

To: COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 2/28/2023

Subject: School Area Traffic and Parking Modifications

Submitted By: Kevin De Leebeeck, Director of Engineering

Prepared By: Lisa Chominiec, Sustainable Transportation Coordinator

Report No.: 23-182-CD

File No.: C1101

Wards Affected: Ward 2
Ward 3, Ward 4, Ward 5, Ward 8

RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Report 23-182-CD School Area Traffic and Parking Modifications be received;

AND THAT the Traffic and Parking Bylaw Schedule 18, “Rates of Speed” be amended for Main Street, Elgin Street North, Renwick Avenue, Bismark Drive and Adler Drive to extend the School Zones to the full 150m;

AND THAT the Traffic and Parking Bylaw Schedule 22, “School Bus Loading Zones” be amended for Renwick Avenue to reflect an expanded School Bus Loading Zone;

AND THAT the Traffic and Parking Bylaw Schedule 13, “Intersection Yield Signs” be amended to remove Erb Street and Tiffany Street;

AND THAT the Traffic and Parking Bylaw Schedule 4, “No Stopping” be amended to add Rouse Ave;

AND FURTHER THAT the by-law included as Appendix D to Report 23-182-CD to amend the Traffic and Parking By-law be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to address requests for school traffic control modifications from Student Transportation Service of Waterloo Region and to update the by-laws to reflect existing conditions.

Key Findings

- An expanded school bus loading zone is proposed to be implemented on Renwick Ave along the frontage of Hillcrest Public School;
- Yield signs on Erb St (at Winterhault Ave) and Tiffany St (at Winterhault Ave) are to be removed and replaced with Stop signs;
- Extension of the 40 km/hr school zones to the full 150m is proposed for Main Street, Elgin Street North, Renwick Avenue, Bismark Drive and Adler Drive; and,
- No stopping on a section of Rouse Ave is also proposed.

Financial Implications

- The additional traffic signs and pavement markings proposed as part of the recommended revisions will be funded from the 2023 Transportation Operating Budget at an approximate cost of \$700.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

- Strategic Action; or
- Core Service

Objective(s): VIBRANT NEIGHBOURHOOD - Promote, facilitate and participate in the development of safe and healthy neighbourhoods with a range of housing options

Strategic Action: Not Applicable

Program: Transportation Management

Core Service: Traffic Operations

The recommendations of this report are intended to address school related traffic issues while creating a safe and efficient transportation network for all users.

BACKGROUND:

The City has received requests to modify traffic and parking regulations in the vicinity of three (3) schools. In addition, five (5) schools have existing regulations that require an update to the Traffic & Parking By-law to reflect existing site conditions.

ANALYSIS:

In 2022 Enhanced School Zones (ESZ) were implemented at the following schools:

- Main Street: Central Public School;
- Elgin Street North: Elgin Street Public School;
- Renwick Avenue: Hillcrest Public School;
- Bismark Drive: St. Augustine Catholic School; and
- Adler Drive: St. Elizabeth Catholic School.

The ESZ's included new signage, flashing beacons and pavement markings all within the School Zone. Some minor adjustments to the beginning/end of the 40 km/hr school zones were also made to ensure that the full 150 m of a school frontage was captured.

The proposed updates to the Traffic and Parking Bylaw, Schedule 18, ensure an accurate reflection of the full 150 m School Zone.

Renwick Avenue – Hillcrest Public School, School Bus Loading Zone

A request has been received from Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region to expand the School Bus Loading Zone on Renwick Avenue along the school frontage to accommodate a second school bus. See Appendix A for details.

Transportation Staff have reviewed the request and recommend the installation of an expanded School Bus Loading Zone between 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday to Friday, September 1 to June 30.

Erb Street and Tiffany Street, St. Michael Catholic School, Intersection Yield Signs

Transportation has received a request from Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region to remove and replace the Yield signs with Stop signs, along Winterhalt Avenue. See Appendix B for details.

Transportation Staff have reviewed the request and recommend the removal and replacement of the Yield signs with Stop signs.

Rouse Ave, Avenue Road Public School, No Stopping

A request from Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region to improve the school area of Avenue Road Public School has been received. This school was also part of the first round of Enhanced School Zones.

Transportation Staff have reviewed the request and recommends the addition of “No Stopping” signs on Rouse Ave, near the intersection at Gail St. See Appendix C for details.

EXISTING POLICY / BY-LAW(S):

The City's Traffic and Parking Bylaw was reviewed to determine the necessary revisions to implement the proposed traffic control modifications. The proposed amendments to the Traffic and Parking By-Law is attached as Appendix D.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed modifications will require additional signs at an estimated cost of \$700 that will be funded from the 2023 Transportation Operating Budget.

PUBLIC VALUE:

Transparency:

Actively listening and responding to partner agency concerns demonstrates how feedback is considered to improve the transportation network for all users.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE INPUT:

Advisory Committees Consulted:

Not Applicable

PUBLIC INPUT:

Many of the public complaints related to transportation involve safety within school zones. The recommendations of this report help address some of these concerns.

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Transportation Staff consulted with Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region regarding the requests.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the assessment outlined in this Report, it is recommended that the school traffic control modifications be implemented and the Traffic & Parking By-law amended accordingly such that the necessary field modifications can be completed in 2023.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: **No**

By-law: **Yes**

Budget Amendment: **No**

Policy: **No**

APPROVALS:

This report has gone through the appropriate workflow and has been reviewed and or approved by the following as required:

Director

Deputy City Manager

Chief Financial Officer

City Solicitor

City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 23-182-CD Appendix A – Hillcrest Public School Diagram
2. 23-182-CD Appendix B – St. Michael Catholic School Diagram
3. 23-182-CD Appendix C – Avenue Road Public School Diagram
4. 23-182-CD Appendix D – Draft By-law Amendment