

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2016

Item 30, Report No. 27, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 28, 2016.

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SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION REVIEW HUNTERWOOD CHASE WARD 1

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Transportation Services, Parks and Forestry Operations, dated June 21, 2016:

Recommendation

The Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Transportation Services, Parks and Forestry Operations recommend:

1. That a By-law be enacted to amend By-law 284-94, the Consolidated Traffic By-law, to amend the speed limit on Hunterwood Chase from the east limit of Athabasca Drive (North intersection) to the west limit of Dufferin Street from 50km/h to 40km/h.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report contributes to the goals and objectives within Green Directions Vaughan, The City's Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan, specifically:

Goal 3: To ensure that Vaughan is a city that is easy to get around with a low environmental impact.

Objective 3.2: To develop and sustain a network of roads that supports efficient and accessible public and private transit.

Economic Impact

The cost associated with the installation of the 40 km/h signage has been included within the approved 2016 Operating Budget. The ongoing costs to maintain the signage will be incorporated into future year operating budgets.

Communications Plan

Staff will notify York Regional Police, and request enforcement on Hunterwood Chase once the speed reduction is in place.

Purpose

To review the feasibility of implementing a reduced 40 km/h speed limit on Hunterwood Chase.

Background – Analysis and Options

Hunterwood Chase and Athabasca Drive are primary local roads that provide access to the subdivision on the west side of Dufferin street, north of Teston Road. Currently, Athabasca Drive has a reduced 40km/h speed limit while Hunterwood Chase is posted at 50km/h.

Hunterwood Chase is a local roadway with a 20.0 metre right-of-way and an 8.5 metre pavement width. Hunterwood Chase connects Dufferin Street to the south and Athabasca Drive to the north. There is a sidewalk along the north/east side of Hunterwood Chase. The area is shown in Attachment No.1.

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Area residents raised concerns of motorists speeding on Hunterwood Chase.

Residents raised concerns of speeding on Hunterwood Chase to the local Councillor on November 26, 2015 with a request to reduce the speed limit on Hunterwood Chase from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

Speed and volume data was collected during the week of September 29, 2015 to October 1, 2015 on Hunterwood Chase. The 85th percentile speeds range from 46 km/h to 47 km/h, indicating a good compliance of the existing 50 km/h speed limit.

The average daily traffic volume is 1,380 vehicles/day. The traffic volumes recorded are typical of local roads. As a result, staff concluded that Hunterwood Chase is operating within the guidelines of a local road.

A review of the surrounding land uses and roadway characteristics was also undertaken.

Staff conducted a review of the surrounding land uses and roadway characteristics to assess the suitability of a reduced speed limit on Hunterwood Chase.

Maple Trail Park is located on Athabasca Drive, and there is a pond on Hunterwood Chase, west of Dufferin Street. Both of these uses attract pedestrian activity on Hunterwood Chase. Residential driveways front onto the roadway, and horizontal curves exist on Hunterwood Chase that may affect the traffic flow. Further, the reduced speed limit to 40km/h on Hunterwood Chase would be consistent with adjacent Athabasca Drive which currently has a speed limit of 40km/h.

A reduction of the speed limit to 40 km/h on Hunterwood Chase will provide a consistent environment to the surrounding residential land uses and have minimal impact on roadway operations.

The surrounding land uses on Athabasca Drive and Hunterwood Chase include a number of parks and green spaces. Similar roads in Vaughan have reduced speed limits in recognition of these facilities. Athabasca Drive was previously approved for the 40 km/h speed limit reduction and is a residential road similar to Hunterwood Chase that is used for access to residential properties and travel in the subdivision.

Given the adjacent traffic generators of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, staff recommends a speed limit reduction to 40 km/h on Hunterwood Chase.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018), the recommended speed limit reduction to 40 km/h on Hunterwood Chase will improve traffic operations and safety for all road users, thus promoting community safety, health and wellness.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the traffic review of surrounding land uses including parks and green spaces, and roadway characteristics including consistency with the existing 40 km/h speed limit on Athabasca Drive, it is recommended that the speed limit on Hunterwood Chase be reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

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Attachment

1. Location Map

Report prepared by:

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Margie Chung, Manager, Traffic Engineering, Ext. 6173

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)