

Fence set to deter jaywalking

The \$190,000 fence will force jaywalkers to walk up to crosswalk

By Jarrod Yeo
The Cadre

Jaywalking on University Avenue could soon be coming to a screeching halt.

UPEI officials are hoping the construction of a rod iron fence on campus along one of Charlottetown's busiest streets will deter students from darting out in front of traffic.

Many drivers complain about students who cross the street from Brown's Court instead of using the crosswalk in an effort to save time getting to and from class.

Justin Douglas, UPEI 's Student Union president, said it's a problem that has concerned UPEI and city officials for quite some time.

"People should finally be

deterred from jaywalking since it will no longer save them time."

Funded by the UPEI capital reserves, the aesthetically appropriate fence, which spans roughly 200 metres from the Brown's Court intersection to Bernadine Hall, cost approximately \$190,000. Capital reserves generally address existing and future upgrade requirements to buildings, parking lots and other university facilities and are allocated through grants and tax dollars.

Student tuition is not included.

Douglas said he knows it sounds expensive but that you can't put a price tag on student safety.

"It's not cheap, but you've got to weigh the pros and cons. As you can see, it's not

an eyesore. We could have thrown up some orange snow fencing but we've invested in something that looks good and that goes with the other renovations that have been going on around the campus."

University officials tried a number of ways to get the message to students to use the crosswalk in the past, but many students continued to run across the road, causing a driving hazard on the four-lane roadway.

Last spring, four students dressed as The Beatles staged a recreation of the famous Abbey Road album cover for a photo campaign aimed at encouraging UPEI students to use the crosswalk at the entrance to the university.

Although the attempt was



The new fence on Univeristy Avenue is aimed at deterring jaywalking and cost \$190,000. Cadre photo

applauded by city officials and police for its creativity, students continued jaywalking.

Student opinion concerning the fence seemed mixed. While some complained the costs are excessive and that it will serve as an inconvenience when traffic volumes are low, the majority agreed

it's a matter of time before someone gets hurt while jaywalking on University Avenue.

Douglas reiterated the safety aspect.

"I understand their concerns but if it's at night and it takes an extra minute and a half, it's worth it. I'd rather see them arrive home safe."

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The Diversity Office - Word Puzzle

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| Acceptance | TheDO |
| Inclusion | Diversity |
| Resources | Empowerment |
| Peace | Equality |
| SafeZone | Flexibility |
| Xenophobia | Heterosexism |
| Background | Understanding |
| Community | Consideration |
| Sharing | Similarities |
| Volunteer | Differences |