



Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date of Meeting: June 12, 2024

Report Number: SRIES.24.006

Subject: SRIES.24.006 – 2024/2025 Locations for Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board Program

Purpose:

To seek Council approval for the installation of pole-mounted radar speed message boards at various locations within the City for 2024/2025, as part of the annual Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board Program.

Recommendation(s):

- a) That SRIES.24.006 regarding the Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board program be received.
- b) That the 30 priority locations identified in Attachment 1 of this report be approved for the Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board Program for 2024/2025.

Contact Person:

Hubert Ng, P.Eng., Manager of Transportation and Traffic, 905-771-6501

Jonathan Sealey, C.E.T., Project Manager, Traffic Safety and Operations, 905-771-2536

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Paolo Masaro, Commissioner of Infrastructure and Engineering Services

Approved by: Darlene Joslin, City Manager

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), City Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and City Manager. Details of the reports approval are attached.

Page 2

Background:

The City has implemented the Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board Program, to evoke awareness of safe driving behavior and encourage motorists to reduce speeding in high risk areas. Pole-mounted radar speed message boards are an effective tool used as part of a community education program and have been well received by residents. The program is founded on the principle that many motorists are somewhat unaware that they are travelling at an excessive rate of speed. A significant number of motorists generally drive at a speed deemed comfortable, depending on road geometry and surrounding land use.

The operating speed of approaching road users is displayed electronically on the board and serves as a strong visual prompt to motorists to comply with the posted speed limit. Figure 1 depicts a pole-mounted radar speed message board deployed on the City's roadside.



Figure 1

The program has expanded from 18 to 30 locations consistent with the key actions identified from the Traffic Safety and Operations Strategy (TSOS)

The current program includes 36 pole-mounted radar speed message boards, which are deployed at 18 key locations (two boards per location – one per travel direction) for a period of approximately one year, with three locations (six boards) for each City Ward. At the end of the 12-month period, the boards are relocated to other key areas.

In an ongoing effort to improve traffic safety across the City, and to continue to increase motorist awareness of operating speeds, staff report SRIES.24.003 "[Traffic Safety and Operations Strategy Implementation](#)", recommended expanding the Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board program as one of the key Traffic Safety and Operations Strategy action items for 2024.

Page 3

As a result, the existing program has been expanded from 36 boards and 18 locations to 60 boards at 30 locations. This will result in five locations per City Council ward rotating every twelve months.

12 new locations were selected based on the City's annual network screening process as well as community inquiries

The existing 36 pole-mounted radar speed message boards remain at their existing 18 locations, and that the new 24 pole-mounted radar speed message boards be deployed to the newly added 12 locations (two boards per location) for a period of approximately one year, as part of the City's 2024-2025 Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board program.

Attachment 1 provides the list of current pole-mounted radar speed message board locations for 2023/2024 that were approved by Council in July 2024 through Staff Report SRPI.23.019 2023-2024 entitled Pole Mounted Radar Message Board Program Locations as well as a list of the pole-mounted radar speed message board locations proposed for 2024/2025.

The process for selecting and prioritizing the new locations for the boards is based on a set of scoring criteria established through Staff Report SREPW.09.097, which includes a combination of community inquiries and requests received throughout the year, as well as an assessment of road links based on traffic criteria through the City's annual network screening exercise. Staff Report SREPW.09.097 "Scheduling Policy for Pole-Mounted Radar Speeds and Current Deployment Practice For The Variable Message-Radar Trailers", including a summary of the scoring criteria, is provided in **Attachment 2**.

Candidate locations for each Ward are then reviewed collaboratively with each Ward Councillor before the final list of locations is brought forward for Council approval.

The pole-mounted radar speed message boards at the existing eighteen locations approved by Council in staff report SRPI.23.019 "2023-2024 Pole Mounted Radar Message Board Program Locations", are recommended to remain in place for the 2024-2025 timeframe as a number of the boards have not been operational for a sufficient period of time during the recent period, resulting from ongoing maintenance issues, hardware failures, connectivity issues, vandalism, boards entering the end-of-life cycle. These boards have been repaired or replaced and allowing the boards to remain in place for the 2024-2025 season ensures that the boards will have an opportunity to achieve the full effectiveness and the intended outcomes of the program at these locations. **Attachment 3** includes maps for each City Council Ward, showing the proposed locations.

Page 4

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

The cost to relocate all 24 pole-mounted radar speed message boards is included in the Community Services operating budget, as approved by Council through SRPRS.17.111 “Update to Pole Mounted Radar Speed Board Schedule and Equipment Replacement”.

A budget of \$20,000 was approved through the 2024 Capital Budget process for the pole-mounted radar speed message board program. The Traffic Safety and Operations Strategy (TSOS) implementation funding approved through the 2024 Capital Budget process will be used for the funding of the remaining additional 24 boards.

As the necessary operating and capital budgets to implement the relocation and expansion of the pole-mounted radar speed message boards were approved as part of the 2024 Capital and Operating budgets, there are no financial implications associated with this report.

Relationship to Strategic Plan:

The recommendations of this report relate to Pillar 1, Growing a Livable, Sustainable Community, specifically, Priority 1 Manage growth in a way that enables choice and connection for the city, its residents and businesses now and in the future. The installation of pole-mounted radar speed boards can reduce vehicle speeds and assist in providing safe connections for residents.

Climate Change Considerations:

The Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board Program is expected to help promote more consistent travel speeds on the roads where they are installed, which can contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing fuel consumption.

Conclusion:

Staff have reviewed requests and completed an assessment of various road sections within the City in order to identify the proposed locations of the pole-mounted radar speed message boards noted herein. Based on the findings, it is recommended that the 30 locations noted herein for the City’s Pole-Mounted Radar Speed Message Board Program be approved and that the boards are installed and in place for a period of approximately one year.

Attachments:

The following attached documents may include scanned images of appendixes, maps and photographs. All appendixes have been reviewed and made accessible. If you require an alternative format please call the contact person listed in this document.

- Attachment 1: List of Current (2023-2024) and Proposed (2024-2025) Locations
- Attachment 2: Staff Report SREPW.09.097
- Attachment 3: City Council Ward Maps showing Proposed (2024-2025) Locations

Page 5

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRIES.24.006 2024-2025 Pole Mounted Radar Message Board Program Locations.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attachment 1 List of Current (2023-2024) and Proposed (2024-2025) Locations.docx- Attachment 2 SRIES.24.006.pdf- Attachment 3 City Council Ward Maps showing Proposed (2024-2025) Locations - v2.docx
Final Approval Date:	May 24, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Dan Terziewski - May 22, 2024 - 5:51 PM

Gigi Li - May 23, 2024 - 3:19 PM

Paolo Masaro - May 24, 2024 - 8:11 AM

Darlene Joslin - May 24, 2024 - 8:40 AM