



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

REPORT

TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

FROM: Matt Roj, Traffic Coordinator

DATE: February 15, 2022

REPORT NO.: TPW-2022-0006

SUBJECT: 2022 Traffic Engineering Work Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. TPW-2022-0006, dated February 15, 2022, regarding the 2022 Traffic Engineering Work Plan, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT that the completion of 2022 Traffic Engineering Work Plan is contingent on the collection of suitable traffic data and availability of critical resources and materials that may be impacted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND FURTHER THAT new service requests be prioritized based on safety considerations, community impact and budget implications, and added to the Plan where feasible.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The 2022 Traffic Engineering Work Plan (Work Plan) includes capital projects and operating and maintenance programs.
- The Work Plan includes carry over/ongoing projects from 2021 along with new projects included for 2022.
- Speeding and aggressive driving remain the major traffic concerns identified in the community and are addressed within the Work Plan.
- Staff are preparing for the potential implementation of Automated Speed Enforcement by creating additional Community Safety Zones.
- Various Active Transportation projects are identified within the Work Plan to expand our pedestrian and cycling network.

- Reduced traffic volumes during the COVID-19 pandemic continue to affect traffic data collection and analysis.
- Potentially significant increases (inflation, supply restrictions, etc.) in the cost of resources and materials presents a risk to the delivery of the proposed projects.
- In year requests for additions to the Work Plan may be considered if time and resources are available.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The 2022 Traffic Engineering Work Plan focuses on enhancing public safety for vulnerable road users, increasing the Town's neighbourhood livability, expanding road network connectivity, and maintaining and improving traffic and streetlight infrastructure.

The Work Plan is an annual plan that includes capital projects and operating and maintenance programs involving traffic related infrastructure, programs and services. The Work Plan includes the 2021 carry-over (and multi-year) projects (Attachment 1) that are in various stages of completion and the new 2022 initiatives (Attachment 2).

Speeding and aggressive driving continue to be the main traffic concerns identified by the public. To deal with the traffic concerns, staff continue to utilize the Traffic Calming Implementation Protocol, which since 2020 includes the seasonal flexible bollard deployments. Staff evaluated the effectiveness of the flexible bollards to slow traffic, and based on positive results, the program will be expanded this year.

The major traffic calming project this year includes the key roads in the Hamlet of Glen Williams as part of the Confederation Street Traffic Calming Project. The project was identified in the Memorandum No. TPW-2021-0004. It includes installing temporary speed humps on Confederation Street between Wildwood Road and Bishop Court. Other roads where traffic calming measures will be considered include Mountain Street, Glen Crescent Drive, Main Street, Wildwood Road from Confederation Street to Eighth Line, and Eighth Line from Wildwood Road to approximately 600 m north. Prince Street is being addressed as part of a separate capital project.

In 2021, staff introduced the 40 km/h Area Speed Limits Pilot Project on roads under the jurisdiction of the Town. The program involved five (5) neighbourhoods where the statutory speed limits of 50 km/h were reduced to the 40 km/h Area Speed Limits. This year, staff will develop a policy for the application of 40 km/h Area Speed Limits as a continuation of this project.

To further enhance road safety in Halton Hills, as indicated in Report No. TPW-2022-0001, staff will be commencing with the review and installation of new Community Safety Zones as part of the preparation process for the implementation of the Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) program.

Furthermore, building on Town's commitments toward sustainability to support climate change actions for the community, the Town is committed to expanding the active transportation network to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support the goals and recommendations as outlined within the Active Transportation Master Plan (ATMP).

The Town has identified several locations to connect pedestrian and cycling networks within municipal road allowances as approved under the ATMP. These projects will include a variety of active transportation facilities from multi-use paths to signage and pavement markings.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect traffic data collection and analysis. Ontario residents are encouraged to work remotely from their homes to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The result is lower than usual traffic volumes, which do not reflect the regular traffic conditions. Depending on the status of the pandemic, it may be necessary to delay some operational reviews to ensure consistency and validity of the traffic data.

Following the completion of the 2021 Railway Safety Assessments Report for seven (7) Metrolinx and two (2) CN grade railway crossings identified in the Report No. TPW-2021-0008, staff have completed the mandatory improvements, as required. This year, staff will engage with Metrolinx to collaborate on additional improvements for the Eastern Avenue and Mill Street East (Highway 7) railway crossings in Acton. The Work Plan includes an infill sidewalk project on Eastern Avenue, which will connect to the existing sidewalk on the west side of the railway crossing with the intersection of Queen Street (Highway 7)/Eastern Avenue.

Through Report No. TPW-2019-0014, the Trucking Strategy Study identified the need to establish a Trucking Advisory Committee to promote the safe and efficient movement of goods through the community. The Committee will be established this year and comprise of private stakeholders and public sector organizations. In addition, the Town continues to collaborate with Halton Regional Police Services to share traffic data and undertake periodic speed and truck enforcement blitzes.

Last year, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted supply chains, resource availability and delayed project deliveries. Based on staff informal discussions with the Town's contractors and key economic indicators (inflation, etc.), there is a significant risk that the cost of materials and resources may increase substantially in 2022 and beyond. Staff will carefully monitor these conditions to deliver the Work Plan in the most cost-effective and efficient manner. The potential long-term financial impacts on the existing budgets will be evaluated through the Budget Committee process.

In year requests will continue to be considered as part of the Work Plan and prioritized based on available staff and budget resources.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report aligns to the Town's Strategic plan recognizing the value to foster a healthy community that provides a clean environment and range of economic and social opportunities to ensure a superior quality of life in our community.

This report also identifies transportation as one of the Town's Strategic priorities.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report is administrative in nature and does not directly impact or address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement will be undertaken as required, based on the individual projects.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

This Report was discussed internally within the Transportation and Public Works Department.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The carry over/ongoing projects from 2021 along with the 2022 initiatives and maintenance programs are included within the approved capital and operating budgets.

Reviewed and approved by,

Maureen Van Ravens, Director of Transportation

Bill Andrews, Commissioner of Transportation and Public Works

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer