanges on a stretch from McKnight Boulevard to Glenmore Trail.

The report says the number one danger is speeding which has some on the committee wondering if the speed limit should be reduced to 80 km/h from 100 km/h.

Other safety issues highlighted include not enough police presence and no area to pull-over if you run into car problems.

The next phase of the safety audit will look at how to fix the big problems along Deerfoot Trail. Those recommendations are expected to be presented in September.

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Some say reducing the speed limit along the Deerfoot will improve safety