

DATE OF MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2020  
AUTHORED BY JAMIE ROSE, MANAGER, TRANSPORTATION  
SUBJECT BAY STREET TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide Council with an update on the Bay Street Traffic Calming Pilot Project and to seek approval to make the speed humps permanent.

### **Recommendation**

That Council direct Staff to install two speed humps and one raised crosswalk on Bay Street between Glenayr Drive and Departure Bay Road.

## **BACKGROUND**

Speeding has always been a challenge for Transportation Staff and RCMP to deal with. It is also one of the most significant factors affecting the number of and severity of injuries resulting from a motor vehicle accident. The RCMP Traffic Section marked the first quarter of 2019 as the busiest for enforcement in recent history. 2020 has now proven to be the busiest for Traffic Calming requests for Transportation Engineering Staff, suggesting that the problem is persisting and that the community is losing tolerance for bad driver behaviour.

## **DISCUSSION**

In 2018, Staff received requests from Departure Bay Elementary School parents, sharing significant concerns with respect to traffic in the Departure Bay area. Shortly after that, members of the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association shared similar concerns with Transportation Engineering Staff. These expressions of concern led Staff to initiate an Active School Travel Plan with the school and a Traffic Calming Study with the Neighbourhood Association. These tasks highlight a variety of issues which Staff are working through, as well as the common concern of speeding on Bay Street between Glenayr Drive and Departure Bay Road.

Utilizing the City's Traffic Calming Guidelines, Staff began the process of reviewing the Bay Street corridor. The section east of Glenayr Drive has a raised sidewalk on the north side, is primarily fronted by single family homes, but also serves as an access or connection to Wardropper Park, Woodstream Park, and Departure Bay Centennial Park. Staff gathered data that indicated that daily traffic was approximately 1600 vehicles, with a majority speed through this section exceeding 60 kph. The volumes are appropriate for this type of road, however the speeds were concerning. Working with the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association, Staff undertook a pilot project to reduce speeds along the corridor by installing two temporary speed

humps. The effect of this work was a 10 kph reduction in majority speed. It was also noted that the eastbound traffic volumes decreased by approximately 200 vpd.

The majority of feedback from this process has been positive, with only two residents expressing concerns over the temporary speed humps. Considering the impact to road safety, this pilot project is being viewed as a success. With the expected onset of winter road conditions, it is necessary to remove the temporary speed humps; Staff are recommending that Council approve the installation of two permanent speed humps and one raised crosswalk in the spring when the weather is suitable for asphalt placement. Anticipated costs for this work are approximately \$20,000 and are planned to be funded from the existing Small Scale Capital Street Improvement budget.

### **OPTIONS**

1. That Council direct Staff to install two speed humps and one raised crosswalk on Bay Street between Glenayr Drive and Departure Bay Road.
  - The advantage of this option is that it reduces vehicle speeds on Bay Street, in an area that is predominantly park or single family dwelling.
  - Funding for the permanent installation of speed humps and one raised crosswalk will be allocated from the Small Scale Capital Street Improvements budget within the approved Financial Plan.
2. That Council provide Staff with alternative direction.

### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Bay Street was identified as having speeding issues through the Neighbourhood Association and through the Elementary School Parents and Administration.
- Majority speeds were found to be in excess of 60 kph prior to the installation of speed humps.
- The installation of temporary speed humps resulted in a 10 kph reduction in majority speed.
- Overall, the community was supportive of the change.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Location Plan for Speed Humps and Raised Crosswalk

**Submitted by:**

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**Concurrence by:**

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