

11

TEMPORARY SPEED ZONES

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, March 16, 2005, 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, 2005 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) 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.
 - c) Lloydtown-Aurora Road (Y.R. 16), from 600 metres west of Weston Road (Y.R. 56) to 300 metres east of Weston Road (Y.R. 56), in the Township of King.
 - d) King Road (Y.R. 11), from Yonge Street (Y.R. 1) to Banner Lane, in the Town of Richmond Hill and the Township of King.
 - e) Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25), from Kennedy Road (Y.R. 3) to Highway 48, in the Town of Markham.
 - f) Islington Avenue (Y.R. 17), from Langstaff Road (Y.R. 72) to Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25), in the City of Vaughan.
 - g) Lloydtown-Aurora Road (Y.R. 16), from Dufferin Street to 500 metres west, in the Township of King.
 - h) Dufferin Street (Y.R. 53), from 400 metres south of Lloydtown-Aurora Road (Y.R. 16) to Lloydtown-Aurora Road (Y.R. 16), in the Township of King.
 - i) Davis Drive (Y.R. 31), from 300 metres west of Warden Avenue (Y.R. 65) to 300 metres east of Warden Avenue (Y.R. 65), in the Town of East Gwillimbury.
 - j) Mount Albert Road (Y.R. 13), from 400 metres west of Warden Avenue (Y.R. 65) to 400 metres east of Warden Avenue (Y.R. 65), in the Town of East Gwillimbury.

k) Weston Road (Y.R. 56), from Rutherford Road (Y.R. 73) to Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25), in the City of Vaughan.

2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-laws.
3. 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, Markham, Richmond Hill and the Township of King.
4. 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 change the regulatory speed limits within construction zones for the 2005 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 2005 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, and 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 2005, 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.
- 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.
- Lloydtown-Aurora Road, at the intersection of Weston Road, in the Township of King where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- King Road, from Yonge Street to Banner Lane, in the Town of Richmond Hill and Township of King where the existing speed limit of 60 and 70-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Major Mackenzie Drive, from Kennedy Road to Highway 48, in the Town of Markham where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-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 70-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Lloydtown-Aurora Road, at the intersection of Dufferin Street, in the Township of King where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Dufferin Street, at the intersection of Lloydtown-Aurora Road, in the Township of King where the existing speed limit of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Davis Drive, at the intersection of Warden Avenue, in the Town of East Gwillimbury where the existing speed limits of 80-km per hour will be posted with a temporary speed limit of 60-km per hour.
- Mount Albert Road, at the intersection of Warden Avenue, in the Town of East Gwillimbury 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 60-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 2005 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 2005 road construction season. The speed limits will be posted only during the times when required during construction activities.

In order for the temporary speed limits to be enforced 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 York Regional Police, with a request to assist in enforcement, as their resources permit.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachments referred to in this clause were included in the agenda for the April 6, 2005 Committee meeting.)