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**Subject:** Allanburg Area Traffic Study and Whistle Cessation Report  
**Report to:** Thorold City Council

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## Recommendations

1. That the installation of speed humps on Centre Street and on Barron Road **BE APPROVED**.
2. That funding in the amount of \$23,000 **BE REFERRED** to the 2025 Capital Budget deliberations for inclusion in the 2025 Traffic Calming Program.
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to coordinate with the Niagara Region and CN Rail to review and update signage and pavement markings at critical points along NR 20 and Centre Street.
4. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to proceed with the proposal to eliminate the train whistle in the Allanburg area as detailed in the Allanburg Area Whistle Cessation Study Report.
5. That the recommended upgrades to the Cycling Infrastructure, Sidewalk Network and Emergency Access **BE REFERRED** to the 10 year Capital Forecast.

## Key Facts

- The Allanburg Community is expected to grow by 130 new residential units by 2041.
- Current traffic operations and speed reviews indicate the need for traffic calming measures on certain roads.
- There is significant community concern regarding traffic delays, pedestrian safety, and railway safety.
- Whistle cessation at five rail crossings is proposed to reduce noise and enhance the quality of life for residents.
- Short-term and long term recommendations are identified.

## **Budgetary Status**

The estimated cost to install the permanent speed humps, signage and line painting is approximately \$23,000. Council has approved \$50,000 in the 2024 Capital Budget for Traffic Calming projects. Most of this funding has already been committed to the Port Robinson East area. The estimated cost of improvements needed to satisfy the criteria for train whistle cessation is \$1,308,000. These investments will require further collaboration with other authorities (CN, Niagara Region) and should be referred to the Capital forecast for future consideration of cost-sharing opportunities.

## **Analysis**

The Allanburg Area Transportation Study and Whistle Cessation Study aimed to assess current and future transportation needs and address community concerns. Key issues identified included traffic operations, active transportation, and rail safety in the area.

### *Recommendations from the Allanburg Area Transportation Study*

1. Bridge Closures
  - Short-Term: Improve signage and pavement markings.
  - Long-Term: Suggested detours and coordination with other authorities to minimize disruption.
2. Transportation Network
  - Road Network Improvements: Implement traffic calming measures and enhance road markings and signage.
3. Intersection Operations
  - Intersection Improvements:
    - Lundy's Lane and Centre Street: Cross-hatched pavement markings and new signage.
    - Additional traffic signal heads for better compliance during bridge events.

#### 4. Active Transportation

- Cycling and Pedestrian Facilities: Expand cycling networks with multi-use trails and bike lanes, and extend sidewalks for better connectivity.

#### 5. Emergency and Fire Services

- Emergency Access: Create a gated emergency access route to the north community.

### Recommendations from the Allanburg Area Whistle Cessation Study:

#### 1. Lundy's Lane (RR 20)

- Extend road crossing surface to 0.5m on either side of the paved shoulder.
- Place advisory speed signs and stop ahead signs.
- Install a gate and upgrade the existing active warning system.

#### 2. Henderson Street

- Improve the existing crossing surface.
- Place crossing ahead signs, advisory speed signs, and stop ahead signs.
- Install a warning system with lights and bells.
- Relocate the mailbox and trim seasonal foliage.

#### 3. Barron Road (West)

- Place crossing ahead signs, advisory speed signs, and stop ahead signs.
- Repaint faded pavement markings.
- Trim seasonal foliage.

#### 4. Barron Road (East)

- Implement pre-emption with signals at Allanport Road and Barron Road intersection.
- Place crossing ahead signs, advisory speed signs, and stop ahead signs.
- Repaint faded pavement markings.

## 5. Allanport Road (RR 82)

- Signalize the Allanport Road and Barron Road intersection with pre-emption.
- Place crossing ahead signs, advisory speed signs, and stop ahead signs.
- Repaint faded pavement markings.

### Staff Recommendations:

- Install speed humps on Centre Street and Barron Road.

The studies provide comprehensive recommendations to enhance transportation infrastructure, improve safety, and address community concerns in the Allanburg area. Implementing these measures will ensure better traffic management, improved active transportation facilities, and increased safety at rail crossings.

## **Impact on the Environment, Climate Change**

There are no known environmental or climate change-related impacts associated with this report. The recommended measures are expected to enhance the overall safety and quality of life for residents without adversely affecting the environment.

## **Alternatives Reviewed**

**Do Nothing:** This option was not recommended as it would not address the identified traffic and safety issues.

**Partial Implementation:** Implementing only some of the recommended measures could mitigate certain issues but would not provide a comprehensive solution.

**Full Implementation:** The recommended approach is to fully implement all proposed measures to comprehensively address traffic, safety, and community concerns.

## **Relationship to Strategic Plan**

- Vibrant and Prosperous Community
  - Livable Community
  - Community Wellbeing

- Sustainable Infrastructure

### **Other Pertinent Reports**

N/A

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**Approved and Submitted by:**

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*This report was prepared in consultation and reviewed by Sean Dunsmore, Manager, Engineering.*

### **Appendices**

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| Appendix 1 | Allanburg Area Transportation Study           |
| Appendix 2 | Allanburg Area Whistle Cessation Study Report |