



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
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REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Roumen Kotev, Traffic Coordinator – Road Safety

DATE: August 11, 2023

REPORT NO.: TPW-2023-021

SUBJECT: Queen Street Neighbourhood Traffic Calming

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. TPW-2023-021, dated August 11, 2023, regarding the Queen Street Neighbourhood Traffic Calming, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the proposed traffic calming measures identified within the Queen Street Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Report be implemented (subject to budget approval);

AND FURTHER THAT the budget requirements for implementation of the traffic calming measures be forwarded to the Budget Committee for consideration as part of the 2024 budget process, subject to affordability of the Town's Long Range Financial Plan.

KEY POINTS:

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

- Aggressive driving within the Queen Street neighbourhood has been an on-going concern with area residents.
- A road safety review determined that traffic calming measures are warranted for the neighbourhood.
- A traffic calming plan was developed which included a combination of both intrusive and non-intrusive traffic calming measures on Queen Street, King Street, Albert Street, Durham Street, Sarah Street, McNabb Street, Murdock Street, Union Street, and Elgin Street.
- Staff engaged the area residents on the proposed traffic calming plan and received feedback and the summary is shown in Attachment 2.

- The recommended Traffic Calming Plan is illustrated in Attachment 1.
- Once approved by Council, the recommended traffic calming measures will be implemented in 2024, subject to budget approval.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

Over the last few years, an operational safety review was undertaken to assess the need for traffic calming measures within the Queen Street and King Street neighbourhood in Georgetown. The review was initiated due to the additional vehicular trips and aggressive driving generated by the GO commuter station.

As indicated in the Traffic Calming Implementation Protocol, a neighbourhood approach was taken to ensure that all roads within the area were reviewed and evaluated. These included the following:

- Queen Street
- King Street
- Albert Street
- Durham Street
- McNabb Street between Mill Street and Durham Street
- Murdock Street
- Union Street between King Street and Durham Street
- Elgin Street between King Street and Durham Street
- Sarah Street between King Street and Durham Street

In the past couple of years staff have collected both volume and speed data on all study area roads. The results indicated that Queen Street as well as King Street between Guelph Street and Queen Street have the highest volumes of traffic as well as operating speeds above the 50 km/h speed limit. The results of the data collection further confirmed that GO station traffic primarily uses those two road segments which are classified as Collector type roads.

Based on the safety review staff are recommending both non-intrusive and intrusive traffic calming measures within the neighbourhood which are illustrated in Attachment 1.

A summary of the detail traffic calming measures are as follows:

1. Implementation of 40 km/h Speed Limit Area

The reduction of the posted speed limit was reviewed and warranted as per the Council approved 40 km/h Speed Limit Area Policy. Thus, staff propose to reduce the posted speed limit within the study area through 40 km/h Speed Limit Area signs posted at all entrance/exit points to the neighbourhood.

2. Installation of Speed Humps

Reducing the posted speed limit to 40 km/h will trigger the criterion for the implementation of intrusive traffic calming measures on the Collector type roads. Thus,

staff is proposing the installation of two (2) Collector type road speed humps on Queen Street and three (3) Collector type road speed humps on King Street between Guelph Street and Queen Street. Furthermore, staff propose the installation of one (1) Local type road speed hump on King Street between McNabb Street and Queen Street to deter vehicles from using this road section as a bypass.

3. Enhanced Signage

“Traffic Calmed Neighbourhood” signs will be installed at all entrance points of the study area, to notify approaching vehicles of the conditions ahead and bring more driver awareness to increase safety in the area.

4. Pavement markings

All existing pavement marking will be refreshed to provide more positive guidance to motorists.

Based on the study results and public feedback, staff recommend the implementation of the proposed intrusive and non-intrusive traffic calming measures within the Queen Street Neighbourhood as indicated in Attachment 1. Once approved by Council, it is anticipated that this work will be implemented in the summer of 2024.

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 impacts and/or helps address climate change and the Town's resiliency through climate adaptation.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement has been conducted as follows: Hand delivered letters to all study area residents, Virtual PIC on the Let’s Talk Halton Hills Platform, as well as one month of public consultation on Let’s talk Halton Hills.

At the beginning of June 2023, the “Let’s Talk Halton Hills” platform launched to provide all interested residents with the proposed Queen Street Neighbourhood traffic calming measures. This platform provided residents with the option of reviewing all relevant materials on-line, listening to a pre-recorded public information session, obtaining answers to their questions, and providing feedback. All feedback was accepted until July 15, 2023.

The project had 191 visitors on the Let's Talk Halton Hills project page and staff received 10 questions and comments from registered constituents as well as a letter from the Silver Creek Neighbourhood Association.

Staff have advised the area residents of the proposed recommendation report and Council meeting for their information. An update to the Let's Talk Halton Hills project page will advise all interested residents on Councils' decision on the recommendations report.

A summary of comments and feedback can be found in Attachment 2.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

With respect to the implementation of the proposed traffic calming measures discussed above, a total estimated cost of \$60,000 is requested and will be forwarded to Budget Committee for consideration as part of the 2024 budget process, subject to affordability of the Town's LRFP.

Reviewed and approved by,

Maureen Van Ravens, Director of Transportation

Bill Andrews, Commissioner of Transportation & Public Works

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer