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TEMPORARY SPEED ZONES

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, February 18, 2004, from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Temporary 60-km per hour speed zones be adopted on the following roadways with the implementation occurring between April 1, 2004 and project completion and only as necessary during the actual construction activities:
 - a) Dufferin Street (Y.R. 53), from Rutherford Road (Y.R. 73) to Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25), in the City of Vaughan.
 - b) Weston Road (Y.R. 56), from Rutherford Road (Y.R. 73) to Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25), in the City of Vaughan.
 - c) Rutherford Road (Y.R. 73), from Weston Road (Y.R. 56) to Jane Street (Y.R. 55), in the City of Vaughan.
 - d) Jane Street (Y.R. 55), from Locke Street to Rutherford Road (Y.R. 73), in the City of Vaughan.
 - e) Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38), from King Road (Y.R. 11) to Wellington Street (Y.R. 15), in the Towns of Richmond Hill and Aurora and the Township of King.
2. Temporary 50-km per hour speed zones be adopted on the following roadways with the implementation occurring between April 1, 2004 and project completion and only as necessary during the actual construction activities:
 - a) Rutherford Road (Y.R. 73), from Highway 50 to Napa Valley Drive, in the City of Vaughan.
 - b) Bayview Avenue (Y.R. 34), from Wellington Street (Y.R. 15) to 200 metres north of St. John's Sideroad (Y.R. 26), in the Town of Aurora.
 - c) St. John's Sideroad (Y.R. 26), from Yonge Street (Y.R. 1) to 150 metres east of Bayview Avenue (Y.R. 34), in the Town of Aurora.
 - d) Teston Road (Y.R. 49), from Jane Street (Y.R. 55) to Keele Street (Y.R. 6), in the City of Vaughan.

- e) Islington Avenue (Y.R. 17), from Langstaff Road (Y.R. 72) to Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25), in the City of Vaughan.
 - f) Langstaff Road (Y.R. 72), from Weston Road (Y.R. 56) to Islington Avenue (Y.R. 17), in the City of Vaughan.
 - g) Yonge Street (Y.R. 1), from Bloomington Road (Y.R. 40) to Ridge Road, in the Town of Aurora.
 - h) Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38), from Wellington Street (Y.R. 15) to Orchard Heights Boulevard, in the Town of Aurora and the Township of King.
 - i) Wellington Street (Y.R. 15), from 40 metres west of Timpson Drive to Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38), in the Town of Aurora.
 - j) Gamble Road (Y.R. 29), from Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38) to Yonge Street (Y.R. 1), in the Town of Richmond Hill.
 - k) Mount Albert Road (Y.R. 13), from Leslie Street (Y.R. 12) to Grist Mill Road, in the Town of East Gwillimbury.
- 3. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-laws.
 - 4. A copy of this report be forwarded by the Regional Clerk to the Chief of Police and to the Clerks of the City of Vaughan, the Towns of Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Richmond Hill and the Township of King.
 - 5. York Regional Police be requested to assist in the enforcement of these temporary speed zones, as their resources permit.

2. PURPOSE

This report is prepared to gain Regional Council approval to temporarily modify the regulatory speed limits within construction zones for the 2004 Capital Roads Budget. A Regional by-law is required under the *Highway Traffic Act* with appropriate posting of signs before any of the proposed speed limits can be enforced.

3. BACKGROUND

A number of projects scheduled for construction in 2004 occur on two-lane roadways with speed limits in excess of 60-km per hour. (*See Attachments 1, 2 and 3*). The nature of road construction activities routinely requires the temporary restriction of traffic on the travelled roadway. To safely carry out construction and control the traffic within the work areas, traffic control persons are used on the roadway.

To address this potential safety issue for both the travelling public and the construction workers, temporary reduced speed zones are routinely implemented.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

With a reduction of the maximum regulatory speed limit in construction areas, traffic control can be carried out in a safe and efficient manner, especially, with police enforcement. It is proposed that for the sections of roads where construction is scheduled for 2004, temporary speed limit reductions should be implemented. The proposed locations are as follows:

- Dufferin Street, from Rutherford Road to Major Mackenzie Drive, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Weston Road, from Rutherford Road to Major Mackenzie Drive, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Rutherford Road, from Weston Road to Jane Street, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limit of 70-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Jane Street, from Locke Street to Rutherford Road, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limit of 70-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Bathurst Street, from King Road to Wellington Street, in the Towns of Richmond Hill and Aurora and the Township of King where the existing speed limits of 70 and 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Rutherford Road, from Highway 50 to Napa Valley Drive, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limits of 60 and 70-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Bayview Avenue, from Wellington Street to 200 metres north of St. John's Sideroad, in the Town of Aurora where the existing speed limit of 60-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- St. John's Sideroad, from Yonge Street to 150 metres east of Bayview Avenue, in the Town of Aurora where the existing speed limits of 50 and 60-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.

- Teston Road, from Jane Street to Keele Street, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limit of 60-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Islington Avenue, from Langstaff Road to Major Mackenzie Drive, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limits of 60 and 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Langstaff Road, from Weston Road to Islington Avenue, in the City of Vaughan where the existing speed limit of 60-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Yonge Street, from Bloomington Road to Ridge Road, in the Town of Aurora where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Bathurst Street, from Wellington Street to Orchard Heights Boulevard, in the Town of Aurora and Township of King where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Wellington Street, from 40 metres west of Timpson Drive to Bathurst Street, in the Town of Aurora where the existing speed limit of 60-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Gamble Road, from Bathurst Street to Yonge Street, in the Town of Richmond Hill where the existing speed limit of 60-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.
- Mount Albert Road, from Leslie Street to Grist Mill Road, in the Town of East Gwillimbury where the existing speed limits of 60 and 70-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 50-km per hour.

The temporary speed limit reductions will be implemented only for as long as necessary for actual construction operations and will be rescinded as soon as the work is completed.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the manufacturing and installations of the necessary speed limit signs are included in the proposed 2004 Capital Roads Budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

There are no local municipal implications associated with this report. However, the safety of all road users and construction workers within construction areas is of continuous mutual concern.

7. CONCLUSION

It is proposed that temporary speed limits, as outlined in this report, be implemented for the 2004 road construction season. The speed limits will be posted only during the times when required during construction activities.

The Regional Solicitor should be directed to prepare the necessary by-laws. The Regional Clerk should forward a copy of this report to the Clerks of the affected local municipalities and to the Chief of Police, with a request to assist in enforcement, as their resources permit.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing has been forwarded to each Member of Council with the March 3, 2004 Transportation and Works Committee agenda and a copy thereof is on file in the Office of the Regional Clerk.)