



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report To: Council

From: Jill Hogan, Commissioner, Development Services

Date: July 17, 2023

Report No: DS-034-23

Subject: Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) and School Crossing Guard Update

Recommendation: **THAT six school crossing guard locations be removed as warrants are no longer met;**

AND THAT a total of four additional PXO Level 2 Type D PXOs be installed at school crossing locations prior to the commencement of school in 2023;

AND THAT three existing Level 2 Type D PXOs be upgraded to Level C and two additional Level 2 Type C PXOs be installed in 2024 pending budget approval with a cost of approximately \$17,000.00 per location;

AND FURTHER THAT traffic volumes be updated every two years along collector roads where PXOs exist to determine if upgrades are required.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Traffic Engineering staff has completed an extensive review of all Level 2 Type D PXOs in the Town of Milton along with a number of school crossing guard locations to determine if upgrades are required at these locations or if crossing guards are no longer warranted.

As a result of this review, it is recommended that five Level 2 Type C PXOs be installed in 2024 pending budget approval and that four Level 2 Type D PXOs be installed as a result of the removal of crossing guards from mid-block/no stop control locations in summer 2023, six crossing guards be removed for the 2023/2024 school year commencing in September 2023 and that one additional crossing guard be removed in September 2024 pending the installation of a Level 2 Type C PXO.

REPORT

Background

Further to the Council Motion brought forward for consideration at the February 6, 2023 council meeting regarding “Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) Review” and further to ENG-023-

Background

19 School Crossing Guards Policy (Appendix I), all required studies have been completed to determine any changes/upgrades to existing locations where PXOs are in place and where crossing guards are presently located. As indicated in the Council memo provided in April 2023 (Appendix II), traffic volumes were updated on all road segments that have low level PXO's installed to determine if they are warranted for upgrades, school crossing locations with PXO's were included in this to determine if they need to be upgraded, and 10 crossing guard locations were reviewed to determine if crossing guards are still warranted as per the Council approved policy.

Discussion

PXO Review

There are presently four types of PXOs that can be used in Ontario in accordance with Ontario Traffic Manual Book 15 - Pedestrian Crossing Treatments (see Appendix III).

The types are as follows:

Level 1 Type A: The "Type A" PXO is the existing PXO under Book 15 and is not currently used in Milton. This PXO consists of side mounted poles with crossing signs, as well as overhead signs with flashing beacons suspended on wire spanning the two roadside poles. This type of PXO is designed for use on high to medium volume, high speed and single or multi-lane arterials. The "Type A" PXO's have been replaced in many municipalities with Mid-Block Pedestrian Signals or Intersection Pedestrian Signals, including Milton.

Level 2 Type B: The "Type B" PXO consists of a roadside mounted sign leading to a crossing in both directions with an overhead sign and a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) on top of the roadside mounted sign.

Level 2 Type C: The "Type C" PXO consists of a roadside mounted sign at a crossing for both directions with a RRFB on top of the roadside mounted signs.

Level 2 Type D: The "Type D" PXO consists of a roadside mounted sign at the crossing in both directions.

There are presently 44 Pedestrian Crossovers (PXOs) installed in the Town and of those, five are Level 2 Type B, three are Level 2 Type C and 36 are Level 2 Type D. There are also seven additional Level 2 Type D PXO's being installed this year as part of the annual PXO Program and installation is expected to be completed in summer 2023. The locations are as follows:

- Bennett Boulevard and Hepburn Road
- Dixon Drive and Hatton Crossing



Discussion

- Knight Trail and Higgins Drive
- McLaughlin Avenue and Serafini Crescent
- Woodward Avenue and Gailbraith Boulevard/Robarts Drive
- Whitlock Avenue and Walnut Landing
- Sauve Street south of Irma Coulson Elementary School at Pathway

Staff have updated volume counts at the 36 Level 2 Type D locations to determine if they warrant being upgraded to a Level 2 Type C PXO (see Appendix IV). Based on updated traffic volumes the following locations warrant/are extremely close to warranting an upgrade:

- Commercial Street at Walkway (South of Parkway Drive)
- Laurier Avenue at Laurier Park (Hayward Crescent east intersection)
- Laurier Avenue at Sam Sherratt Trail (west of Ontario Street)
- Scott Boulevard and Finney Terrace

The request for funding for these upgrades will be included in the 2024 Capital Budget and it is expected the upgrades will take place in summer 2024.

Crossing Guard Review

Further to ENG-023-19 School Crossing Guards Policy (Appendix I), staff committed to evaluating 10 existing crossing guard locations that did not meet warrants for a crossing guard in 2019. In order to determine if a crossing guard remains warranted at a location, studies must be completed three times during a school year (Fall, Winter, Spring). Due to Covid-19 occurring and schools being shut down, these studies were not completed until the 2022-2023 School Year.

Studies were completed at mid block locations and all-way stop locations to determine if the warrants were still met. The following chart summaries the results of these studies:

Location	Type of Crossing	Meets Warrant on one or more occasions	Recommendation	Further Enhancements
Bennett Boulevard and Hutchison Avenue	No Stop Control	No	Remove Crossing Guard in Sept 2023, Students can	Install Level 2 Type D PXO in August 2023



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			cross at: Bennett Boulevard and Yates Drive (all-way stop), Bennett Boulevard at Lees Gate or Bennett Boulevard and Armstrong Boulevard with crossing guards	
Bennett Boulevard and Wickson Way	No Stop Control	Yes	Crossing Guard Remains	
Bolingbrook Drive west of Vickerman Way	Mid Block	Yes	Crossing Guard Remains	
Childs Drive and Clements Drive	Mid Block	No	Remove Crossing Guard in Sept 2024 pending budget approval for PXO upgrade	Install Level 2 Type C PXO , (based on traffic volumes this meets the warrants for this level of a PXO compared to the other locations)
Tupper Drive at Bussell Crescent	No Stop Control	Yes	Crossing Guard Remains	
Wilson Drive south of Woodward Avenue	Mid Block	No	Remove Crossing Guard in September 2023, Students can cross at Woodward	Install Level 2 Type D PXO in August 2023



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			Avenue and Wilson Drive (all-way stop) with crossing guards	
Woodward Avenue and Joyce Boulevard	Mid Block	No	Remove Crossing Guard in September 2023, Students can cross at Woodward Avenue and Wilson Drive (all-way stop) with crossing guards	Level 2 Type D PXO is existing
Clark Boulevard and Bennett Boulevard	All-Way Stop	Yes	Crossing Guard Remains	
Laurier Avenue and Coxe Boulevard	All- Way Stop	No	Remove Crossing Guard in September 2023	No Enhancements as its an existing all-way stop
Thomas Street and Heslop Road	All-Way Stop	No	Remove Crossing Guard in September 2023	No Enhancements as its an existing all-way stop
Yates Drive and Holly Avenue	All- Way Stop	No	Remove Crossing Guard in September 2023	No Enhancements as its an existing all-way stop

For the Level 2 Type D PXO installations for Bennet Boulevard and Hutchison Avenue, and Wilson South of Woodward, the PXO installations are scheduled for August of 2023, ahead of the school year start in September. Crossing Guards will not be removed until the PXOs are in place.

Discussion

Two additional locations were reviewed to determine if the School Crossing should be converted into a PXO.

The crossing at Savoline Boulevard and Merkley Gate has been reviewed and does warrant a Level 2 Type D PXO outside of school hours due to the vicinity of Optimist Park. Therefore, it is recommended that the PXO be installed and the crossing guard remain in place as the warrants are still fulfilled for the crossing guard. The PXO will be installed in 2023.

The crossing at Sauve Street and Irma Coulson Public School has been reviewed and does warrant a Level 2 Type D PXO outside of school hours. Therefore, it is recommended that the PXO be installed and the crossing guard remain in place as the warrants are still fulfilled for the crossing guard. It should be noted that this new PXO will be relocated to the south to line up with the pathway as requested by the school. The PXO will be installed in 2023.

Seven locations where there is an existing PXO and a crossing guard in place were reviewed to determine if the PXO warrants an upgrade to Level 2 Type C along with the removal of the crossing guards (See Appendix V). As a result of these studies one location being Scott Boulevard and Finney Terrace warrants an upgrade to a Level 2 Type C PXO and the removal of the crossing guard. Pending 2024 budget approval, the PXO upgrade will be installed in summer 2024. The remaining six locations will continue to operate as Level 2 Type D PXOs with crossing guards remaining in place.

Should the crossing guards not be removed from any locations listed in the chart above, the recommended PXO's will not be installed as the school crossing guards will remain in place.

Changes related to school crossing guards will be communicated to the affected schools over the summer so they can advise parents prior to school commencing. At locations where the crossing guards have been removed and PXO's installed, the school will be sent information on how to properly use the PXO which can be shared with the parents and traffic staff will be out at these locations the first week of school educating the students/parents.



Financial Impact

The installation of the four Type 2 level D PXOs (two where crossing guards will be removed in 2023, and two where crossing guards will remain) as well as seven new Type 2 Level D PXOs as part of the annual PXO program will be funded through the 2023 Pedestrian Crossover Budget C40011223 with a total anticipated cost of \$27,984.

As part of the 2024 Capital Budget process, staff will be requesting budget to install a total of 5 Level 2 Type C PXOs in 2024. The anticipated budget requirement will be \$86,496, which will be refined through the 2024 budget process.

The anticipated operating savings of removal of six crossing guards in 2023 is \$23,338.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Hogan
Commissioner, Development Services

For questions, please contact: Heide Schlegl, C.E.T, MITE, Phone: 905-878-7252
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Attachments

Appendix I – ENG-023-19 School Crossing Guards Policy Report

Appendix II – PXO Memo to Council

Appendix III – Types of PXO's in Ontario

Appendix IV – PXO Review Results

Appendix V - PXO School Review Results

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.