

Town of Whitby

Staff Report

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Report Title: Traffic Calming Guide and Policy Status Update

Report to: Committee of the Whole

Date of meeting: December 2, 2024

Report Number: PDE 11-24

Department(s) Responsible:

Planning and Development Department
(Engineering Services)

Submitted by:

Roger Saunders, Commissioner,
Planning and Development

**Acknowledged by M. Gaskell,
Chief Administrative Officer**

For additional information, contact:

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1. Recommendation:

1. That Report PDE 11-24 be received for information.

2. Highlights:

- Traffic calming elements are being installed/planned on 10 streets annually.
- To date, the streets have been chosen based on requests from the community, discussions with Ward Councillors and input from Fire Services.
- The development of a Traffic Calming Guide and Policy is currently underway.
- New traffic calming elements will be implemented as the policy and guide is complete, and criteria and assessments are being consistently applied to requests and residents' input is received.

3. Background:

Staff had been directed to install traffic calming on 10 streets annually. To date, the streets have been chosen based on requests from the community, discussions with the Ward Councillors and Fire Services. At the time of writing the report, Transportation Services has 150+ requests for traffic calming.

The traffic calming elements installed have included speed humps, speed cushions (modified to traditional speed humps), radar message speed feedback signage, in-road flexible bollards, area specific speed limits, and a raised crosswalk. Not all traffic calming elements are suitable for any road. As an example, speed humps are not appropriate on a major road.

The streets chosen to date for traffic calming have not been selected based on supporting traffic data and impacted residents were not consulted. This practice has resulted in residents that are dissatisfied with the traffic calming and/or the placement and requests for removal have been received.

4. Discussion:

Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited (Paradigm) has been retained to assist the Town in developing a Traffic Calming Guide and Policy. The purpose of the Traffic Calming Guide and Policy is to have a framework for initiating, assessing, implementing, and monitoring traffic calming measures for Town of Whitby roads. A documented process aims to ensure that requests are considered equally and consistently across the Town, and so requests are not advanced without appropriate assessment and consultation. The project is underway with the anticipated milestone timelines identified in Table 1.

The following key elements will be considered in developing the Traffic Calming Guide and Policy:

- **What streets and what measures?** Identify candidate traffic calming treatment types appropriate for all road classifications, including but not limited to speed humps, raised intersections/crosswalks, Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE). There will be consideration of area wide versus localized application, as well as trial versus permanent applications.
- **Toolkit** of proven measures and techniques for implementation in different contexts and to solve various types of traffic concerns. Design details and implementation context will be included in the toolkit.
- **Level of neighbourhood support** to understand how neighbourhood input is used in the development and approval process for a traffic calming plan and the degree of support required to consider the implementation of traffic calming.
- **Removal and modification requests** and how to address these requests when they are received.
- **Screening, warrants and criteria** will support the application of traffic calming measures at locations where they will be most beneficial. A prioritization tool will also be developed.

Table 1 Traffic Calming Guide and Policy Timelines

Key Tasks	Timelines
Stakeholder Workshops (three)	November 2024 – February 2025
Research and Traffic Calming Policy Development	August 2024 – January 2025
Traffic Calming Guide Development and Report	November 2024 – March 2025
Public Consultation	March 2025
Web Portal Interface	April 2025
Summary Report and Presentation	April 2025

There are three stakeholder engagement workshops planned. The workshops will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to contribute to key aspects of a community-wide vision for traffic/neighbourhood safety as well as the emerging Traffic Calming Policy and Guide. Stakeholders will include both internal and external individuals/groups, and are expected to include, but are not limited to, Operational Services, Emergency Services, Durham Region Transit, Durham Student Transportation Services.

A key component of the Traffic Calming Guide and Policy will not only be the process for consideration and evaluation, but also public consultation. A standardized Public Engagement Process that can be incorporated into the Traffic Calming Policy and be implemented into future neighbourhood traffic calming projects will be developed. This process will clearly define the target audiences to be engaged, the tactics to be used to communicate and consult with the community and stakeholders (including surveys, community meetings and online engagement) and the roles and responsibilities in implementing communications and consultations.

5. Financial Considerations:

As shown in Table 2 below, the estimated cost for Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited to complete the traffic calming plan and implementation study remains within the approved budget for capital project #40237105.

Table 2 Project Breakdown

Project Breakdown	
Approved Capital Projects	
Project #40237105 - Traffic Calming Plan & Implementation Study	\$150,000.00
Total Approved Capital Project Budget	\$150,000.00
Project Expenditures	
Costs Incurred to Date	\$6,179.38
Remaining Project Costs / Commitments	
Traffic Calming Plan & Study - Paradigm Transportation	\$126,108.62
Contingency	\$13,000.00
Total Expenditures & Remaining Commitments	\$145,288.00
Budget Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$4,712.00

6. Communication and Public Engagement:

N/A

7. Input from Departments/Sources:

N/A

8. Strategic Priorities:

Report PDE 11-24 supports Pillar 1 and Pillar 4 priorities of the Community Strategic Plan. Specifically, Pillar 1, Whitby's Neighbourhoods, focuses on community safety. Pillar 4, Whitby's Government, is premised on the best use of technology, transparent and open decision-making, meaningful engagement, and a commitment to continuous improvement. In addition, sustainable transportation such as supporting walkability is a key sustainability principle.

9. Attachments:

N/A