

Priorities Committee Meeting_Sep18_2018

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**Hawkins Crescent Traffic Study****Report Purpose**

To update Priorities Committee on the options implemented to improve residential traffic flow on Hawkins Crescent.

Council History

February 27, 2018 – Administration was directed to prepare a report to Council with options for improvement to residential traffic flow on Hawkins Crescent to be brought back Q3 of 2018.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: n/a

Governance: Public engagement, including a resident survey has been conducted to understand resident perspectives and gather feedback.

Social: Traffic concerns impact safety and livability on Hawkins Crescent.

Culture: n/a

Environment: Managing traffic may reduce traffic noise and improve air quality by reducing gas emissions.

Other Impacts

Policy: SER-009-017 Traffic Control Devices

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: RCMP and Enforcement Services, Planning and Development Services, Transportation and Agriculture Services

Summary

This study was undertaken in response to the February 27, 2018 Council motion "THAT Administration prepare a report on a traffic study of Hawkins Crescent that includes options for improvement to residential traffic flow by the end of the third quarter of 2018". In order to address this motion, a resident survey and engineering review were undertaken.

The resident survey showed about 20% of residents living near the school reported major concerns with traffic in the school area. The majority of these concerns related to poor road user behaviour and general traffic volumes. Residents also expressed concern with sightlines at the intersections near the school due to parking and concerns with signal timings at Broadmoor Boulevard and Strathcona Drive.

The engineering review confirmed resident observations of poor road-user behaviour. Traffic generated by the New Horizons School site is higher than anticipated in the Traffic Impact Assessment. While there is undoubtedly congestion during peak times, the level of service at intersections near the school remain at an acceptable level for all except a few minutes twice a day on school days.

In almost all observed cases, the greatest impact of delay was borne by parents during their pickup and drop. Change in traffic control would cause greater inconvenience to residents in off-peak times than is warranted by peak conditions.

The biggest threats to traffic safety are jaywalking and U-turns. Both these behaviours would be eliminated with compliance to the traffic management plan. There is no significant crash history and low speeds in the area offer some protection from serious and fatal collisions for all road users.

Resident survey results and the engineering review indicate that compliance with the current traffic management plan has the potential to manage the majority of traffic concerns in the area.

This study has established actual numbers for school generated traffic that can be considered in the evaluation of development permits for New Horizons School and École Claudette et Denis Tardif going forward.

Based on review, the following actions will be implemented in September 2018:

- Relocate the crosswalk on Strathcona Drive at Wilson Crescent to Hawkins Crescent.
- Eliminate peak time drop off/pick up and parking on the north side of Strathcona Drive.
- Parents at both schools will be encouraged to use alternative pick up locations.
- For New Horizons School, the bus zone will move to Strathcona Drive, and the drop off/pick up zone will be extended through the school parking lot.
- Both schools will increase education/engagement efforts with parents/staff/students to improve road-user behaviour at the schools. Existing programs such as the "Way to Be" and "Clean Air Responsible Schools" programs are excellent resources available to the schools.

In January 2019, the success of these changes to the traffic management plans will be evaluated. Should these measures be unsuccessful in managing traffic concerns, more aggressive solutions will be explored.

Other than crossing upgrades and the provision of parking signs, no design plan or budgets are recommended at this time.

Communication Plan

Follow up letters have been sent to all residences on Hawkins Crescent, Wilson Crescent and Strathcona Drive, who were invited to participate in the survey, to inform them of the outcomes of this project.

Enclosures

- 1 Hawkins Crescent Traffic Study Presentation
- 2 Hawkins Crescent Traffic Study Project Report
- 3 Hawkins Crescent Survey Report