



REPORT

Public Works and Operations

TO: Public Works and Active Transportation Committee

FROM: Lukas Gillham, Operations and Capital Projects Technologist

DATE: June 7, 2021

REPORT: PWO 35/21 **FILE NO.**

SUBJECT: Rural Road Speed Limits

BACKGROUND:

Township staff have investigated the potential to reduce speed limits on all rural roads in the Township. Lowering speed limits from the statutory unposted 80km/h will require signs to be posted at specified intervals depending on the limit Council chooses. 60km/h signs are required to be spaced no greater than 600m and 70km/h signs are required at intervals not greater than 900m. This would result in 740 60km/h signs or 540 70km/h signs. Reducing rural road speed limits will have an effect on Township operations due to increased travel times between jobs, and while performing winter maintenance duties. This effect will be greater if Council decides to lower the speed limit to 60km/h.

DISCUSSION:

Staff are proposing to implement the speed limit reductions in 4 sections across the Township. Staff will collect speed data on the road sections before and after the speed limit reduction to determine the effectiveness of the speed limit signs. One section will be implemented each year for the next 4 years as follows:

1. Section 1
 - a. Concession 7
 - b. Concession 8
 - c. Wagg Rd
 - d. Brewster
 - e. Zephyr Rd. Concession 2 – T/L and West Dead End
 - f. Webb Rd.

2. Section 2
 - a. Concession 4
 - b. Concession 5
 - c. Concession 6
3. Section 3
 - a. Concession 2
 - b. Leitch Rd
 - c. Concession 3
4. Section 4
 - a. Reid Rd.
 - b. Fowlers Rd.
 - c. Wees Rd
 - d. O'Beirn
 - e. Owen Rd.
 - f. Ball Rd.
 - g. Sandford Rd.
 - h. Foster Rd.
 - i. Ashworth Rd.
 - j. Hollingers Rd.
 - k. Weirs Rd.
 - l. O'Neil Rd.
 - m. Ganton Rd.
 - n. Meyers Rd.
 - o. Feasby Rd.
 - p. Secord Rd.

The estimated total cost to purchase the signs, posts, hardware and installation is as follows:

1. 60km/h Signs = \$109,490
 - a. Yearly cost for 4 years of \$27,372.50
2. 70km/h Signs = \$79,898
 - a. Yearly cost for 4 years of \$19,974.50

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report PWO 35/21 be received for information;

AND THAT the plan to lower rural speed limits as outlined above be posted on the Townships website for a 30 day comment period.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Lukas Gillham, C.E.T.
Operations and Capital Project Technologist