



April 19, 2013

Clerk of Committees  
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba  
251 - 450 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Dear Committee Members:

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), I would like to provide comments about Bill 2: The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Respect for the Safety of Emergency and Enforcement Personnel).

Bill 2 extends authority to firefighters to direct traffic in emergencies or when traffic conditions require it if no police officer is present or if directed to do so by a police officer.

The AMM believes if municipal firefighters are expected to perform this provincial responsibility, full compensation must be provided by the Province of Manitoba. As well, the AMM is concerned the amendment dealing with traffic control authority may result in police officers not attending motor vehicle accidents or other incidents. Not only will this force municipal ratepayers to fund provincial policing responsibilities, it may also tie up firefighter resources in the event of another emergency call to the fire department.

Bill 2 also establishes additional safety measures for approaching or passing emergency and enforcement personnel and vehicles, and the AMM supports these amendments.

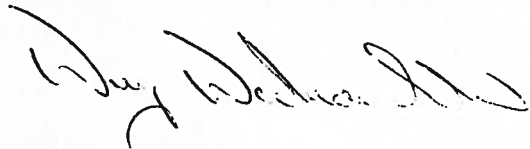
In the past, the AMM has lobbied for a maximum speed to be established in legislation for approaching or passing emergency vehicles. Although The Highway Traffic Act currently requires a motorist to reduce their speed, the additional requirements in the amendment will help to ensure motorists reduce their speed significantly when they overtake emergency and enforcement vehicles.

In order to ensure these reduced speed limits and additional precautionary requirements are adhered to, the AMM suggests the Province of Manitoba take

measures to increase public awareness of the need to slow down when paramedics, firefighters, police officers, and other personnel are at work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Dobrowolski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Doug Dobrowolski  
President