Town Of Newmarket
Meeting Of The Whole
January 14th 2019

Resident Deputation Regarding Stop Sign On William Booth Avenue
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Background

- As part of the Sundial Development of Toth Farm, William Booth Avenue has been extended to Davis Drive.
- The original development meets the new development at the intersection of Knapton Drive & William Booth.
- Knapton continues both East and West of William Booth and is a major collector road for 3 other roads: (Mynden Way, Beare Trail and Osborne Family Way)
- The developer placed a temporary stop sign at Tango Crescent (North), just South of Knapton Drive.
- Their rational was that this was done to align with the future school entrance on the East side of the site.
- The intersection of Knapton & William Booth is at the highest point in the entire subdivision. The elevation drops off in all directions from this point.

The Concern

- Due to the physical nature of the intersection, poor sightlines, and elevations, there is a significant right of way issue in all directions.
- This issue did not become apparent until the road was opened to traffic, connecting William Booth to Davis Drive.
- Pedestrian, Cycling and Automobile Traffic have significant difficulty crossing or merging onto William Booth Avenue from Knapton Drive, as there is no stop sign allowing for right of way.
Proposal

- To address resident concerns and improve safety, it is recommended that the temporary stop sign at Tango Crescent (North) be removed and a permanent 4 way stop sign be installed at Knapton Drive.
- Following the installations of the stop sign, the cross walks should be clearly marked with “Zebra Line Paintings” to make the intersection even more visible.
- Once the town assumes control of William Booth Avenue, a decision can be made on a second stop sign further south on the road to align with phase 2 & 3 and/or the sound end of the school should the school board decide to move forward with the project.
- This proposal will allow for clear and safe right of way for Pedestrians, Cyclists and Vehicles.
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Site Plan

- **PHASE 2**
- **PHASE 3**
- **Temporary Stop Sign**
- **Proposed Stop Sign**

Location of stop signs:
- **Future School**
- **Phase 1 Nearing Completion**
- **Existing Residential**
- **Existing Residential**
- **Existing Residential**

Map details:
- Search Google Maps
- See travel times, traffic and nearby places
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Rationale

- William Booth is a wide arterial road with significant traffic.
- This traffic volume is expected to rise with future development.
- Safe right of way is required for Knapton due to the elevation, sightlines, speed, and volume concerns on William Booth.
- Although a school is planned, there is no confirmed timelines or even a draft site plan from the board.
- In Newmarket, 12 of 29 schools surveyed have access aligned with other roads.
- Of those 12, only 3 are controlled by a stop sign, and in those cases was due to the fact they align with secondary and arterial roads. There is no consensus of a best practice that would require a stop sign at the school.
- Councillor Bisanz has requested this deputation be brought forward so that it may be processed as part of the Town’s Traffic Mitigation Policy.

Conclusions

- It is requested that Council direct staff to report back on this request, taking into consideration the concerns of residents, current best practices, and future plans for the road. Should this proposal be acted on, it will greatly improve safety and overall functionality of transportation in this neighbourhood.
APPENDIX
Major Visibility and safe crossing issues at Knapton and William Booth

Future School

Knapton Facing West Uphill

William Booth Up Hill

Woodspring Ave.

Minden

Current Configuration

Davis Drive

William Booth Up Hill

Tango
Very limited visibility merging from Knapton onto William Booth in all directions due to the crest of the hill.
William Booth drops down and to the right after Knapton. Limited visibility of cars coming up the hill.
William Booth rises dramatically approaching Knapton then drops down past Knapton. No visibility to cars coming up the hill or turning off of Knapton.
Recommend Stop signs to be placed here.
Recommend Stop sign to be placed here

Very hard to see traffic coming north on William Booth up the hill at Knapton. Makes left turns challenging and unsafe.
Recommend a stop sign to be placed here. Very hard to see traffic coming south on William Booth up the hill at Knapton. Makes left and right turns challenging and unsafe.
Knapton (Facing East) @ William Booth – Looking South On William Booth

Recommend Stop sign to be placed here.

Very hard to see traffic coming North on William Booth up the hill at Knapton. Makes left and right turns challenging and unsafe.
Recommend stop sign to be placed here. Very hard to see traffic coming South on William Booth up the hill at Knapton. Makes left and right turns challenging and unsafe.
Existing Stop Configuration
Proposed Stop Configuration

4 Way Stop At Knapton
Allows controlled crossing for pedestrians at the north end of the school and solves visibility issues.

Future Cross Walk With Guard Reference Ford Wilson Blvd.

4 Way Stop At Tango South
Allows for access to future school bus turn around and controlled crossing for pedestrians at the south end of the school