

# Staff Report to Council

**Title:** Traffic and Parking By-law Amendment Kincardine Ave (South Line)

**Report Number:** Operations-2024-16

**Director:** Infrastructure & Development

**Manager:** Operations

**Meeting Date:**  
Wednesday, June 12, 2024

**Date to be considered by Council:**  
Wednesday, June 12, 2024

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## Recommendation:

That Council approve an amendment to the Traffic and Parking By-law No. 2019 - 165 to reduce the speed limit on Kincardine Ave (South Line) to 60km/h from Highway 21 easterly for 800 meters.

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## Executive Summary:

Staff are recommending an amendment to the existing Traffic and Parking By-law to decrease the rate of speed on Kincardine Avenue (South Line) for 800 meters east of Highway 21 from 80km/h to 60km/h. Through discussion with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) during design of the intersection improvements, a request to consider lowering the speed was presented by the MTO.

## Strategic Priorities:

C.13-Protect people, property and the environment from the effects of dangerous conditions caused by people and nature

## Financial Considerations:

Signage for traffic control is included in the 2024 operating budget.

**Policy:**

Traffic and Parking By-law No. 2019 - 165

**Context and Background Information:**

The detailed design is nearing completion on the intersection improvements at Highway 21 and Kincardine Avenue. As part of this project the MTO will be installing traffic signals at this intersection.

Currently Kincardine Avenue has a posted speed limit of 50km/h west of Highway 21 and 80km/h east of Highway 21. When the traffic signals are installed under the upcoming intersection improvement project MTO has indicated that there would be a benefit to extending the reduced posted limit easterly through the Highway 21 intersection. The MTO requested consideration of lowering the posted speed to a 50km/h limit.

Staff reviewed the request to lower the speed of Kincardine Ave with our municipal engineers who concurred that a reduction in speed would be of benefit due to the vertical curve of the road approaching Hwy 21. Given the development underway and other active interest staff suggest lowering of the speed 800 meters easterly to capture the area within the designated development area under the Municipal Official Plan.

During previous consultation with South Bruce OPP staff on speed reductions in various areas in the Municipality, OPP staff indicated that artificially high or low posted speed limits have little impact on actual operating speeds and can often result in increased non-compliance and increased driver frustration. In this case the drastic change from a rural posted speed of 80km/h to 50km/h may lead to driver frustration resulting in stunt driving or other unfavorable driver actions.

Municipal staff took all the considerations into account and after further consultation with MTO the result is a recommendation of a 60km/h posted limit.

The 60 km/h posted zone will benefit the operation of the newly signalized intersection and provide notice to the west bound driver that they are about to exit a rural area and enter a more urbanized environment.

**Consultation Overview:**

As noted above consultation took place with MTO, Municipal Engineers and previous discussions with the South Bruce OPP.

**Origin:**

Through development at the intersection of Kincardine Ave and Highway 21 and intersection design improvements proposed by the MTO.

**Implementation Considerations:**

If the speed reduction is supported the new speed limit will be signed and shared through our social media channels.

**Risk Analysis:**

Posted speed limits advise drivers of the appropriate speed at which to navigate a section of roadway safely. Road safety is enhanced through credible posted speed limits that match the expectation of drivers for a given roadway and its surrounding area.

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**Attachments:** Map

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**Submitted by:** Adam Weishar, Director of Infrastructure and Development