

# Committee of the Whole (Working Session) Report

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 2, 2025 **WARD(S)**: ALL

<u>TITLE</u>: MOVESMART MOBILITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2025
ANNUAL REPORT

#### FROM:

Emilie Alderman, Deputy City Manager, Public Works

**ACTION:** FOR INFORMATION

#### **Purpose**

This report highlights the progress made under the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy (MoveSmart) that is outlined in the 2025 Annual Report. MoveSmart remains dedicated to developing and implementing transportation and mobility initiatives that are timely, innovative, data-driven, and aligned with current trends to meet the needs of a dynamic and growing city.

## **Report Highlights**

- Momentum and advancements in road safety are progressing with 25 of the 29 initiatives either underway or completed.
- Key initiatives to combat speeding have been successfully implemented, including the launch of the Automated Speed Enforcement Program, approval of the Neighbourhood Traffic Calming and Speed Management Plan, and ongoing reductions in speed limits in residential areas.
- MoveSmart's vision of a safer and more sustainable transportation network is being advanced through two road safety corridor reviews, implementation of the Safer School Zone Plan, completion of a pedestrian crossing warrant and guideline, and a Work Zone Safety and Construction Management Plan.
- The implementation of Advanced Traffic Management and Intelligent Transportation System technologies is expected to improve Mobility Management.
- The combination of traffic engineering, traffic calming measures, education, enforcement and evaluation led to speed reductions ranging from eight per cent to 28 per cent on local roads across the city.

### **Recommendations**

- 1. That the 2025 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 consists of four programs: Road Safety, Mobility Management, Sustainable Mobility and Traffic Data Management

MoveSmart's overall objective is to improve mobility, enhance road safety, and improve transportation efficiency across the city by leveraging data, innovative technologies, and strategic planning with internal and external road safety stakeholders. It aims to provide a more responsive transportation network, ultimately designed to deliver initiatives that will support the city's growth while promoting sustainable transportation options to enhance the quality of life for residents. The strategy will be updated every five years to align with the City's most recent Term of Council Priorities.

MoveSmart supports the needs of all road users by combining effective communication strategies, enforcement programs, policy development, and robust data management practices to foster a cohesive and effective road safety and mobility management strategy.

# **Previous Reports/Authority**

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

Establishing Speed Limits on City Roadways: <a href="Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of June 22">Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of June 22</a>, 2021 (Report No. 31, Item 1 of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session)

MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy Annual Progress Report (2023): <u>Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2023 (Report No.13, Item 3 of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session)</u>

Intelligent Transportation System Single Source Procurement of an Advanced Traffic Management System Report: Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2023 (Report No. 41, Item 4, of the Committee of the Whole 2)

Automated Speed Enforcement Report: <u>Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2023, (Report No. 50, Item 1 of Committee of the Whole (Working Session)</u>

MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy Annual Progress Report (2024): <u>Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2024 (Report No.9, Item 1 of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session)</u>

Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Plan Report: Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2024, (Report No. 29, Item 1 of Committee of the Whole (Working Session)

### **Analysis and Options**

# Advancements in road safety are progressing with 25 of the 29 MoveSmart initiatives either underway or completed

MoveSmart continues to make significant strides toward creating a road environment that accommodates all modes of travel and promotes long-term mobility improvements for the entire community. Key initiatives, such as the Automated Speed Enforcement Program, the Neighbourhood Traffic Calming and Speed Management Plan and Policy, In-Road Safety Corridor Reviews, Safer School Zone Plan, Pedestrian Enhancement Plan, and the Work Zone Safety and Construction Management Plan have been developed to prioritize safety, reduce speeding, supplement traditional enforcement and introduce appropriate safety countermeasures in key focus areas.

# The launch of the Automated Speed Enforcement program was a significant road safety advancement for the city

The Automated Speed Enforcement program will adopt a proactive strategy to mitigate speeding and improve road safety by utilizing traffic data. With its proven success in other municipalities, the Automated Speed Enforcement Program is expected to play a critical role in the City's ongoing efforts to change driver behaviour and lower speeds, which will serve to promote safer driving behaviours and protect vulnerable road users.

# The City's Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Plan established a data-driven and standardized approach for the uniform application and implementation of traffic calming measures

The City's Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Plan included various traffic calming measures in alignment with national and industry best practices. Prior to its implementation, five pilot neighbourhoods were selected to assess the effectiveness of various traffic calming measures on the roadways. This pilot program was the first of its kind in Canada and was used to test and evaluate new tools, technologies, design considerations, data collection methods, operational improvements, and innovative engagement approaches. Leveraging data from the pilot program, the new Plan addresses road safety concerns to ensure appropriate traffic calming and speed management tools are integrated into the City's road network.

# MoveSmart remains committed to proactively introducing and improving various plans to support a culture of road safety and deliver positive outcomes

Two additional In-Road Safety Corridor Reviews along Martin Grove Road and Huntington Road were initiated in 2024. By assessing traffic operations in each area, opportunities were identified to address road safety and improve the overall transportation experience for all users. In addition to examining vehicle speeds, traffic volumes, site conditions, existing traffic controls, and traffic calming measures, City staff collaborated with both communities to collect valuable feedback on existing conditions and the proposed recommendations. The projects will be completed in Q3 2025.

The Safer School Zone Plan and Active School Travel programs continue to drive advancements through education and road safety improvements to protect vulnerable road users. The Safer School Zone Plan includes guidelines to improve pick-up and drop-off in school zones and address parking, speeding, and traffic circulation during bell times. Maps are currently in development to highlight pedestrian walkways, pedestrian crossovers, school crossing guards, no parking areas, wayfinding signage, special pavement marking, and signage which are expected to assist school administrations in communicating and supporting active and safer travel for students. Partnerships with York Region, local school boards, and law enforcement are instrumental in achieving a comprehensive approach to enhancing pedestrian safety in school zones.

The Pedestrian Enhancement Plan aims to improve pedestrian safety, connectivity, and accessibility, particularly in high-priority areas such as school zones. A key component of this initiative is the establishment of clear criteria, standards, and guidelines for pedestrian crossovers to support consistency and safety in their implementation. The framework outlines the conditions for when and where crossovers should be installed, especially in areas with high pedestrian traffic, such as school zones. To complement the implementation of this new and upgraded infrastructure, City staff have partnered with York Regional Police to launch a pedestrian crossover educational initiative for students. This initiative includes an in-class presentation led by City staff, followed by a practical on-site demonstration conducted by York Regional Police. The program has been well received by school staff and students and will continue as part of Vaughan's Active School Travel Program.

The Pedestrian Enhancement Plan is also closely aligned with the City's Travel Demand Management Plan, which promotes sustainable travel choices, including walking, cycling, public transit, and carpooling as alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles. MoveSmart is enhancing the City's Travel Demand Management by integrating improvements in pedestrian infrastructure into the City's broader mobility strategies to ensure the necessary frameworks are in place to support and encourage alternative modes of transportation.

The Work Zone Safety and Construction Management Plan is currently under development and will prioritize the safety of workers and the public, minimizing the impacts on all forms of mobility, including automotive, pedestrian, and active transportation. The Work Zone Safety and Construction Management Plan will look to work with internal partners, leverage current technology to ensure timely, clear, and effective communication with the public, provide real-time updates on construction schedules, right-of-way work, and road closures, and offer options for alternative routes. This will help minimize disruptions to the movement of people and goods. Collaboration with partners will ensure the seamless coordination of City-run projects, third-party construction activities, and York Region projects to minimize disruptions to vital public services, such as transit, waste collection, and emergency response services, while maintaining the integrity and safety of the City's road network.

City speed limit reductions and the selection of new Community Safety Zones are evaluated annually based on the Speed Limit Policy and the Community Safety Zone Policy criteria. To supplement this effort, staff initiated a comprehensive public engagement and policy review in 2025 to determine the feasibility of implementing 30 km/h neighbourhoods throughout Community Safety Zones to further prioritize the safety of vulnerable road users.

# Mobility Management is at the forefront of innovation with the installation of an Advanced Traffic Signal Management System

The City's first Advanced Traffic Signal Management System is being deployed and forms the foundation of the Intelligent Transportation System strategy. The traffic signal hardware is currently being upgraded, and once completed, the Advanced Traffic Signal Management System software will allow for remote monitoring and control of all 100 traffic signals and signalized pedestrian crossings across the city. The Advanced Traffic Signal Management System will enhance traffic signal coordination, improve traffic flow, and support the future integration of scalable smart mobility technologies. This initiative modernizes the City's traffic management infrastructure, supports signal timing optimization, and achieves interoperability with York Region, which is crucial for enhancing traffic flow and achieving efficient mobility management across the transportation network.

# Continuing to build an automated data repository provides the foundation for a real-time, data-driven approach to prioritizing areas for safety improvements and measuring results

MoveSmart uses Traffic Engineering Software to analyze traffic patterns, identify highrisk areas, and develop targeted interventions. This initiative includes a cloud-based traffic data management system that allows real-time data sharing and analysis with York Region and other local partners. This growing network of data-sharing optimizes the effectiveness of MoveSmart's initiatives and improves transportation outcomes across the city, ensuring that decisions are aligned with broader safety and mobility objectives.

Network screening helps prioritize locations for safety improvements based on previous collision data and projection patterns. Automated Speed Enforcement data will be used to identify high-risk areas, enable targeted enforcement where it is most needed, and allow for ongoing assessment in real time. Automation streamlines data collection and analysis processes, ensuring that timely and accurate information is available for decision-making. These data sources will collectively support the City's efforts to monitor road safety progress, measure the effectiveness of interventions, and continuously improve outcomes.

# Improvements in road safety are being observed as traffic calming measures and innovative road safety programs are implemented Notably:

- Average speeds decreased by 28 per cent, or 13 km/h on average, after speed cushions were installed at eight locations across the city in 2024.
- Average speeds decreased by 19 per cent, or 7 km/h on average, at four new Active School Travel locations.
- Average speeds decreased by 12 per cent, or 5 km/h on average, following the installation of Flex Signs coupled with various other traffic calming measures.
- Average speeds decreased by 11 per cent, or 5 km/h on average, since Automated Speed Enforcement "Coming Soon" signs were installed at the first 10 locations across the city.
- Average speeds decreased by 8 per cent, or 3.5 km/h on average, in the 40 km/h Neighbourhood Blocks that were implemented in 2024.

## **Financial Impact**

There are no financial impacts associated with this report. MoveSmart's operating and capital budgets are refined and monitored to meet program deliverables and timelines. If required, additional funding will be requested through the City's annual budget process. Staff will continue to explore opportunities through the City's Automated Speed Enforcement Program and new partnerships to help support the strategy's implementation.

# **Operational Impact**

The successful launch of the City's Automated Speed Enforcement Program was a direct result of the collaboration and expertise of the City's internal Automated Speed Enforcement working group

By-law & Compliance, Licensing & Permit Services, Legal Services, the Office of the City Clerk, Procurement Services, Financial Services, Financial Planning & Development Finance, the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Risk Management, Transportation and Fleet Management Services, and Communications, Marketing, and Engagement worked to achieve the Automated Speed Enforcement Program launch in 2024. The internal working group ensured compliance with provincial regulations to administer the Automated Speed Enforcement Program in-house, negotiated various contracts, set up the technical infrastructure for penalty processing, and created the Administrative Penalty Bylaw.

### **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

Local partnerships with a shared vision of improving the transportation network are a key component of MoveSmart's success

Collaboration between York Region and the City is vital to the long-term success of road safety and sustainable mobility for residents and visitors as they travel throughout the transportation network. The Regional Traveller Safety Plan, developed in collaboration with York Region and local area municipalities, aims to reduce severe collisions by 10 per cent over five years and includes short-term and long-term solutions to improve road safety. Implementation of the Regional Traveller Safety Plan requires a shared commitment to data sharing and strategic coordination of road safety initiatives to advance a consistent approach to road safety across the Region and reduce traffic-related fatalities and injuries.

The City's Automated Speed Enforcement Program offers a platform for a unified approach to reducing speeding across the Region. This partnership supports York Regional Police in enhancing enforcement, promoting regional coordination in traffic safety initiatives, and creating a more cohesive and effective speed enforcement strategy across the Region.

### Conclusion

MoveSmart remains dedicated to delivering a concept-to-execution methodology aimed at advancing road safety and mobility improvements for all road users. By focusing on strategic planning, fostering strong partnerships, and continuously adapting to new opportunities, MoveSmart's policies and processes remain effective, forward-thinking, and innovative. MoveSmart will proactively implement action plans based on current, evidence-based data, ensuring it remains relevant and anticipatory of the long-term needs associated with city growth and development.

#### For more information, please contact:

Steven Fantin, Director, Transportation and Fleet Management Services, ext. 6141

### **Attachment**

1. 2025 Annual MoveSmart Report

## Prepared by

Brenda Bisceglia, Manager of Mobility Management/MoveSmart, ext. 6144