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Town of Aurora

Memorandum

Planning and Development Services

Re: Stone Road Speed Limit Assessment

To: Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

From: Michael Ha, Transportation and Traffic Analyst

Date: November 27, 2024

Recommendation

1. That the memorandum regarding Stone Road Speed Limit Assessment be received; and
2. That the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee comments regarding Stone Road Speed Limit Assessment be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Background

Staff have undertaken a speed limit assessment based on the procedures and methodologies outlined in the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Automated Speed Limit Guidelines to determine whether it would be appropriate to reduce the posted maximum speed limit from 50 km/hr to 40 km/hr on Stone Road from Cliff Road to Bayview Avenue (Attachment 1).

Analysis

Stone Road is a 12 meter wide collector roadway with an urban cross-section (curbs and gutters), sidewalk on both sides and a 50 km/h speed limit except near the two elementary schools where it is reduced to 40 km/h. On-street parking is permitted on both sides of Stone Road which provides additional parking for area residents and their visitors.

Speed Limit Assessment

Staff have undertaken a speed limit assessment based on the procedures and methodologies outlined in the TAC Automated Speed Limit Guidelines to determine whether it would be appropriate to reduce the posted maximum speed limit from 50 km/hr to 40 km/h on Stone Road from Cliff Road to Bayview Avenue. The guidelines provide an evaluation tool to assess appropriate posted speed limits based on the classification, function and physical characteristics of a roadway. It is an objective assessment based on engineering factors that enhances the effectiveness and credibility of posted speed limits. Reduction of posted speed limits, without changing the characteristics of the roadway to encourage reduced speeds may have minimal impact on vehicle operating speeds.

Based on TAC's evaluation tool, a posted speed limit of 50km/h is recommended on Stone Road between Cliff Road and Bayview Avenue.

TAC notes that the evaluation tool recommendation must be weighed against how drivers are perceiving and using the road, as road safety may be enhanced through credible posted speed limits that match the expectation of drivers for a given roadway and its surrounding area. If the 85th percentile speed is within plus or minus 10 km/h of posted speed limit for urban roads, TAC recommends not changing the speed limit.

Based on speed studies conducted at the various locations on Stone Road (Attachment 1) for 7 days, existing 85th percentile speeds (Table 1) were within plus or minus 10 km/h of posted speed limit and therefore consistent with the above recommendation.

Table 1: Speed Study Summary

Location	85 th Percentile Speed	Speed over Posted Speed Limit	85 th Percentile within +/- 10 km/h of posted speed limit
Stone Road north of October Lane	53 km/h	3 km/h Over Posted Speed Limit	Yes
Stone Road south of Milloy Place	51 km/h	1 km/h Over Posted Speed Limit	Yes

Based on the above technical assessment, the current posted speed limit of 50km/h is appropriate and no change to the posted speed is recommended.

Attachments

1. Stone Road Speed Limit Assessment Area Map