

- Letter was Received by Administration May 3, 2021.
- Resident presented this information on May 4, 2021 at
the Committee of the Whole meeting

Goodmorning Ladies and gentlemen of parkland county.

I am here today to represent the area of Moonlight Bay and Wabamun Beach. We are requesting that street lighting be put in our area to help deter the issues we have been having in our area with criminal activity. To give a little understanding of our area you need to know that this is a very close knit community. We hold community get togethers every year in normal circumstances and care a great deal about our neighbourhood. We have a social media page to keep each other apprised of concerns and what is going on in our area. Many have had there properties for multiple generations and will do what it takes to take care of it. My family has been out here since 1953 so I have spent my whole life knowing the area.

Over the past 14 years and more so in the past 6 we have had a massive influx of criminal activity and break ins that has made life very difficult. We are only a small community of approximately 65 properties of which most have been broken into repeatedly. 6 years ago we had parkland county enforcement come out and the rcmp along with our consellor Mr McNabb to do a presentation on criminal activity and what we can do to prevent it. As well to hear our concerns. Every year the criminal activity has increased exponentially. Most community members have had there properties assessed by parkland enforcement and more properties are looking more like jails with cages on windows gates being installed on properties and bording up windows when away. Yet the break ins are still occuring.

Last year I requested that parkland enforcement do a review of our area and they had two suggestions. One being cameras in the area and the second being lighting installed throughout Moonlight Bay and Wabamun Beach. They noted that our area is pitch black and to see anything in our area at night they are using highbeams and large flashlights and still very dark.

For exmple , at halloween this year I was driving home when my husband called me that he was on the roadway talking to a neighbour when they saw a gentlemen come out of the bushes and was illuminated only because a previous neighbour at the end of the roadway had a street light put in. He was not part of the community dressed in black said he was trick or treating. I then called the rcmp and as I came into our area I noticed the person with the same description my husband saw walking down Wabamun beach. I stopped and called neighbours to be aware and turn on there outdoor lights. I then drove down and saw a neighbour sitting on there deck and I pulled in. I asked if they saw the person who would have only been 20' from where they were sitting and had no idea that someone walked down the road.

No one in the area feels safe any more. Many can no longer get insurance for there properties because of the break ins and this is not acceptable for any community to feel attacked in this way. We look forward to freezing temperatures that are unsafe for people to be out and anxiety in the area is wild coming in to spring because no one is thinking of planting and what to look forward to but are apprehensive as to who is going to be broken in to next. We have become 1st on the list for being attacked and have stayed there consistently in the past 6 years. We know parkland enforcement and rcmp on a first name basis because of how often we are hit and how often they have to patrol in our area or come to deal with another break in.

If lighting in our area which RCMP and Parkland County have both told us will help then we believe it is in the best interest of our community and Parkland County to move ahead. This affects the safety and security of the community members which should be a priority for Council. The criminals are getting bolder all the time. Our children are here and they are breaking in to garages when people are in their homes. Two of our seniors who are hard of hearing had their properties broken into while home 3 times each in the past year. One property is now having to put everything into a safe when they leave and have bars on all the windows and doors.

If street lighting can make the difference as our RCMP and Parkland enforcement suggest we believe that we don't have an alternative.

One note that when Parkland enforcement Travis Hendrikson did the review of lighting which I believe you have he made mention that power poles are already in location at those same areas in which street lighting would be installed which would help in decreasing the cost of installation.

Thank you for listening to our concerns and if there are any questions I am more than happy to answer.