

Committee of the Whole (Working Session) Report

DATE: Wednesday, March 6, 2024

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: MOVESMART MOBILITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2024
ANNUAL REPORT

FROM:

Zoran Postic, Deputy City Manager, Public Works

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

To provide a status update on the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy (MoveSmart) through the 2024 Annual Report. MoveSmart continues to reinforce Council's commitment and priority towards transportation and mobility initiatives encouraging healthy and connected communities with the overarching goal of creating and sustaining a safer transportation network. The MoveSmart 2024 Annual Report highlights advancements made within the four MoveSmart program areas.

Report Highlights

- MoveSmart is comprised of four highly integrated programs focused on creating a safer and more accessible network for all modes of transportation, including active and sustainable travel.
- The MoveSmart programs and initiatives facilitate improvements to mobility and road safety through best practice reviews, policy development, operation, and design, as well as trial applications, and are supported by evidence-based decisions.
- Enhancing the City's data warehouse and data gathering technologies continues to be a key focal point of the strategy, as new methods of acquiring and sharing data are realized.

Report Highlights (continued)

- Twenty-two (22) out of twenty-nine (29) initiatives are advancing as planned, with the remaining initiatives set to launch over the next two (2) years. Notable achievements to date include:
 - Completion of the Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Implementation Plan and the designation of one-hundred and four (104) community safety zones established through the development of the Community Safety Zone Policy.
 - Further reduction of speed limits in neighbourhood area 40km/h locations across all five (5) wards based on the Speed Limit Policy.
 - Establishing a plan for improvements to the Traffic Signal Network to accommodate future scalable Intelligent Transportation System technologies.
 - Neighbourhood Traffic Calming and Speed Management Plan – completion of a pilot project in five (5) select neighbourhood locations including measuring the effectiveness of various tools to inform the development of the City’s new policy.
 - Finalizing six (6) Urban and Rural Corridor Traffic Reviews and the implementation of numerous road safety improvements.
 - Advancement of a Regional Traveller Safety Plan, developed in collaboration with York Region and local municipalities, which establishes an integrated road safety plan across the Region.
 - Advancing the Safer School Zone Plan identifying short and long-term measures to protect the most vulnerable road users and to create programs enhancing road safety and sustainable mobility.
 - Proceeding to enhance pedestrian infrastructure by developing a detailed framework to inform the selection of suitable pedestrian crossings.
 - Expansion of the City’s data management processes and the integration of new technologies to refine the program to identify areas where road safety measures have the greatest potential.
 - Robust community engagement strategies, communication, and vested partnerships to ensure MoveSmart continues to build public trust and participation.
- MoveSmart is now integrated into the planning and implementation of road safety and mobility management initiatives across the City. It has taken form through operational considerations, implementation of a broad range of measures, modern engagement approaches, the collection of data, and continued partnerships, all in support of implementing effective policies and processes.

Recommendations

1. That the 2024 Annual MoveSmart Report, as outlined in Attachment 1, be received; and

2. That the City Clerk forward a copy of this report to York Region, York Region's local Municipalities, York Regional Police, York Region District School Board, York Region Catholic School Board, Metrolinx, and the Ministry of Transportation.

Background

MoveSmart comprises four (4) highly integrated programs: road safety, mobility management, sustainable mobility, and traffic data management.

On March 10, 2021, Council endorsed the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy (MoveSmart). The endorsement of MoveSmart identified traffic management and road safety as top priorities for the Citizens of Vaughan. As MoveSmart is set to enter its fourth year, it continues to deliver on planned initiatives, adapting to the needs of the transportation network as the City continues to experience significant growth and expansion. Safety continues to be top of mind for Vaughan's citizens.

The strategy will be updated every five (5) years to reflect the rapid growth of the City and the readiness of innovative technologies that align with the City's new term of Council priorities. For more information on these programs, please refer to the Annual MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy Progress Reports (links below).

Previous Reports/Authority

MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2021 \(Item 1, Report No. 10, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\)\)](#)

MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy Annual Progress Report: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2022 \(Item 1, Report No. 11, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\)\)](#)

MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy 2nd Annual Progress Report: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2023 \(Item 3, Report No.13, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\)\)](#)

Establishing Speed Limits on City Roadways: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2021 \(Item 1, Report No. 31, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\)\)](#)

2022 Speed Limit Revisions on City Roadways: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2022, \(Item 15, Report No. 12, of Committee of the Whole\)](#)

2023 Speed Limit Revisions on City Roadways: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2023, \(Item 11, Report No. 14, of Committee of the Whole\)](#)

Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Implementation Plan: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2023, \(Item 1, Report No. 50, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\)\)](#)

School Crossing Guard Policy: [Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2020 \(Item 3, Report No. 53, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\)\)](#)

[Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan](#)

[Vaughan Transportation Plan](#)

Analysis and Options

The Data Management Program is the foundation that supports all the initiatives within MoveSmart to inform evidence-based decisions and policy development.

The City of Vaughan is actively working to enhance road safety through a comprehensive data management program. As new technologies are implemented within the data warehouse and as information sharing and analytics are enhanced through various cloud-based systems, traffic data is more readily available to help identify road safety improvements in areas of focus based on evidence. Network Screening (i.e., establishing a safety-motivated priority list of locations) was advanced in late 2023 to supplement the work on the York Region Traveller Safety Plan. This initiative involves the development of collision prediction models through the analysis of recent collision, traffic, and infrastructure data.

By using a data-driven approach, the City can identify priority areas with a higher potential for safety improvements.

Leveraging a modern data management system, including York Regional Police data will enhance the ability to identify locations where safety can be further improved and prioritize areas of focus. Proactive traffic network assessments and data sharing will help shape new policies and identify effective road safety measures on the roadway. This proactive strategy ensures that resources are allocated efficiently, maximizing safety improvements across the entire road network, and contributing to a safer transportation environment.

Data indicates a 5km/h decrease overall in average speeds in areas where various traffic calming measures have been implemented.

The application of collective measures is evident across the road network and having positive impacts on lowering speeds in those areas. A combination of traffic calming measures, including radar message boards, temporary speed cushions, planters, chicanes, new signage, special pavement markings, in-road flexible posts, and new silhouettes were key measures implemented in the five (5) piloted Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Plan areas, new 40km/h blocks speed reduction locations, eight (8) Active

School Travel school locations, and other select areas. These measures have contributed to showing improved compliance with posted speed limits. Monitoring of speeds at these locations will continue throughout 2024.

In its third year, MoveSmart is advancing effective and modern policies and processes within road safety and mobility management initiatives.

MoveSmart is an integrated and aligned approach to making progressive changes throughout the transportation network. This is achieved through the use of road safety systems, emerging technologies, traffic engineering measures, policy design, data management, education and outreach programs, and innovative strategies that are highly effective in enhancing the safety and quality of mobility experiences for all road users.

Stakeholder collaboration has been instrumental in meeting MoveSmart's milestones and deliverables. The vision of the MoveSmart five-year plan can only be achieved through the knowledge, experience, and skill sets that all partners contribute. Communication continues to be a significant tool in ensuring citizens are provided with timely information on the launch of new initiatives and the progression of initiatives already underway.

Twenty-two (22) out of twenty-nine (29) initiatives are advancing as planned.

Below is a summary of the key MoveSmart initiatives in 2023. Further details for each initiative can be found in the attached 2024 Annual MoveSmart Report.

Road Safety

- **Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Program** – The implementation of an ASE program managed and adjudicated in-house through an Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) is set to launch by Q4 2024.
- **York Region Traveller Safety Plan** - A strategy to reduce traffic-related fatalities and injuries across the Region by installing various countermeasures.
- **Neighbourhood Area Traffic Calming Plan and Speed Management Strategy** – A new Policy and set of updated guidelines for implementing traffic calming measures and speed management tools.
- **In-Service Road Safety and Corridor Operational Reviews** - The current and future transportation infrastructure needs for six (6) corridors to improve traffic operations and create safer streets for all road users.
- **Speed Limit Policy** – Reduced 40km/h area neighbourhoods in an additional five (5) blocks and fifteen (15) streets across the City.

Mobility Management

- **Intelligent Transportation System Network** – A plan to advance the City's traffic signal control system, intended to facilitate the implementation of the latest traffic signal technologies to improve mobility efficiency throughout the road network.

Sustainable Mobility

- **Community Safety Zones** – Completed the development of the Community Safety Zone Policy which resulted in the identification of one hundred and four (104) community safety zones that included all school zones.
- **Safer School Zone Plan** - The plan will identify key traffic operational concerns impacting active school travel and a suite of recommendations for school zone infrastructure improvements and programs will be developed to further enhance active school travel. Policies and guidelines are planned to address parking, speeding, traffic circulation, pedestrian and cycling access, and other issues impacting elementary and secondary schools.
- **Pedestrian Enhancement Plan** – A plan that will identify the design and operation of Pedestrian Crossovers. An assessment process and detailed framework will inform the selection of suitable pedestrian crossing treatment based on municipal guidelines and best practices.

Data Management

- **Traffic Engineering Software (TES)** – A coordinated cloud-based data management system facilitating data sharing with York Region and other local municipal partners.
- **Data Management Strategy led by Infrastructure Planning & Corporate Asset Management (IPCAM)** – A data management strategy that will develop baseline data collection, safeguarding its integrity and build a transportation demand model to facilitate travel forecasting as the City grows.

Communications and Public Awareness

The Public Works and Communications, Marketing, and Engagement teams work year-round to share important information related to MoveSmart with the community. From media outreach and social media to signage and material distributed at public events, a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach is taken. One new tactic used in 2023 was Back-to-School Road Safety Videos which were designed to target parents and children to keep students safe as they returned to school in the fall.

Innovative programming, data sharing, modern public engagement strategies, and partnerships continue to propel MoveSmart forward and support new initiatives.

Seven new initiatives are set to launch over the next few years, many of which will continue to rely on the support of internal partnerships. Key initiatives include a Cycling Network Expansion, a Travel Demand Management Plan, a Traveller Information System, a Rail Transportation and Safety Plan, and a Heavy Truck and Truck Routing Plan.

Traffic Data and analytics will continue to be the pinnacle focus in decision-making as the latest trends and technologies will be leveraged. Data sharing with the Region and local municipalities will be instrumental in making evidence-based decisions and establishing further programs that will guide improvements throughout Vaughan's transportation network. Key performance indicators will evaluate traffic countermeasures and safety enhancements to ensure they remain effective. Road safety best practices

will be considered to help inform new policies. These practices will support MoveSmart in setting milestones and reaching the goal of a safer and more sustainable road network.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Cost estimates for the various initiatives under MoveSmart continue to be further refined as projects evolve and are implemented. Additional funding will be requested through the City's annual budget process. Staff will continue to explore opportunities and new partnerships to help support the strategy's implementation over the next few years.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Key improvements to the transportation network and progression in mobility management reinforce MoveSmart's contribution to local partnerships with similar goals and objectives.

Staff continue their partnerships with the Regional Municipality of York by sharing data through a central traffic data management system and have also collaborated in developing the Road Safety Strategic Plan. York Region School Boards and York Region Public Health continue to support the Active School Travel and Safer School Zone Plan. York Regional Police continue to provide technical expertise on various advisory committees, and other City Departments continue to play a vital role in developing and implementing initiatives within all four program areas of MoveSmart.

Data sharing, sustained program coordination and collaboration, and outreach initiatives with local municipalities and regional governments will create consistency in service delivery and policies to employ programs and approaches that have the greatest success. Vested stakeholders across the Region will reinforce decision-making and help create a road network that is multi-functional and integrated and will also help ensure equitable transparent road safety measures are being utilized as required in the appropriate locations.

Conclusion

MoveSmart has positioned itself as a prominent road safety and mobility management strategy, through collaboration, design, application, and progressive policies and processes.

Considerable progress continues with twenty-two (22) key initiatives while meeting target deliverables. Many of the projects initiated are emerging as leading examples in road safety and mobility management. At the same time, local and regional governments

continue to engage with the City, requesting information and updates on innovative practices and solutions implemented in all four (4) program areas.

Citizens have numerous opportunities to influence the strategy and provide insight through their daily experiences of navigating the road network. Championing a vision for a safer and more sustainable transportation network is only achievable when all the partners are aligned, share values, and are consistent in their collective objectives.

Staff recommends that the Committee receive the 2024 Annual MoveSmart Report and presentation outlining the achievements to date, as information.

For more information, please contact Brenda Bisceglia, Manager Mobility Management MoveSmart at ext. 6144.

Attachment

1. 2024 Annual MoveSmart Report.

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