

Staff Report

Report Title: Speeding on Lake Range Drive

Prepared By: John Yungblut

Department: Public Works

Date: Sep. 8, 2021

Report Number: PW-2021-09-76

File Number: M04 COR 21

Attachments: Fisher Letter Redacted, Report PW2021-08-62

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report Number PW2021-09-76 prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works AND directs staff to investigate traffic speeds and signage improvements on Lake Range Drive.

Background:

Township staff have received the attached letter regarding speeding concerns on Lake Range Drive between Concession 8 and Concession 10.

Discussion:

The first step Township staff take once a speeding complaint is received is to use our speed radar device to collect speed data to determine the severity of the speeding issue in the area. Based on the information Township staff have collected using our Black Cat speed radar device (see attached Report PW2021-08-62), we have found that the data collected does not necessarily support excessive speeding claims. The radar unit was set up on this section of Lake Range Drive on Aug. 31, 2021 and will collect data until Sept. 7, 2021. Township staff will provide a verbal update on the information collected during tonight's meeting. The information collected will also be sent to the Ontario Provincial Police.

If the data collected indicates that excessive speeding is an issue in this area, Township staff can investigate implementing various traffic calming measures such as larger signs, closer sign spacing and electronic speed signs. It should be noted that the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 5 which provides guidance on the use of regulatory signs, recommends a maximum spacing between speed signs of 900 metres in this situation. The current spacing of speed signs on Lake Range Drive between Concession 8 and Concession 10 is approximately 500 metres.

Other traffic calming measures suggested in the letter such as speed humps and visual barriers are generally designed to slow traffic to 30-40 km/hr, so this 60 km/hr section of road would not the preferred situation to utilize these devices.

Township staff have already received direction from Council to begin the process of adding a multi-use path on Lake Range Drive from Concession 12 to Concession 4 to enhance the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. We are currently in the design phase of constructing a multi-use path from Concession 12 to Concession 10 that will connect with the path already in place between Concession 12 and Saratoga Road. Once the design for that section is near completion, Township staff will begin the process of extending the multi-use path to Concession 8. Because the current road platform is not of sufficient width to allow for a multi-use path, it is expected that the work involved will require reconstructing ditches, extending and/or relocating culverts and relocating guiderails.

Financial Impacts:

There are no financial implications at this time, however, a significant capital expenditure will be required to construct a multi-use path on Lake Range Drive, and it will be brought forward during 2021 budget deliberations.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone by having amenities and services nearby and being open and transparent.

Respectfully Submitted By:

John Yungblut, Director of Public Works

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer