



Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Engineering and Public Works Policy

Administration – Speed Limit Request Policy

Effective: TBD

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Speed Limit Request Policy is to establish a consistent, data-driven, and transparent procedure for evaluating and implementing changes to speed limits on municipal roadways within Strathroy-Caradoc. The policy aligns with the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) to enhance road safety, maintain efficient traffic flow, and address community concerns.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Municipal Employees, and Council Members.

3. PROCEDURE

3.1 Step 1 – Review Initiation

The review process begins with a written request for speed limit change to the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Public Works Department using the Request for Speed Limit Change Form in Appendix A. The submission shall identify the requester and specify the subject road section and nature of the speeding concern. Council members may also submit requests on behalf of constituents.

3.2 Step 2 – Initial Screening

The Municipality will conduct an initial screening of the request to determine if the subject road section meets the following criteria for a speed limit change:

- Where the 85th percentile speed exceeds the current speed limit by 20 km/h or more. Motorists travelling above this speed are typically considered to be exceeding the safe and reasonable speed for road and traffic conditions

Requests for a speed limit change received for roads not under the Municipality's jurisdiction will be referred to the responsible road authority.

The Municipality will only consider measures at locations where:

- A prior request has not been denied within the preceding three years; and
- Speed management measures (traffic calming) have not been removed within the preceding five years.

As part of the initial screening, the Municipality will conduct a speed survey for the subject road section over two separate periods of at least seven consecutive days to determine the 85th percentile speed. The timing for the data collection



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will depend on available resources. The Municipality will typically collect the data required to complete the initial screening in the spring, summer, and/or fall season. Requests received in the winter season will be investigated in the spring.

If the initial screening does not satisfy the minimum requirements for a speed limit change, the Municipality will notify the requester and explain why the request was denied and the investigation has stopped. After this, the Municipality will not entertain new requests for a speed limit change on the subject road section for at least three years.

3.3 Step 3 – Speed Limit Change

The Municipality will assess the merit of changing the speed limit for the subject road section, and determine the recommended posted speed limit if justified, based on the warrants below:

- The current speed limit differs from the suggested speed limit determined using the *Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits* by 20 km/h or more.
- Site specific geometric constraints defined in the *Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads* (such as reduced sight distance or curve radii) do not match the current speed limit
- The 85th percentile speed differs from the current speed limit by 20 km/h or more.

3.4 Step 4 – Approval

Municipal staff will present the recommended speed limit change to Council for approval.

Council may suggest changes to the recommendation such as implementing Traffic Calming measures which will follow the Traffic Calming Policy in the *2022 Transportation Master Plan, Section 6.5*.

If Council does not approve the recommended speed limit change for implementation, the Municipality will not entertain new requests for the speed limit change on the subject road section for at least three years.

3.5 Step 5 – Implementation

If approved in Step 5, the Municipality will install the approved speed limit signs as per the *Ontario Traffic Manual Book 5 Regulatory Signs, Section 6*.



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Appendix A

Request for Speed Limit Change

Where are you requesting the speed limit change for (be as specific as possible with road name and limits)?

Which of the following applies to you?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I live on this street. | <input type="checkbox"/> I work on this street. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My kids go to school on this street. | <input type="checkbox"/> I use this street frequently for commuting, cycling, or walking. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | |

Is there a specific time of day when speeding is an issue?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Morning | <input type="checkbox"/> Noon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight | <input type="checkbox"/> All day |

Are there any other traffic issues concerning you about the street in question?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle volumes | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut-through traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian and cyclist safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Collisions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | |

Name: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Preferred method of contact (check one): Email Phone

Would you like to share any other comments?
