



Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date of Meeting: November 20, 2024

Report Number: SRIES.24.009

Department: Infrastructure and Engineering Services
Division: Infrastructure Planning and Development Engineering

Subject: **SRIES.24.009 - Traffic Regulation Changes on City Streets (Speed Limit and Parking)**

Purpose:

To seek Council approval for changes to speed limit and parking regulations on various City streets

Recommendation(s):

- a) That staff report SRIES.24.009 be received;
- b) That Council approve the speed limit and parking regulation changes outlined in Staff Report SRIES.24.009.
- c) That By-law No 129-24 (**Attachment 3**) be enacted to amend the Speed Restrictions – Roads By-law, as amended (Municipal Code Chapter 1126) in order to reduce the speed limit on the identified roads to 40 km/h; and
- d) That By-law No 130-24 (**Attachment 4**) be enacted to amend the Parking Regulation By-law, as amended (Municipal Code Chapter 1116) in order to implement the recommended parking regulation changes.

Contact Person(s):

Dan Terziewski, Director, Infrastructure Planning and Development Engineering, extension 6358

Hubert Ng, Manager, Transportation and Traffic, extension 6501

Jonathan Sealey, Program Manager, Traffic Safety and Operations, extension 2536

Report Approval:

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.

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Background:

Staff review various traffic and parking regulations on City streets as part of the annual TSOS network screening as well as through in-year traffic operational and safety assessments. The in-year assessments are initiated primarily from requests received from residents to make changes to existing traffic and parking regulations.

The following sections provide details of recent assessments where changes to speed limit, parking, and intersection traffic control regulations have been deemed appropriate and necessary.

Discussion:

Speed Limits

Speed limits on City roads are prescribed in accordance with the Highway Traffic Act.

The default speed limit on roads within the City of Richmond Hill is 50 km/h in accordance with Section 128(1) of the Highway Traffic Act.

However, notwithstanding Section 128(2), the Highway Traffic Act provides municipalities the authority, through Council, to prescribe a different rate of speed from the default rate set out in the Highway Traffic Act, where deemed necessary and appropriate. In the City of Richmond Hill, the prescription of different rates of speed are enacted by a by-law amending Schedule 'A' of Chapter 1126 of the Municipal Code (Speed Restrictions).

Based on technical assessments using industry guidelines and new City approved policies, it is recommended that the speed limit along a number of City road segments be reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h

Transportation staff have received a number of requests from local residents to reduce speed limits as a result of perceived vehicular speeding concerns.

The road segments listed in **Table 1** were assessed based on the Transportation Association of Canada's Automated Speed Limit Guidelines and the City's speed limit policy and determined appropriate for a speed limit reduction from 50km/h to 40km/h:

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Table 1 - Roadways with proposed speed limit reductions

Street	From	To
Arten Avenue	<i>Regent Street</i>	<i>Creekview Avenue</i>
Betony Drive	<i>Brockdale Street</i>	<i>Glade Drive</i>
Blackforest Drive	<i>Regatta Avenue</i>	<i>Yonge Street</i>
Centre Street East	<i>Bayview Avenue</i>	<i>Yonge Street</i>
Creekview Avenue	<i>Arten Avenue</i>	<i>Elgin Mills Road West</i>
Farmstead Road	<i>Bayview Avenue</i>	<i>Forestwood Street</i>
Glade Drive	<i>Betony Drive</i>	<i>Heron Hollow Avenue</i>
Glenarden Crescent	<i>Strathearn Avenue</i>	<i>Strathearn Avenue</i>
Leyburn Avenue	<i>Brookside Road</i>	<i>Nine Mile Lane</i>
McCallum Drive	<i>Bathurst Street</i>	<i>Don Head Village Boulevard</i>
Okanagan Drive	<i>Carrville Road</i>	<i>Shaw Boulevard</i>
Selwyn Road	<i>Gamble Road</i>	<i>Jefferson Sideroad</i>
Springbrook Drive	<i>Bayview Avenue</i>	<i>Grey Alder Avenue</i>
Stephen Street	<i>Shaw Boulevard</i>	<i>Weldrick Road West</i>
Strathearn Avenue	<i>16th Avenue</i>	<i>Spadina Road</i>
Sunset Beach Road	<i>Eastern Limit of Sunset Beach Road</i>	<i>Yonge Street</i>
Worthington Avenue	<i>Bloomington Road</i>	<i>Yonge Street</i>

The details with respect to the recommended speed limit changes are outlined in **Attachment 1**.

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Parking Regulations:

Transportation staff have received a number of requests from local residents for on-street parking restrictions, or modifications, at a number of locations across the City.

Based on technical assessments following industry guidelines and City standards, it is recommended that changes be made to parking regulations on a number of City roads

Staff have reviewed and assessed these requests and are recommending changes to parking regulations at the locations listed in **Table 2**.

Table 2 – Proposed parking regulation modifications

Highway	From	To
Alper Street	<i>Bayview Avenue</i>	<i>Neal Drive</i>
Fern Avenue	<i>16th Avenue</i>	<i>Southern limit of Fern Avenue</i>
Lake Forest Drive	<i>Jefferson Sideroad</i>	<i>Silver Maple Road</i>
Old Colony Road	<i>Bayview Avenue</i>	<i>Yonge Street</i>
Observatory Lane	<i>Sunshine Drive</i>	<i>Yonge Street</i>
Poplar Drive	<i>Kent Matthew Street</i>	<i>Parker Avenue</i>
Puccini Drive	<i>Bathurst Street</i>	<i>Kent Matthew Street</i>
Sunshine Drive	<i>Church Street South</i>	<i>Observatory Lane</i>
Verdi Road	<i>Bathurst Street</i>	<i>Puccini Drive</i>

The details with respect to the recommended parking regulation changes are outlined in **Attachment 2**.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with this report since provisions exist within the annual in-year Traffic Safety and Operational Improvements Capital Project budget to accommodate this scope of work that primarily consists of the installation of new signs, posts, and pavement markings.

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Relationship to Strategic Plan 2024-2027:

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 reduced speed limits and parking restrictions will reduce vehicle speeds, improve visibility, and reduce conflicts on City street to ensure safer operations for all users.

Conclusion:

In response to inquiries, requests to consider parking restrictions and speeding modifications along several road segments in the City were investigated. Speed reductions at 17 locations and parking restrictions at 9 locations have been recommended for approval in this report.

These recommendations are based on City policies and best industry practice technical assessments that included a review of site conditions and considerations for improved road user safety and traffic operations.

Attachments:

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

- SRIES.24.004 Attachment 1: Maps of Proposed Speed Limit Modifications
- SRIES.24.004 Attachment 2: Maps of Proposed Parking Regulations Modifications
- SRIES.24.004 Attachment 3: Proposed draft By-Law 129-24
- SRIES.24.004 Attachment 4: Proposed draft By-Law 130-24

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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRIES.24.009 Traffic Regulation Improvements.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- SRIES.24.009 Attachment 1 Maps of Proposed Speed Limit Modifications.docx- SRIES.24.009 Attachment 2 Maps of Proposed Parking Regulations Modifications.docx- SRIES.24.009 Attachment 3 Proposed draft By-Law 129-24.docx- SRIES.24.009 Attachment 4 Proposed draft By-Law 130-24.docx
Final Approval Date:	Nov 6, 2024

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

Dan Terzievski - Nov 5, 2024 - 7:09 PM

Paolo Masaro - Nov 5, 2024 - 9:23 PM

Darlene Joslin - Nov 6, 2024 - 8:31 AM