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# HALDIMAND COUNTY

## Report ES-23-2018 Abbey Road Speed Limit Reduction

For Consideration by Council in Committee on December 11, 2018

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### OBJECTIVE:

To receive Council approval to create a 60 km/h speed limit zone on Abbey Road from Haldimand Road 54 to a point 475 metres north.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report ES-23-2018 Abbey Road - Speed Limit Reduction Request be received;
2. AND THAT the current Rate of Speed By-law be amended to create a 60 km/h speed limit zone on Abbey Road as follows:

Street	From	To	Speed Limit
Abbey Road	Haldimand Road 54	A point 475 meters north	60 km/h

**Respectfully submitted:** Tyson Haedrich, M. Eng., P. Eng., General Manager of Engineering & Capital Works

**Approved:** Donald G. Boyle, Chief Administrative Officer

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Staff have reviewed the existing conditions on Abbey Road extending north from Haldimand Road 54 and based on vehicle speed data and the sightlines approaching Haldimand Road 54 creating a 60 km/h speed limit zone extending north on Abbey Road from Haldimand Road 54 is recommended.

### BACKGROUND:

At the August 28, 2018 Council in Committee meeting, staff were given direction through the following resolution:

*“THAT staff be directed to report back to a future Council in Committee meeting on reducing the speed limit from 80 km/h to 60 km/h on Abbey Road from Haldimand Road 54 to approximately 500 metres easterly.”*

The purpose of this report is to review the request using the County’s Speed Limit Policy and provide a recommendation to Council regarding the requested speed limit reduction.

### ANALYSIS:

Policy 2007-02 Speed Limit Policy (see Attachment 1) provides the recommended speed limits for urban and rural cross sections based on the road classification.

Based on its intended usage and traffic volumes, Abbey Road (see Attachment 2) is classified as a collector road. As shown in Table 1 of the policy, the rural section speed limit should be 70-80 km/h and the urban section speed limit should be 50 km/h. Abbey Road currently has a posted speed limit of 80 km/h.

Traffic data was collected on Abbey Road approximately 230 metres north of Haldimand Road 54 (shown as a red dot on the attached map) over a seven day period in October 2018. The analysis of the traffic data for vehicle counts and speed is as follows:

<b>Date/Direction of Travel</b>	<b>Average Daily Traffic</b>	<b>85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed</b>	<b>Average Vehicle Speed</b>
October 2018 (Southbound)	157 vehicles	74.6 km/h	62.6 km/h
October 2018 (Northbound)	147 vehicles	75.1 km/h	60.3 km/h

According to the Speed Limit Policy the following additional considerations were also evaluated:

Constrained by physical characteristics (sightlines due to two hills)	Yes
Constrained by adjacent land uses and associated activities	No
Required for heightened safety in sensitive areas such as school zones	No
Required for safe operation temporarily in a construction zone	No
Evidenced by a significantly higher than normal frequency or severity of accidents attributable to excessive speeds, or	No
The recommended level in Table 1 (Haldimand Policy 2007-02) is shown to be higher than the inferred design speed (85 percentile speed is 75 km/h)	Yes

Based on the vehicle speed data collected and the existing conditions, staff are recommending that the existing speed limit of 80 km/h on Abbey Road be reduced to 60 km/h to approximately 475 metres north of Haldimand Road 54 for the following reasons:

- The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed (75 km/h) is below the posted speed limit (80 km/h)
- The average speed of vehicles (both directions) is approximately 61 km/h
- There are constraints due to sightlines caused by two hills on Abbey Road

It should be noted that the Speed Limit Policy does not have a recommended speed limit of 60 km/h for collector roads, however based on the average vehicle speed and the existing physical constraint of the two hills a speed limit of 60 km/h is appropriate for this section of road.

## **FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Roads Operations will be responsible for installing the required signage. The estimated cost is approximately \$300 and will be funded from the Road Operations regulatory/warning signage operating account.

## **STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:**

Not applicable.

## **REPORT IMPACTS:**

Agreement: No

By-law: Yes

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Policy 2007-02 Speed Limit Policy
2. Map showing location of the proposed 60 km/h speed limit zone on Abbey Road