

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jan29_2019

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

Intersection Safety Device Expansion

Report Purpose

To provide the Priorities Committee with information regarding the upcoming expansion of our Intersection Safety Device (ISD) program in 2019.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 8 - Foster an environment for safe communities

Goal 2 - Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure

Goal 7 - Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Report

In March 2018, Council was updated on the status of the Traffic Safety Strategic Plan (TSSP). The implementation of an Intersection Safety Action Plan was presented as a priority project for traffic safety in 2018. One of the key actions identified in this plan was to expand the ISD program.

In Alberta, Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) Regulatory Guidelines are set out by the Solicitor General. These guidelines identify where, why and how ATE can be used in the province. Municipalities which use ATE are also required to undergo an audit of their ATE program every three years to ensure there is adherence to these guidelines.

To facilitate the expansion of the ISD program in Strathcona County in a way that is safety-focused, transparent and accountable, new ISD program guidelines above and beyond what is required by the Solicitor General were also developed and presented in March 2018.

The 2018 *Intersection Safety Device Program: Guidelines for ISD use in Strathcona County* has been included as an enclosure for easy reference. It offers a detailed outline of best practice research, alignment of ISD use with the County's strategic direction, and site selection procedures used in the decision-making for this program expansion. It also gives details regarding ongoing evaluation and public education for the ISDs.

On May 18, 2018, seven intersections that had been identified as high risk through collision analysis were identified for a full In-Service Road Safety Review:

- Granada Boulevard and Sherwood Drive
- Lakeland Drive at Sherwood Drive
- 17th Street at Baseline Road
- Cloverbar Road at Lakeland Drive
- Baseline Road at Broadview Drive
- Baseline Road at Glenbrook Boulevard
- Wye Road at Ordze Crescent

On June 8, 2018, a multidisciplinary team visited each location to identify traffic safety issues. Engineers looked for engineering issues, including signal timing or infrastructure deficiencies, which could explain the collisions that had been noted in the collision research. Human factors were also considered. RCMP and Enforcement Services reviewed the intersections to evaluate the feasibility of manned enforcement. Each intersection was evaluated through each discipline and the results were combined.

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jan29_2019

The assistance of a third party to conduct an intersection offence study for the selected intersections for speed and red light violations was also undertaken and included in the evaluation process.

On June 28, 2018, the team met for the final assessment of each intersection, evaluating the potential solutions to the issues that were identified, with consideration to likely effectiveness, technical feasibility and cost-benefit analysis. ISDs are one tool of many that can be used to improve intersection safety. Interdisciplinary expertise sought to determine where automated traffic enforcement technology could best be deployed to complement existing traffic safety initiatives. ISDs were recommended as the most appropriate countermeasure to improve safety at two of the seven intersections.

Strathcona County RCMP and Enforcement Services signed off on the two locations, approving the recommendation for implementation. Safety concerns at the other five intersections will be addressed by alternative countermeasures, such as geometric changes or signal phasing changes.

As a result of this site selection process, ISDs will be installed in 2019 at:

- Baseline Road & 17 Street (All directions)
- Sherwood Drive & Granada Boulevard (N/B, S/B W/B)

The ISDs will enforce both speeding and red light violations (including failure to stop before turning right at red light) at both intersections.

Installation of necessary infrastructure including poles, cameras and permanent warning signs will take place in the spring of 2019, depending on vendor availability. Once operational, a four-week familiarization period will be undertaken, with warning notices being issued to violators.

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the ISDs will be done through regular evaluation by the Solicitor General as well as through analysis of collision and violation statistics as outlined in the 2018 *Intersection Safety Device Program: Guidelines for ISD use in Strathcona County*.

Council and Committee History

March 13, 2018 Priorities Committee received the Traffic Safety Strategic Plan Update

September 9, 2014 Council approved the Traffic Safety Strategic Plan 2020

Other Impacts

Policy: N/A

Legislative/Legal: N/A

Interdepartmental: Transportation Planning and Engineering, Transportation and Agriculture Services

Master Plan/Framework: Traffic Safety Strategic Plan 2020, Integrated Transportation Master Plan

Communication Plan

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jan29_2019

As per Solicitor General requirements, permanent signage will be posted in advance of the intersections to warn drivers of the ATE. Once operational, a four-week familiarization period will be undertaken, with warning notices being issued to violators. Advertisement will take place in local media for a period of three months prior to enforcement taking place.

Above and beyond Solicitor General requirements, an ISD webpage will be maintained on the County website which will include information on the safety benefits of ISDs, the site selection process and evaluation reporting. A full communication plan will be developed to ensure our residents are fully aware of the expansion of the program prior to its implementation. Advice of the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee will be sought in the development of this communication plan.

Enclosure(s)

- 1 2019 Expansion ISD Program
- 2 Intersection Safety Device Program: Guidelines for ISD use in Strathcona County