
Subject: Regional Road 81 (Main Street East) Flashing 40km/h Speed Limit, Town of Grimsby

Report to: Public Works Committee

Report date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Recommendations

1. That the designation of flashing 40 km/h school zone **BE APPROVED** on Regional Road 81 (Main Street East) in the Town of Grimsby from 150 metres east to 150 metres west of the limits of the school property; and,
2. That the necessary by-law **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Regional Council for consideration.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to establish a flashing 40 km/h speed limit during certain hours of school days on Regional Road 81 (Main Street East) in the vicinity of Park Public School.
- As part of a road safety initiative, Staff is recommending the implementation of flashing speed limits in school zones.
- School officials and Staff support the proposed implementation of a flashing 40 km/h speed limit, during certain hours of the school day.
- The ultimate goal is to transition every school on Regional Road to a 40 km/h flashing speed limit within school zones per the approved yearly budget.

Financial Considerations

The costs associated with the installation of the flashing 40 km/h speed limit in school zones are included in the Council approved capital budget.

Analysis

The School Travel Planning Committee, which consists of Public Health staff, Public Works staff, Niagara Student Transportation Services, parents from the school, and the school principal, visited Park Public School located on Regional Road 81 (Main Street East) in the Town of Grimsby. This Committee did a walkabout of the subject school, discussed safety concerns, and identified possible safety enhancements and improvements. As a result, a request was forwarded to Staff to install flashing 40 km/h speed limit at Park Public School. The current posted speed limit along the section of roadway is 50 km/h.

The Highway Traffic Act and Regional By-law 89-2000 allow municipalities to set lower speed limits during specific time periods on school days to a point 150 metres beyond the school property. The flashing 40 km/h speed limit will be effective only during certain school hours on school days. The flashing 40 km/h speed limit will raise awareness of children being present during the specific time-periods and should lower vehicle-operating speeds in the area of the school.

Staff at the Town of Grimsby have been informed of the proposed changes and are in support.

Alternatives Reviewed

A do nothing scenario was considered, however it will not reduce operating speeds and raise awareness of the presence of schoolchildren.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

This report is being brought forth by Staff, as the result of enhancing levels of safety within school across The Region. The recommendations support Regional Council's strategic priority in the safer Movement of People and Goods.

Other Pertinent Reports

N/A

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This report was prepared in consultation with Petar Vujic, Supervisor Corridor Safety, and reviewed by Carolyn Ryall, Director Transportation Services.

Appendices

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