



Neighbourhood Area Speed Limit Pilot Evaluation

March 28, 2023





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Background

- Changes to the Highway Traffic Act (HTA), allow municipalities to establish speed limits other than 50km/h within neighbourhoods using specialized gateway speed limit signage.
- In 2021, Council directed staff to conduct a residential neighbourhood 40km/h speed limit pilot
- The pilot was launched in four areas of the City
- An assessment before and after the implementation of the Neighbourhood Area 40km/h speed limit was conducted.

Speed Assessment Results

Pilot Area	Before 85 th Percentile Operating Speed (km/h)	After 85 th Percentile Operating Speed (km/h)	Difference 85 th Percentile Operating Speed (km/h)	Difference 85 th Percentile Operating Speed (%)
Central Cambridge	53.0	50.3	-2.7	-5.1%
Lower Preston	47.3	46.8	-0.5	-1.1%
North Hespeler	52.5	50.0	-2.5	-4.8%
Southwest Galt	57.8	56.6	-1.2	-2.1%

Speed and Traffic Safety

- Vehicle operating speeds and traffic safety are interconnected
- Studies conducted through the transportation engineering industry have shown:
 - The likelihood of survival in a collision between a vehicle and a pedestrian is approximately 15% when the vehicle is traveling at 50 km/h,
 - Likelihood of survival increases to 70% when the vehicle is traveling at 40 km/h¹.
- Drivers travelling at lower speeds are typically better able to scan the roadway and notice objects and unusual movement closer to their vehicle, lowering the potential for a collision.
- Reduced speeds also increase opportunity for eye contact between road users

¹Vision Zero 2.0 – Road Safety Plan Update, City of Toronto, 2019

New Speed Limit Policy

- Provides an objective, systematic, consistent and repeatable process for establishing speed limits on City roads.
- The main elements of the proposed policy include:

Location	Speed Limit	Designated Area or Zone
Neighbourhood Areas	40 km/h	Local and/or collector roadways within Neighbourhoods bound by gateway
School Zones	30 km/h	150m in either direction beyond school property line
Playground Zones	40 km/h	Established based on Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) methodology
All Other Roadways	Established based on TAC	-

Recommendations

- Council approve the implementation of Neighbourhood Area 40km/h speed limits across the City along with reducing School Zone speed limits to 30km/h as outlined in Report 23-165-CD,
- Staff be directed to report back on the approach for implementation including associated Traffic and Parking Bylaw amendments, and
- The proposed Speed Limit Policy be endorsed by Council

Preliminary Implementation Approach and Next Steps

- Phased over 2 years (2024-2025)
- 16 neighbourhood areas with 40km/h speed limit city-wide.
- Prioritized based on:
 - school zones
 - areas with large number of speed related concerns and/or speed management locations,
 - all remaining locations
- Transportation staff will report back on an approach for implementation including associated Traffic and Parking Bylaw amendments.



Thank You!

Questions?

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