



Town of Newmarket
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19th Sideroad Speed Limit Reduction Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2019-96

Department(s): Engineering Services

Author(s): M. Kryzanowski, Manager Transportation Services

Meeting Date: October 15, 2019

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled 19th Sideroad Speed Limit Reduction dated October 15, 2019 be received; and,
2. That bylaw amendments noted in Appendix A be adopted; and,
3. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to amend the Traffic Bylaw (2011-24) by reducing the posted speed limit on 19th Sideroad.

Background

Nineteenth Sideroad, from Bathurst Street to the Town's limit at the border with King, is under the jurisdiction of the Town of Newmarket. Nineteenth Sideroad is the westward extension of Mulock Drive beyond the Bathurst Street intersection. It is located in a very rural area surrounded by ditches and trees. The current posted speed limit is 60 km/h. The Town has undertaken some traffic calming initiatives to mitigate speeds, but a reduction in the speed limit would be good to supplement the existing measures.

Discussion

A very tight curve at 19th Sideroad poses a challenge to drivers. In order to mitigate speeds at this sharp curve, a number of warning signs and pavement markings have

been installed in recent years. The approach to the curve is already signed with chevrons and a sharp curve ahead sign, and the **curve is posted at 20 kph maximum speed**. These have provided some relief by giving advance notice to drivers.

In May, 2019, the Town piloted a newer form of traffic calming at this curve. Through pavement markings and altered surface features, the Town installed rumble strips across the roadway and along the pavement edge. These cause both a visual and a sensory cue to alert drivers to the challenge ahead before entering the curve. Such rumble strips are only suitable for rural locations because of the noise that they create when drivers travel over them, so this was an ideal location to apply this measure.

To complement this traffic mitigation program, staff is recommending that the speed limit be lowered from 60 km/h to 50 km/h. This 10 km/h reduction should further slow some vehicles before they enter the sharp curve. The lowered speed limit would also align with the 50 km/h posted speed limit in King Township's portion of 19th Sideroad.

Conclusion

It is recommended that the Traffic Bylaw (2011-24) be amended to reduce the posted speed limit on 19th Sideroad from 60 km/h to 50 km/h and that the sharp curve remain posted at 20 km/h.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

Well-planned and connected...strategically planning for the future to improve information access and enhance travel to, from, and within Newmarket.

Consultation

There was no public consultation for this initiative. Over the years the Town has received a few complaints and has been monitoring collision occurrences. York Region was consulted in regards to the mitigation measures, since the Region has been piloting these forms of traffic calming measures on Regional roads.

Human Resource Considerations

None

Budget Impact

The operating budget will be impacted less than \$1000.00 for the replacement of two speed limit signs.

Attachments

Appendix A – Proposed Amendments to the Traffic Bylaw

Approval

Rachel Prudhomme, Director, Engineering Services

Peter Noehammer, Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Contact

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Mark Kryzanowski, Manager, Transportation Services, at 905-895-5193 extension 2508 or MKryzanowski@newmarket.ca.