

## **Discovery Ridge Estates Hamlet SURVEY 2008**

The following survey has been compiled by your Hamlet board to solicit your feedback in order to support guidance for the board's future initiatives. We appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey and would ask that you complete it by June 7<sup>th</sup>, which is the next Hamlet meeting at Bergheim Community Centre (2:00pm). The meeting is open to the residents of the Hamlet.

Please note that not all comments or suggestions may not necessarily be addressed. The board will be focusing on key initiatives based on the overall feedback from the survey. Thank-you in advance for your understanding. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of your board members:

Ken Aspen – 374 2033  
Sarah Hill – 374 4010  
Maury Wawryk – 477 4426

### **SUMMARY RESULTS**

# of respondents to date (June 5 – 2008) = 8

1. The RM of Corman Park has always had a bylaw to prevent high density development by ensuring that there always had to be one mile of separation distance between high density multi parcel developments. The RM is currently in the process to amend the bylaw, eliminating the existing one mile separation distance between high density multi parcel developments. This could mean more development in the local area. The board is considering sending the RM a letter opposing this change, especially with the high density parcels slated to be as small as 1 – 2 acres. The defeats the purpose of why most people elected to live out in the country.

Please circle your response - if you would be in favor of opposing this change    **YES**    **NO**

**7 - FOR 1 - ABSTAIN**

Send a letter to the RM based on survey results, and cc John Germs. Look into an independent Rep on council for the Hamlet - Sarah

2. On a scale of 1 – 10 (10 being the highest), how would you rate the quality or condition of Bettker Road from Highway 5 to your road    **AVERAGE – 3.4**

Comments on Bettker Road:

- Horrible
- This section of road has extremely high traffic volumes due to the development along the first 1 – 1.5 km of this road. The road is continually covered in 'washboard' so residents are continually driving along the edge of the road to

attempt to avoid the worst of the shaking. This has resulted in unsafe conditions. Local residents have also been utilizing personal yard equipment to correct the road conditions. An accident in this area will happen. We understand that the developer of Discovery Ridge gave money to the RM of Aberdeen to cover half of the cost of paving the road to help defer the costs of maintenance that the RM would experience. While this money may have helped the developer receive approval for his next subdivision, it appears to have done very little to help the residents and the unsafe road conditions.

- Bettker road is unsafe and require immediate repairs. The road is adding extra wear and tear on residents vehicles
- I haven't had any problems with the condition of Bettker Road—although we travel a very short distance along it since we're on Discovery Bend. It sometimes does get quite washboardy. However, I was rear-ended at the junction of Bettker Road and Highway 5 as I was turning in. I don't know if maybe there could be a sign prior to the turning lane to remind drivers that there's a major turn and passing lane ahead. The driver wasn't paying attention, though, so whether or not a sign would help is debatable.
- It needs to get graded more often
- The road needs to be upgraded to hard surface by both the RM of Aberdeen and also equal the RM of Corman Park to the end approach to Strawberry Hill. There are equal residents on either side using this road. Also this road should have a road band limiting the weight. 10 tons is too much and it has encouraged shot cuts for big rigs.

UPDATE: Strawberry Hills approached the RM of Aberdeen, and the RM has no intention to do anything with this ROAD

Discussion on Chip Sealing, calcium chloride. 30K that Metanchuk gave to the RM, the RM of Aberdeen says that they have used it up. Send a letter to RM of Corman Park, cc RM of Aberdeen. Any provincial contact – maybe there is an opportunity to have them fork in some money.

3. When Discovery Ridge Estates was originally developed, the Developer had promised to place a very large sign near the highway edge. To date (7 years later), there are just two concrete pilings, with nothing installed. The board is considering contacting the developer to get this new sign in place, with approval on the design coming from the board. The associated costs will have to be borne by the original Developer.

Please circle your response – if you would be in favor of completing this sign **YES** **NO**

5 For

1 Against

1 Abstain

Comment: I can't say I have a strong opinion either way. I don't think the sign is necessary, and I always use the Sasktel tower as my landmark when giving directions. It might be argued that for security reasons, it might be better to not broadcast that there are big homes down the road.

4. There have been some complaints about excessive speed on the Discovery Ridge roads where children are playing. Please provide any comments you may have if you have experienced this along with any recommendations you may have:

Comments:

- None
- We have not experienced this but understand there have been issues related to speed (we are at the end of a road).
- Discovery road. I am not sure in speed limited signs will help
- I haven't noticed excessive speeds
- There are a number of residents that like to walk, ride bikes, ride horses etc. and generally most of the drivers are very considerate and slow down when passing. However, there are a few that don't seem to understand that the dust and flying stones could be dangerous. Maybe a few signs or an article in the local flyer published by Corman Park might help remind people.
- I have not seen any problems with this
- This is a must. On Discovery Rd there are times that the speed limit would be classed as dangerous driving. Due to the change in demographics it is essential that we reduce the speed to 30km/h per all school grounds and where children play.

UPDATE – if there are concerns, Ken is open to a phone call. We will hold off on signage and see how things go.

5. It has been raised for safety purposes, to approach Sask. Highways to install lighting at the intersection of Highway No. 5 and Bettker Road.

On a scale of 1 – 10 (10 being the highest) how would you rank this need

Average: 3.7

- would rather see a turning lane
- We have never had concerns with this and do not believe lighting would provide an improved level of safety (and due to traffic volumes would be considered a low priority by the Ministry of Highways).
- (I'd rather see a sign warning drivers of the turning lane—see above. Lights would be helpful when it's foggy.)

UPDATE: Solid line, needs to be farther back, or better yet, should not even be there.

Contact department of highways – This area is a high traffic area, we have 3 developments, we need to look at the need for a passing lane – Board will send out a letter. Get their feedback on what is considered a high level of traffic.

6. There has been a memo circulating concerning the water prices with Lost River Water  
Do you believe that Discovery Ridge is getting a reasonable rate program for our water?

Please circle YES or NO

**2 - Not sure**

**2 - YES**

**3 - NO**

Comments:

- The Water utility needs to be accountable to their customers. If the information provided by the resident was correct, Lost Water is not telling the truth and therefore should be audited and made to be accountable to the residents.
- I don't know but I think it deserves further investigation as it seems it involves more than just a few dollars.

UPDATE: Would like to understand how Lost River will maintain. ACTION: Bill C. and Jerry H. will contact Sask Water and Lost River. And report at the next meeting in Oct.

7. If you have other issues or ideas you would like the Hamlet Board to review, please list them below

- **Discovery Trail needs a street sign**
- **It might be a good idea to prepare a small service directory for the residents of Discovery ridge, listing services such as snow removal, bobcating, fence etc. This information may be gleaned from 'long time acreage dwellers', which will be very useful for 'first timers' like myself. This could include those residents who offer services/have businesses in the relevant areas – like Dick (the gentleman from Strawberry hills who does snow removal) That will help us to support each other's business too)**
- With respect to the portion of Discovery Road that is failing, the Hamlet should approach the developer to find out what specifications were used for the design and construction of the roadway. If the specification were appropriate for the volume of the road, the Hamlet should work with the developer to recover costs from the contractor. If the specification were substandard, the Hamlet should ensure that the developer repairs the road at his/her expense. This is a safety issue and should have a high priority (although I recognize it only affects a few of the residents of the Hamlet).
- The hamlet should meet with Sask water to discuss the minimum water usage charge.
- A letter from the hamlet to the RM of Aberdeen should be sent to register a safety complaint on Bettker road.
- Could we get a recycling program going for the hamlet?

- This probably isn't part of your jurisdiction, but we're often very concerned by drivers at the intersection of highways 41 and 5, near the Fas Gas. Often drivers who turn onto highway 5 cut in so closely they could easily cause an accident, or use the shoulder as an access road.
- We all have are reasons for getting out to country living. Pets area essential part of that, however I am finding to many cats roaming free and they must be controlled as we do for the dogs. It does not take long for cats to breed and have several liters per season and that puts us into losing our natural environment.
- I do not believe that question 6 reflects what is happening in our community. I have received back from my letter 12 replies.concerned with pricing and minimums. I have also talked with Rob about this and he is willing to meet with the board/members to find a alternatives to meet consumption vs billing minimums. This needs to be looked at and finalized. Conservation is key and some of us are not willing to pay for water we don't use.
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