



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report To: Council

From: Jill Hogan, Commissioner, Development Services

Date: March 6, 2023

Report No: DS-017-23

Subject: Traffic Calming Policy - Warrant Update

Recommendation: **THAT** the Traffic Calming Warrant Update be adopted by Council;
AND THAT Council approve a budget increase to Capital Project C40012623 - Traffic Calming, funded by the Project Variance Account, in the amount of \$110,000 to provide a one-year Contract Traffic Technician position.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Town of Milton is committed to keeping our community safe.
- In 2022, through Report DS-30-22 - Supporting Safe Roads in Milton, Council directed staff to introduce programs geared towards making our roads safer for all users.
- To-date, staff has implemented the following as part of continuous improvement road safety initiatives:
 - Pilot Projects for a 40 kilometre per hour neighbourhood and 30 kilometre per hour in school zones;
 - Nine (9) new Community Safety Zones (speeding fines doubled and required for future Automated Speed Enforcement);
 - Ten (10) new pedestrian crossovers (PXOs); and,
 - Education and outreach through the *Milton Moves Together* campaign in partnership with Halton Police and the School Boards.
- To further Milton's road safety initiatives, this Report seeks Council support to lower the speed threshold that would warrant the installation of speed humps.
- This Report also recommends that Council approve a one-year employment contract for a Traffic Technician, who would undertake traffic studies in support of potential traffic calming measures.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

REPORT

Background

In 2011, the Town adopted a Traffic Calming Policy. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines, procedures and criteria for the initiation, investigation and implementation of traffic calming measures within residential neighbourhoods to address safety concerns related to speeding and excessive volume in a fair and efficient manner. The policy is applied to local and collector roadways and will not be considered on arterial roads.

Traffic calming is defined as the combination of mainly physical measures that reduce the negative effects of motor vehicle use, alter driver behaviour and improve conditions for all road users. Traffic calming measures combined with engineering, education and enforcement tools can significantly improve the liveability and safety of neighbourhoods.

Included within the Town of Milton's Traffic Calming Policy, a process is outlined to review traffic calming for a particular roadway. Since 2011, the Town has received a number of requests for implementing physical traffic calming (e.g.: Speed Humps) on both local and collector roads. The Town has installed passive traffic calming on a number of streets. Passive traffic calming consists of urban shoulders (Childs Drive, Woodward Avenue east of Ontario Street North) and parking lanes (Pine Street, Duncan Lane).

Discussion

A jurisdictional review of several municipalities' warrants within their Traffic Calming Policy was completed earlier in 2022 and included the following municipalities: Towns of Halton Hills and Oakville and the Cities of Brampton, Burlington, Cambridge, Hamilton, Kingston, Mississauga and Niagara Falls.

The following warrant criteria is used for all municipalities including Milton:

- traffic volumes
- 85th percentile speeds
- Short-cutting traffic
- Collisions
- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian generators

The following is the criteria in the existing traffic calming policy from 2011:



Discussion

85 th Percentile speed	Volume	Short-cutting Traffic	Collisions	Sidewalks	Pedestrian Generators	Warrant
5 points for every 2 km/h that is > 15 km/h over the posted speed	Local Road: 5 points for every 1,500 ADT Collector Road: 5 points for every 2,000 ADT	5 points if 25% or more short-cutting traffic, additional 5 points for every 10% increment above 25%	1 point for every 2 collisions/year over a 3 year period	5 points for no sidewalks with evidence of pedestrian activities	5 points for each nearby pedestrian generators within the study area, such as a school, playground, library, retail centres, etc.	Local Road: >=35 Collector Road: >=52

The following is the proposed criteria for the updated traffic calming policy shown in bold. The remainder of the criteria remains the same.

85 th Percentile speed	Volume	Short-cutting Traffic	Collisions	Sidewalks	Pedestrian Generators	Warrant
5 points for every 2 km/h that is > 10 km/h over the posted speed	Local Road: 5 points for every 1,000 ADT Collector Road: 5 points for every 2,000 ADT	Local Roads Only	1 point for every 2 collisions/year over a 3 year period	10 points if no sidewalks with evidence of pedestrian activity; 5 points if sidewalks on only one side	5 points for each nearby pedestrian generators within the study area, such as a school, playground, library, retail centres, etc.	Priority Ranking

In summary the proposed changes are as follows:

Discussion

- Reduce 85th percentile speed threshold from 15 km/h over to 10 km/h over the posted speed limit
- Reduce Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes on local roads by 500 vehicles
- Short-Cutting Traffic only used on local roads (Collectors are designed to carry traffic from locals to arterial roads)
- Points changed to 10 points if no sidewalks with evidence of pedestrian activity
- Reduce warrant from points to priority ranking system

Traffic Calming Applications will be accepted between January 1 and September 30 each year for the following year. Residents will be required to fill out a Traffic Calming Application on the Town's website (Appendix I) and the initial screening criteria will then be completed. This initial screening criteria remains unchanged. The screening criteria is as follows:

- Must be a local or collector roadway
- Must have a minimum 500 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
- The posted speed limit shall not be greater than 50 km/h
- All reasonable efforts have been made to address the concerns utilizing other means including engineering, education and enforcement tools
- Roadway must be assumed and maintained by the Town of Milton
- Zoning should be primarily residential in nature

Once a roadway has passed the initial screening process, Town staff will schedule required technical studies to be completed by the end of October each year. After all studies have been completed and analyzed, the results will be entered into the ranking system and the process will continue for streets ranked #1 and #2 on the list pending budget approval (Appendix II).

If the minimum resident support has been met, staff will spend the winter months preparing preferred design, hosting public meetings, preparing/sending out community support survey, preparing reports to Council and working on implementation for Spring.

Each year, the top two locations on the priority list will have temporary traffic calming devices installed during the Spring and removed prior to Winter. While the traffic calming devices are in place, additional studies will be completed to determine their effectiveness on improving road safety. If they are effective, traffic calming will be made permanent the next year pending budget approval.



Discussion

The Traffic Calming Policy has been updated to reflect the above recommended changes and will be made available on the Town's website once endorsed by Council. (Appendix III).

Through the 2023 budget, funding was approved through capital project C40012623 for the capital costs associated with a traffic calming program including the purchase, installation and removals of temporary traffic calming devices. The delivery of this program will result in staffing requirements. It is anticipated that additional staff will be required to administer this program on an ongoing basis. Prior to adding new staffing on a permanent basis, it is recommended that a budget amendment be made to increase the capital budget by \$110,000 in order to fund a temporary one-year contract Traffic Technician. This temporary staff position will be used to establish and administer the program and will be evaluated for consideration on a permanent basis through the 2024 operating budget

Financial Impact

The 2023 budget includes an approved capital project C40012623 - Traffic Calming, in the amount of \$85,068, which provides for the purchase, installation and removal of traffic calming devices in the first year of implementation.

The request for a one year contract staff position will result in a budget increase of \$110,000 to this project, funded from the Project Variance Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Hogan
Commissioner, Development Services

For questions, please contact: Heide Schlegl, C.E.T., MITE,
Dipl. M.M., Manager, Traffic

Phone: Ext. 2506

Attachments

Appendix I - Traffic Calming Application
Appendix II - Traffic Calming Flow Chart
Appendix III - Updated Traffic Calming Policy

Approved by CAO
Andrew M. Siltala



Chief Administrative Officer

Recognition of Traditional Lands

The Town of Milton resides on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also recognize the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people. The Town of Milton shares this land and the responsibility for the water, food and resources. We stand as allies with the First Nations as stewards of these lands.