



PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION  
8.13.2023

The City of Carnation continues to be concerned and alarmed about the number of accidents at Tolt Hill Road and SR 203, specifically at mile post 5.20. This four way section of SR 203 has poor visibility, uneven grading and it is heavily used by vehicles leaving and entering Carnation. The State of Washington is responsible for SR 203 while King County is responsible for Tolt Hill Road. The City of Carnation has been in communication with both Washington Department of Transportation and King County Roads to persuade them to prioritize improvements to this intersection located south of the City limits.

On Saturday August 12, 2023, mile post 5.20 was once again impacted by a vehicle coalition. At around 4:45 p.m. two vehicles collided at this intersection. It is unclear if there are fatalities or injuries. This is the second such incident in the month of August. The City of Carnation has asked the State of Washington for incident data to further document what many residents in Carnation already know: lack of road improvements will lead to loss of life.

“I am optimistic that recent conversations with Washington Department of Transportation may lead to affirmative steps towards speed calming measures in the short term. Engineer Christina Strand of WSDOT has communicated with the City Manager and is in the process of providing important data to better understand short term and long term measures that the State can take so avoid loss of life and stop loss of property at Tolt Hill Road and SR 203” said Adair Hawkins and Ryan Burrell, City County Public Safety Committee members.

Senator Brad Hawkins has convened a meeting with both King County and WDOT as well as many other stakeholders that can influence making this dangerous intersection a priority at the State and County levels. “Senator Hawkins’ leadership in this matter may just be the spark that has been lacking to influence prioritization of this intersection in the relevant departments. The City of Carnation’s role will be to be an assertive advocate for proactive measures that are long overdue and to support Senator Hawkins’ efforts.” Said Ana Cortez, City Manager.

**The City of Carnation has no oversight over the affected roads. The City of Carnation residents however, are the ones who witness or experience these incidents and for years have asked for a solution. The City Manager’s Office will release press releases every time there is an incident.**

For further information: Ana Cortez, City Manager. 425.419.3697. Text is best.

*February 21, 2024*