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Town of Aurora
Council Report
No. PDS23-118

Subject: Additional Information to Report No. PDS23-108 Centre Street Speed Limit Amendment

Prepared by: Michael Bat, Traffic and Transportation Analyst

Department: Planning and Development Services

Date: September 26, 2023

Recommendation

1. That Report No. PDS23-118 be received for information.

Executive Summary

The report can be summarized as follow:

- Following comments from Council at the September 5, 2023, General Committee meeting, staff has considered extending the proposed speed limit reduction from 40km/hr to 30km/hr on Centre Street between Yonge Street and Industrial Parkway North rather than just for the portion of the street being reprofiled through the Metrolinx track twinning project.
- An amendment is required to the original report (PDS23-108) to affect this change.

Background

Staff report no. PDS23-108 was presented to Council on September 5, 2023, recommending a 90 metre speed limit reduction on Centre Street (within the impacted section located adjacent to the railway track) to accommodate the ongoing Barrie Line GO Expansion project being undertaken by Metrolinx.

In response to comments at the September 5, 2023, General Committee meeting, staff has evaluated extending the proposed speed limit reduction for the entirety of Centre Street, approximately 880 metres, from Yonge Street to Industrial Parkway North.

The subject area is illustrated in Figure 1.

Analysis

Following comments from Council at the September 5, 2023, General Committee meeting, staff has considered extending the proposed speed limit reduction from 40km/hr to 30km/hr on Centre Street between Yonge Street and Industrial Parkway North rather than just for the portion of the street being reprofiled through the Metrolinx track twinning project.

As summarized in staff report no. PDS23-108, the Barrie Line GO Expansion project will add a second track on the west side of the existing track, to prepare for a future two-way, all-day rapid transit service. As part of the project, a 50 metre section of Centre Street, from the west limit of the rail corridor will be reprofiled. This will include modifications to the existing slope.

To meet the Federal regulatory design elements outlined in the Transport Canada's Grade Crossing Standards and the minimum sightline requirements prescribed in the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) manual, the proposed reprofiling will result in a required speed reduction from the existing speed limit of 40 km/h to 30 km/h on the impacted section of Centre Street.

Staff is recommending that the speed limit reduction to 30 km/h be identified for the entire section of Centre Street (from Yonge Street to Industrial Parkway North) as identified in Figure 1.

An amendment is required to the original report (PDS23-108) to affect this change.

If Council agrees that the reduced speed limit should be implemented from Yonge Street to Industrial Parkway North, the original report must be pulled for discussion from the September 5 General Committee report and the following amendment moved:

“That the speed limit reduction on Centre Street be applied from Yonge Street to Industrial Parkway North.”

Should the amendment be carried, the second clause will change to:

“That a by-law to amend Parking By-law No. 4574-04.T be enacted to reduce the speed limit on Centre Street between Young Street and Industrial Parkway North from 40 km/h to 30 km/h.”

Legal Considerations

See Staff Report No. PDS23-108.

Financial Implications

The estimated cost for the replacement of the speed limit signs is \$2,000 and will be funded from the Operations Services Department's existing approved 2023 operating budget.

Communications Considerations

See Staff Report No. PDS23-108.

Climate Change Considerations

See Staff Report No. PDS23-108.

Link to Strategic Plan

See Staff Report No. PDS23-108.

Alternative(s) to the Recommendation

1. That Council provide direction.

Conclusions

Staff are recommending that the reduction of the speed limit of 40 km/h to 30 km/h be identified for the entire section of Centre Street.

Attachments

Figure 1: Location Map

Previous Reports

PDS23-108, Centre Street Speed Limit Amendment, September 5, 2023

Pre-submission Review

Agenda Management Team review on September 14, 2023

Approvals

Approved by Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services

Approved by Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer