

10
SPEED LIMIT POLICY COMPLIANCE
HIGHWAY 7 – PINE VALLEY DRIVE TO WESTON ROAD
CITY OF VAUGHAN

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the recommendations contained in the following report, October 23, 2008, from the Commissioner of Transportation Services, be referred to a future Transportation and Works Committee meeting in 2009, to be considered in conjunction with the report entitled 'Policy Update – Establishing Speed Limits on Regional Roads'.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The speed limit on Highway 7 (Y.R. 7), from Pine Valley Drive (Y.R. 57) to Jane Street (Y.R. 55), be reduced from 70 kilometres per hour to 60 kilometres per hour, in the City of Vaughan.
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law for the speed limit change.
3. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and to the Chief of York Regional Police for enforcement, as their resources permit.

2. PURPOSE

This report recommends a speed limit reduction on Highway 7, as outlined in a previous Transportation and Works Committee report titled *Highway 7 - Pine Valley Drive to Weston Road - Traffic Operations Review - City of Vaughan (see Attachment 1)*. This report also provides Regional Council with the results of staff's review of the intersection of Highway 7 and Aberdeen Avenue with respect to a concern regarding left turns.

3. BACKGROUND

As a result of a review of Highway 7, between Pine Valley Drive and Weston Road, a report was presented to the Transportation and Works Committee on October 1, 2008 which recommended a reduced speed limit. The report was not adopted by the Transportation and Works Committee pending an upcoming revised policy regarding establishing speed limits on Regional roads. The Transportation and Works Committee deferred the Highway 7 report to its next meeting where it could be considered in conjunction with the revised policy. The revised policy is included as a separate item on this agenda.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

The recommended speed limit on Highway 7 complies with the revised speed limit policy

The speed limit on Highway 7 between Pine Valley Drive and Weston Road is currently posted at 70 kilometres per hour. The attached report (*see Attachment 1*) provides a detailed review of this section of road and recommends that the speed limit should be reduced to 60 kilometres per hour. Staff verified that a speed limit of 60 kilometres per hour on this section of Highway 7 complies with the revised policy on establishing speed limits on the Regional road network.

Staff reviewed the geometry and traffic operations at intersection of Highway 7 and Aberdeen Avenue/Marycroft Avenue

In response to a concern regarding left turns at the intersection of Highway 7 and Aberdeen Avenue, brought forward to the Transportation and Works Committee, staff reviewed the operation of all left turns at this intersection. Recent changes to the operation of this intersection included a protected permissive left turn signal on Highway 7 which has resulted in traffic queues clearing during each traffic signal cycle. In addition, sight lines for left turning traffic were checked and are more than adequate for this intersection. Although staff found no immediate operational concerns at this intersection, the intersection will be monitored on a regular basis and adjustments will be made as required.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications related to this report are limited to the installation cost of appropriate speed limit signs, also noted in *Attachment 1*, which are included in the approved 2008 Roads Budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

This report responds to a request from City of Vaughan Council based on concerns regarding traffic operations on Highway 7. A lower posted speed limit on Highway 7 will benefit residents of the City of Vaughan and users of the roadway.

7. CONCLUSION

In a report to the October 1, 2008 Transportation and Works Committee, staff recommended a reduced speed limit on Highway 7, between Pine Valley Drive and Weston Road. Based on a pending revised policy regarding establishing speed limits on Regional roads, the Transportation and Works Committee deferred the report. The revised policy report is submitted as a separate item on the agenda and therefore it is appropriate to submit this report for the speed limit reduction. The proposed new speed limit on Highway 7 complies with the proposed revised speed limit policy. In addition, staff reviewed traffic operations at the intersection of Highway 7 and Aberdeen Avenue and found it to be operating properly.

For more information on this report, contact Paul Jankowski, General Manager, Roads at extension 5901 in the Transportation Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause is attached to this report.)