

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Council Report

DATE: Monday, September 27, 2021

TITLE: ENDORSING ROAD SAFETY AS A PRIORITY IN SCHOOL ZONES AND COMMUNITY AREAS

FROM:
Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

Whereas, traffic and road safety remain top of mind for Vaughan residents; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan has developed a MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy, consisting of four programs with 29 initiatives with a vision to create a safer, more efficient and sustainable transportation system; and

Whereas, the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy recognizes the importance of pedestrian safety, and reducing vehicular speeding and traffic congestion around school zones, community centre and park areas and other high pedestrian areas; and

Whereas, Vaughan Council has approved a new Speed Limit Policy that further ensures the safety of our most vulnerable road users by establishing appropriate speed limits across the City's entire road network, including school zone areas and parkland connected to schools; and

Whereas, the City is in the process of implementing the Speed Limit Policy and continues to launch initiatives within the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy to improve road safety for all road users and raise public awareness; and

Whereas, a Neighbourhood Traffic and Speed Management Plan, a Safer School Zones Plan, and a Pavement Markings and Signs Initiative have all been identified in the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy in order to enhance road safety and support cycling and pedestrian infrastructure to create a fully connected and integrated road network; and

Whereas, in-road flexible signs are a new concept in Ontario, aimed at managing speed by installing flexible signs to create a physical narrowing effect of the street, and they are currently being used and tested in a number of local intersections within Vaughan; and

Whereas, ongoing opportunities exist to collaborate with internal and external partners to facilitate road safety education and awareness initiatives.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That staff be directed to commence a Neighbourhood Traffic and Speed Management Plan, a Safer School Zones Plan, and develop the pavement markings and signs initiative, as outlined in the MoveSmart Mobility Management Strategy, beginning with all school zone, community centre and park areas within the City; and
2. That staff investigate and establish a framework for implementing in-road flexible signs, as an alternative traffic calming method to manage speed and traffic, and prioritize the implementation of flexible signs in school zones and community centre and park areas; and
3. That staff continue to work collaboratively to develop initiatives to promote road safety around school, community centre and park areas by engaging various City Departments including Traffic Engineering, Bylaw and Compliance and Corporate & Strategic Communications, and external stakeholders and partners, including school boards and administrators, York Region Public Health, York Regional Police, parents and students to enhance the overall safety of our community; and
4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to York Regional Police, York Region Public Health, the York Region District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board.

Attachments

None