



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Roumen Kotev, Traffic Coordinator – Road Safety

DATE: September 22, 2023

REPORT NO.: TPW-2023-028

SUBJECT: 5 Side Road School Zone Traffic Calming

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. TPW-2023-028, dated September 22, 2023, regarding the 5 Side Road School Zone Traffic Calming, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the proposed traffic calming measures identified within the Pineview School Zone be implemented (subject to budget approval);

AND FURTHER THAT the budget for 6100-16-0103 School Zone Traffic Calming Program be increased by \$39,000 and that the increase be funded from the Capital Replacement reserve.

KEY POINTS:

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

- Aggressive driving within the Pineview School Zone on 5 Side Road has been an on-going concern with area residents.
- Safety measures in the form of signs and pavement markings were installed over the years with little effect on operating speeds.
- A road safety review determined that traffic calming measures are warranted within the school zone.
- In the Spring of 2023, staff implemented non-intrusive traffic calming measures in the form of “Flexible Bollards” though they showed to be unsuitable on this road.
- Halton Region Police Services (HRPS) have confirmed that intrusive traffic calming measures are the most suitable mitigation measure as enforcement in the area has proven unsuccessful due to the commuter traffic.

- Staff had planned for the installation of intrusive traffic calming measures (speed humps) as part of the 2024 Traffic Engineering Workplan.
- Two collisions in September prompted staff to propose advancing the scheduled installation of speed humps from 2024 to Fall of 2023

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

Over the years, staff have undertaken operational safety reviews to assess the need for traffic calming measures within the Pineview Public School Zone on 5 Side Road. The reviews were initiated due to the multiple complaints regarding excessive speeds and multiple collisions specifically within the sharp reverse curve in vicinity of the school.

Pineview Public School is located on 5 Side Road, which is a busy rural arterial road without sidewalks, and an east-west connector through Halton Hills that is often utilized as a bypass to Steeles Avenue and Highway 401. Furthermore, there is a built-up residential area adjacent to the school to the east that could generate pedestrian traffic to the school.

Given the lack of pedestrian facilities, multiple collisions, and high operating speeds the school zone area has been determined to extend to the limit of the built-up area approximately 900 metres east of the school.

Through the years Town staff implemented multiple non-intrusive traffic calming measures in the form of signs and pavement markings in an effort to increase safety in the area. The most recent non-intrusive traffic calming initiative took place over the spring/summer of 2023 and consisted of the implementation of strategically placed “Flexible Bollards” in efforts to help reduce operating speeds.

Unfortunately, the latter non-intrusive measures were determined to be unsuitable on a rural road due in part to the heavy agriculture related traffic. Farmers were hesitant traversing through these measures as they did not want to damage their farming equipment.

As a result, staff removed the “Flexible Bollards” and considered other alternatives that would be more suitable.

Thus, staff proposed the implementation of intrusive traffic calming measures in the form of speed humps, to be included as part of the 2024 Traffic Engineering Workplan and for these to be implemented in the spring/summer of that year. Residents were notified that the latter measures were subject to Council approving the 2024 Budget. With the intent to advance this urgent work into 2023, the funds required are being brought forward for approval as part of this report.

In addition, staff extended a request to Halton Regional Police Services’ (HRPS) support to enforce the issue. This had had little impact on operating speeds due to the function of the road and the commuter traffic it carries. HRPS has further confirmed that

an appropriate solution would be the implementation of intrusive traffic calming measures.

In September of this year concerned residents requested that Town Councillors and staff to have the proposed measures installed sooner following two recent collisions, which occurred within a week of each other. The collisions were caused by aggressive driving and high speeds within the curve situated on 5 Side Road between Trafalgar Road and Eighth Line (within the Pineview Public School Zone).

Following internal consultation staff have deemed that the residents request merited consideration and devised a proposed plan to have the work expedited to the Fall of 2023.

In conclusion, staff is proposing the installation of four (4) collector type road speed humps strategically placed in the area to increase safety within the Pineview Public School Zone. The estimated cost for these measures, inclusive of non-refundable HST, is \$39,000.

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 with local residents in the Pineview Public School Zone has been conducted over several years via email, phone conversations and in-person discussions.

Letters were hand delivered to all area residents notifying them of the proposed plan and to provide an opportunity for feedback..

Additionally, staff and Ward Councillors engaged members of the agricultural community to inform them of the proposed plan to ensure there would be no impact on their operations.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

As the existing project budget for 6100-16-0103 School Zone Traffic Calming Program has already been allocated for installation of traffic calming measures at other school zone locations for 2023, the advancement of the work noted above will require additional funding to be approved.

The estimated costs for the installation of four (4) collector type road speed humps on 5 Side Road is \$39,000 inclusive of non-refundable HST. As such, it is recommended that the budget for 6100-16-0103 is increased by \$39,000 and that the funding is derived from the Capital Replacement reserve.

Reviewed and approved by,

Matt Roj, Acting Manager of Traffic

Bill Andrews, Commissioner of Transportation & Public Works

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer