Agenda

1 Project team Introductions

2 Traffic Calming

3 Project Overview

4 Discussion

5 Next Steps

Project Team Introductions

City Project Team

Sari Liem, Traffic – Project Manager

Sadia Khan, Traffic – Traffic Engineering Specialist

Margie Chung, Traffic – Quality Assurance Advisor

Mae Caldarelli, Communications – Communications and Engagement Advisor

WSP Project Team

Shawn Smith, Project Manager

Justin Jones, Engagement Lead

James Schofield, Traffic Calming, Design, and Toolbox Lead

**Xiaobin Wang**, Traffic Calming, Design, and Toolbox

Erica Stone, Engagement Support

Traffic Calming

Traffic Calming and Road Safety

- Traffic calming is a way to change driving behaviour by placing physical and passive (ie paint or other visual elements) measures along streets
- Measures are meant to help reduce issues like speeding and cut through traffic, and ensure motor vehicles are driving safely and appropriately

Before

After
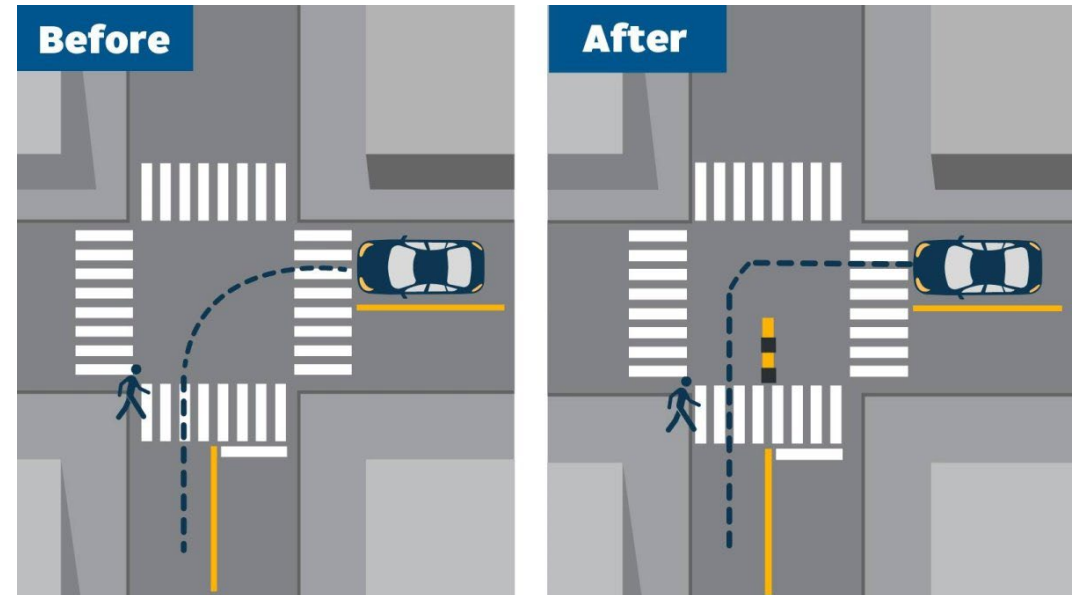
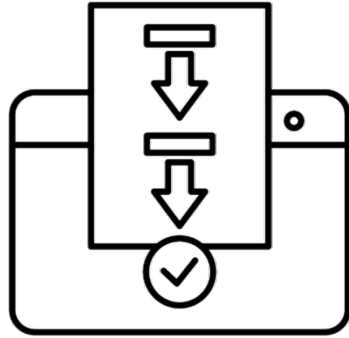# Why Traffic Calming?

- Leads to safer roadways for all users

- Helps to ensure streets are used for their intended uses, and that residents feel comfortable walking, cycling, playing, and living in their communities alongside motor vehicle traffic
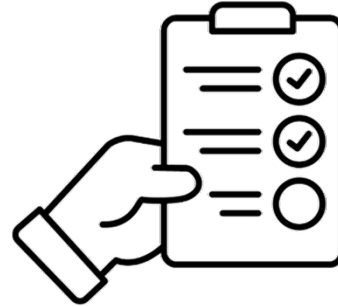
Project Overview
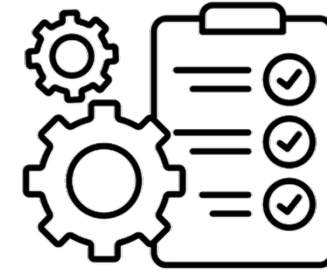
Project Objectives and Outcomes

Procedure

Update the 2010 Traffic Calming Policies and Procedures

Toolkit

Develop a Toolkit of Traffic Calming Measures to address Vaughan's challenges and interests

Consistency

Establish consistency in the design, planning, and installation of traffic calming devices through design standards and engineering specifications across the City's departments

Project Phases

Fall 2022 – Winter 2023	Winter 2023 – Spring 2023	Summer 2023 – Fall 2023	Winter 2024 – Spring 2024	Summer 2024 – Fall 2024
Phase 1: Background Review and Analysis	**Phase 2: Draft Policies, Procedures, and Toolbox**	**Phase 3: Pilot Tests of Five Neighbourhoods**	**Phase 4: Development Review and Design Guidelines**	**Phase 5: Documentation and Final Deliverables**

Phase 1: Background Review and Analysis
- Background research and Toolbox of Measures
- Asset Inventory and Evaluation of Existing City Traffic Calming Measures
- Preparation of public engagement materials

Phase 2: Draft Policies, Procedures, and Toolbox
- Draft Traffic Calming and Speed Management Policy and Procedures
- Highlight types of measures and recommendations

Phase 3: Pilot Tests of Five Neighbourhoods
- Neighbourhood selection workshop
- Technical Analysis
- Develop recommended measures

Phase 4: Development Review and Design Guidelines
- Review existing standards and guidelines
- Modify process map for Traffic Calming
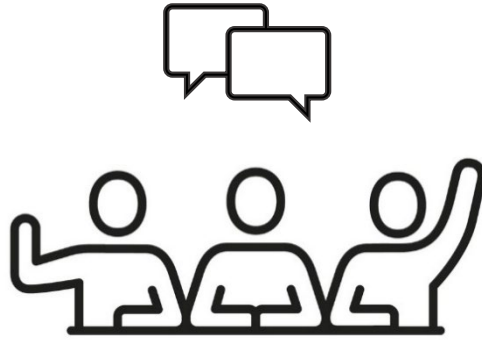- Consider proposed measures with new developments

Phase 5: Documentation and Final Deliverables
- Prepare Executive Summary
- Finalize Vaughan's Traffic Calming and Speed Management Policy and Procedures

Public and Stakeholder Engagement (throughout)

Engagement Activities

Phase 1 – Background Review and Analysis

- Stakeholder Interviews

- Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

- Public and Stakeholder Feedback Survey

- Public Education Workshops

Phase 2 – Draft Policies, Procedures, & Toolbox of Measures

- Public and Stakeholder Feedback Survey (policies and procedures)

- Technical Advisory Committee Meeting & City PM Team Presentation

Engagement Activities

Phase 3 – Pilot Test of 5 Neighbourhoods

- Develop pilot selection criteria

- Neighbourhood survey for each pilot neighbourhood

- Workshop for each pilot neighbourhood

- Small-group conversations in pilot neighbourhoods (interviews and focus groups)

- Neighbourhood-level engagement strategies for each pilot project

- Pilot neighbourhood Implementation Workshops

- Public Information Session for each pilot project

Engagement Activities

## Phase 4 - Development Review and Design Guidelines

- Meeting with City staff regarding development application review process

- Consultations with City staff to provide guidance for integrating traffic calming into development application review process

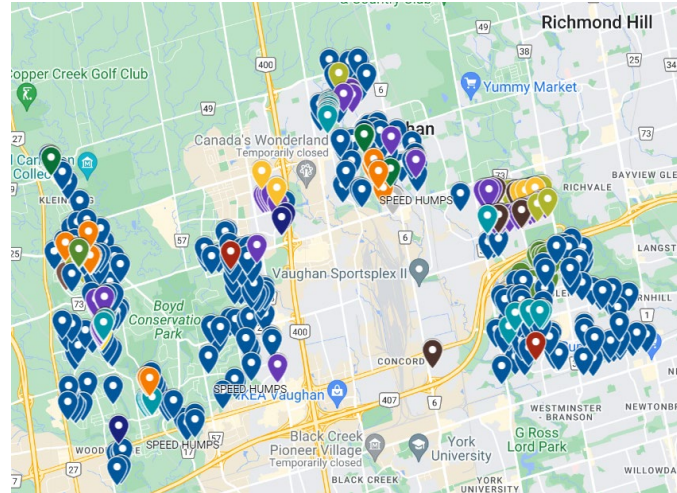## Phase 5 - Final Deliverables

- Presentation to City PM Team and Technical Advisory Committee

- Final Presentation to Council
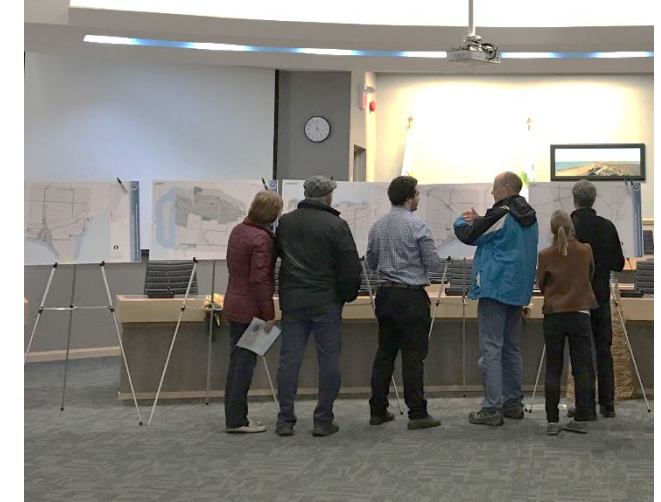
Work Completed During Phase 1
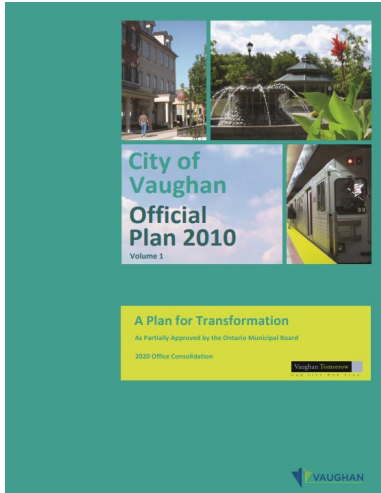
Policy Review:

Reviewed relevant traffic calming/speed management policies, standards, and procedures

Asset Review:

Assessed the physical condition/performance of the City's existing traffic calming devices, and developed evaluation based on best practices

Engagement:

Engaged with key stakeholders to gain an understanding of existing challenges and key priorities through a Technical Advisory Committee meeting and stakeholder interviews

What We've Heard so far from Key Stakeholders: Interests

Expanding types of traffic calming measures beyond pavement markings, flexible signage, speed bumps, etc.

Ensuring traffic calming measures are compatible with other vehicles and services

Consistency in applying traffic calming guidance

Collaboration opportunities

What We've Heard so far from Key Stakeholders: Challenges

Technology/automation, new micromobility devices, etc.
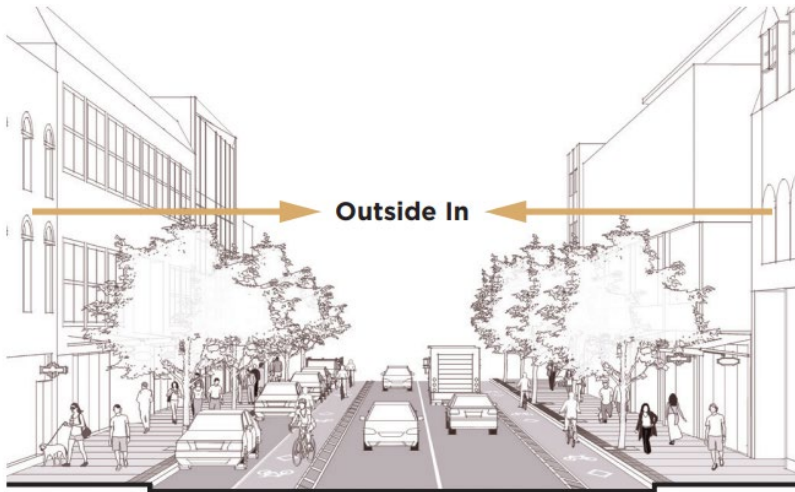

Public perception of traffic calming

Different roads have different contexts and needs

Impacts of traffic calming measures on emergency service vehicles, parking, and other services

What We've Heard so far from Key Stakeholders:
Other Relevant Work

Complete Streets Guide

York Region Traveler
Safety Plan

Parking Strategy

Traffic Calming and Speed Management

- Can help shift a community's culture to reduce speeding on neighbourhood streets and enhance community safety

- Traffic calming and speed management can fit into the City's existing policies / overall objectives

Why Traffic Calming?

Great streets are safe: The primary cause of serious collisions is, arguably, the way that streets are designed.

Great streets are for people: When streets are designed with people in mind **first,** rather than with cars in mind first, it creates safer and more productive public spaces.

Streets and Roads

A **Road:**

- Prioritizes the movement, at high speeds, of people and goods

- Has a simple design to improve safety by removing distractions or obstacles

- Has limited access (ie turning movements) to increase throughput and safety

Streets and Roads

A **Street:**

- Prioritizes access and a sense of place

- Has a complex design – lots of distractions, unexpected movements and obstacles

- Prioritizes lower speeds

- Builds community connection, wealth and health

When we try to mix mobility and access, that is where we see issues. (example – Hawker Road)

Streets that prioritize mobility allow for higher speeds, greater separation between users and limit access to the roadway.

Streets that prioritize access prioritize slower speeds, property access and curbside activity.

Trying to incorporate both mobility and access tend to lead to a high volume of collisions.

23

Mobility versus Access / Placemaking

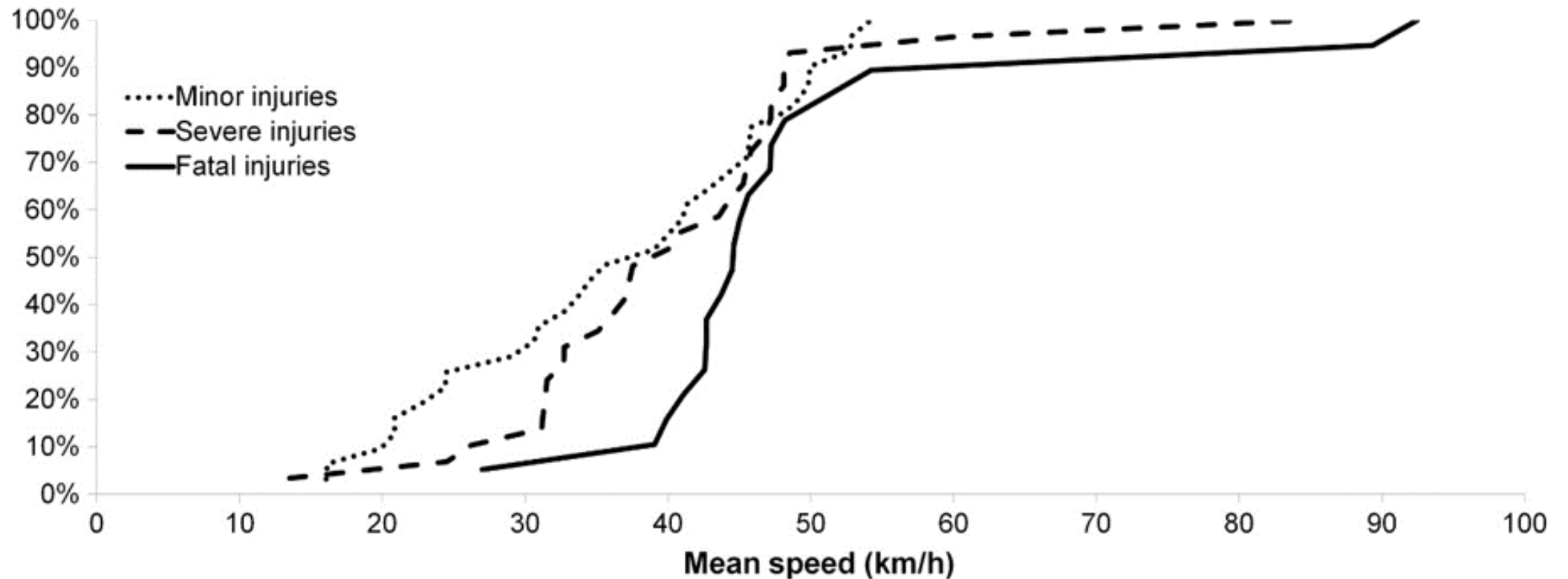**Roads are quite safe** when they focus on mobility, even with high speeds.

Streets are quite safe when they focus on access and when speeds are low.

Why Traffic Calming?

Small changes in vehicle speeds have minor impacts on travel times, but a major impact on safety. Everyone should feel safe and comfortable walking, cycling, playing, etc. in their neighbourhood

Why is this Important for Vaughan?

Drivers are speeding more, cutting through local roads, etc.

Increasing amount of traffic calming concerns from residents

People feel unsafe / uncomfortable on many streets in Vaughan due to driver behaviour

Speed plays a large role in traffic and especially pedestrian fatalities - traffic calming can help address these issues

Why is this Important for Vaughan?

Decreased community and social cohesion

Different streets design features contribute to higher speeds

Different streets serve different mobility functions

There are many traffic calming tools that can help reduce safety concerns

Motor vehicles are not using roads how they are intended to be used (e.g., using local roads to reduce travel time, etc.)

Examples of Traffic Calming Measures

Speed Cushions

Speed table /
Raised Crossing

Raised Crosswalk /
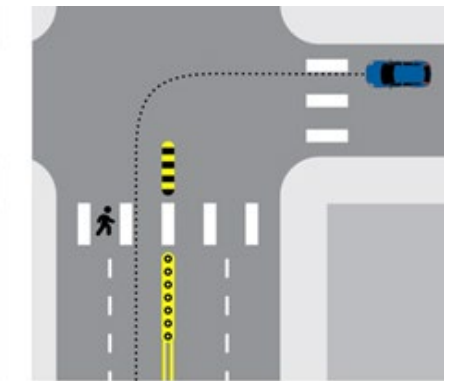Intersection

Curb Extensions

Truck Apron

Raised Median Island

Intersection Centreline Hardening

Examples of Traffic Calming Measures

Diverters / Modal Filters

Dynamic Speed Signs
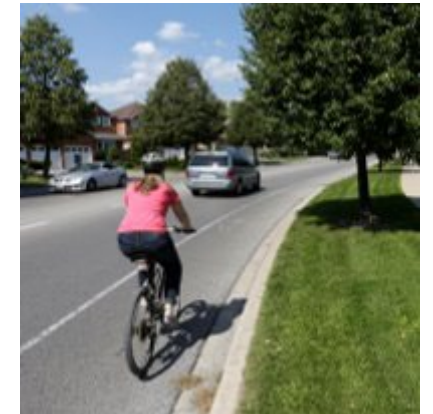

Centreline Bollards / Flex Bollards

Continuous Sidewalks

Neighbourhood Traffic Circles

Roundabout

Urban Shoulders