



## THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KINCARDINE

### FYI REPORT

**Subject:** Safety Measures Highway 21-KTTPS - Operations-2023-08.docx

**FYI Report Number:** Operations-2023-08

**Meeting Date:** **Wednesday, April 12, 2023**

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#### **Purpose of Report:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the motion passed on January 9th, 2023. "Council request staff provide a report on how to advocate for increased safety measures to cover the portions of Highway 21 to the north and south of Kincardine Tiverton Township Public School, including applying for a community safety zone, lowered speed limits during beginning/end of school day, and improved turning infrastructure in the area."

#### **Report:**

To date staff have been in communication with the South Bruce Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) as the road authority.

A Focused Patrol was launched by the OPP on January 9th. To date officers have dedicated 17 hours of enforcement to this location with 5 charges laid and 3 warnings issued. OPP staff have also indicated that they have received a great deal of positive feedback from the community for their presence.

Staff have contacted the MTO to request permission to install a camera in this area to observe for traffic violations, collisions, near collisions etc. The data will assist the OPP with their patrol, as well, data collected will be required for any applications made to MTO going forward. The Municipality owns a Covert Radar Device (Black Cat) which will collect this information. MTO also has the capability of installing their own camera in the area.

The request for the addition of a turning lane was also made to MTO. This would allow for vehicles to safely pass buses as they are turning or waiting to turn into the KTTPS entrance. This will also include cautionary signage along the route.

Staff have been investigating the possibility of utilizing Bill 90 - Highway Traffic Act (attached) which enables a municipality to pass a by-law designating the area a “school zone” which would allow for a prescribed rate of speed and times that speed would be in effect in the dedicated area. Again, as this is a provincial highway, we are awaiting a response from the Ministry on this option.

The MTO has reached out to staff to let them know they are actively working on our requests and will provide a response as soon as possible.

### Community Safety Zone (CSZ)

Bill 26, Highway Traffic Amendment Act prescribes that council of a municipality may by-law designate a part of a highway under its jurisdiction as a Community Safety Zone if, in the council’s opinion, public safety is of special concern on that part of the highway. As Highway 21 is a non-municipal highway the Municipality would be required to make application to The Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services through the Ontario Provincial Police. After review of the proposal and data submitted, the Ministry may then decide to designate this part of the highway as a CSZ if in his or her opinion, public safety is of special concern. The Ministry of the Solicitor General administers the approval process and has established application guidelines.

In 2019, Staff made application to the province to dedicate a section of Highway 21 (just south of Tiverton) as a CSZ. The process took approximately 18 months to complete once all the required data was collected and the proposal submitted. In the end we were unsuccessful as it was determined that the proposal did not meet the criteria based on the data collected. Once all the necessary data on speed, collisions etc. is collected for this area, in collaboration with the OPP, staff will determine if it meets the criteria to pursue a CSZ.

### Next Steps

Staff will continue to work with MTO on the possibility of adding a turning lane along this section of the highway and reducing the speed limits during school hours through Bill-90.

Police enforcement is an effective measure to have drivers reduce their operating speed to the posted speed limit. It not only affects the drivers who violate the speed limit but also those who hear about or see others get caught. The challenge with enforcement is the effects are both limited in time and place. We appreciate the efforts of our local detachment and will continue to collaborate with the detachment on the speeding element to the extent their resources allow.

An important aspect of trying to reduce operating speeds is educating the public on the effect of speeding in school zone areas. Staff will work with our Communications Team, KTTPS and the OPP to produce an education blitz for this area.

**Attachments:** Bill 90 - An Act to amend the Highway Traffic Act in respect of school safety zones

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**Report Approval Details**

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| Document Title:      | Safety Measures Highway 21-KTTPS - Operations-2023-08.docx |
| Attachments:         | - bill---text-41-2-en-b090.pdf                             |
| Final Approval Date: | Mar 31, 2023   |

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

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