



Subject: Port Robinson East – Traffic Safety Review

Report to: Thorold City Council

Recommendations

1. That funding for the emergency repairs to the guide rail on River Street in the amount of \$70,857.50 plus HST **BE ALLOCATED** from the Capital Asset Transportation Reserve, and
2. That Staff **BE DIRECTED** to schedule a Public Information Centre (PIC) with the residents of Port Robinson East community to invite feedback on traffic calming/safety solutions, and,
3. That the public feedback and recommendations of the Traffic Safety Review **BE REFERRED** to the Road Safety Committee for comments and input.

Key Facts

- The issue of traffic and pedestrian safety continues to be a growing concern for residents living in the community of Port Robinson East.
- Staff have been meeting with the NRPS in an effort to step up enforcement and education for motorists operating vehicles in an unsafe or careless manner.
- A more progressive approach may be needed to reduce speeding and heighten driver awareness.
- Staff have developed some operational solutions designed to enhance public safety.
- The community's input and feedback from the Road Safety Committee should be considered by City Council prior to implementation.

Budgetary Status

Staff recommend that funding for the emergency guide rail repair be allocated from the Capital Asset Transportation Reserve. Pending the availability of a Police Report, staff will endeavour to recover the replacement costs through insurance. All other costs will be identified in a future report to Council.

Analysis

Thorold City Council have been directing staff and allocating available resources to address pedestrian and traffic safety issues that are persistent in the community of Port Robinson East. At its meeting on June 15th, 2021 Council adopted the recommendations in Report PWCS 2021-27, which targeted operational improvements near the park entrance. On June 21st, 2022 Council received an update on the reported vandalism at the park (PWCS 2022-072).

City staff have met with representatives of the Niagara Regional Police Services, St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, Ontario Power Generation and the City of Welland in order to develop a collaborative strategy. We anticipate that this strategy will be rolled out later this spring.

The recent vehicle accident has advanced the need to take further steps to regulate the speed of vehicles moving through this area. Education and Enforcement solutions have not achieved a measurable level of success.

Staff have completed a Traffic Safety Review that includes solutions that could be implemented to complement the education and enforcements strategies. These solutions include:

1. All Way Stop Control - Bridge St. and River St./Canby St.
2. Warning Signage – 30km/h at turn on Canby St.
3. Children Playing Signage near the entrance to the park
4. Enhanced Centreline and Edge of Pavement Marking
5. All Way Stop Control (with flashing beacon) – River St. and Biggar Rd.
6. Stop Ahead Warning Signage

A graphic description is shown in Appendix 1. The Community's feedback is important and these *suggested* solutions should be shared for their comments. Likewise the Road Safety Committee has a role to play in advancing public safety initiatives like this.

Staff will compile this information and present the findings and final recommendations, including costs at a future meeting.

Alternatives Reviewed

Additional considerations could include Community Safety Zones, speed limit reductions and other traffic calming tools like speed bumps, centre medians, etc.

Relationship to Strategic Plan

The recommendation is consistent with the Council's Strategic Priorities:

- Responsible Growth and Infrastructure Planning
- Vibrant, Inclusive Neighbourhoods

Other Pertinent Reports

- Report PWCS 2021-27
- Report PWCS 2022-072

Prepared by:

Geoff Holman
Director
Public Works and Community Services

Recommended by:

Geoff Holman
Director
Public Works and Community Services

Approved and Submitted by:

Manoj Dilwaria
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendices

Appendix 1 Traffic Safety Review