
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report ECW-01-2019 School Crossing Guard – Fairview Avenue West - Dunnville



For Consideration by Council in Committee on February 26, 2019

OBJECTIVE:

To provide Council with a recommendation regarding a permanent school crossing guard on Fairview Avenue West near the new Mapleview Elementary School in Dunnville.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report ECW-01-2019 School Crossing Guard – Fairview Avenue West - Dunnville be received;
2. AND THAT a permanent school crossing guard be implemented on Fairview Avenue West at Mapleview Elementary School in Dunnville;

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

Approved: Donald G. Boyle, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Based on a review of the interim crossing guard operation and the crossing guard warrant guidelines, staff are recommending that a permanent school crossing guard be implemented on Fairview Avenue West in Dunnville.

BACKGROUND:

At the September 18, 2018 Council-in-Committee meeting, staff were given direction through the following resolution:

“THAT the petition for a crossing guard at Fairview School, between 214 and 216 Fairview Ave. W., Dunnville, be received;

AND THAT due to the added congestion of vehicles related to the construction of a new elementary school at this location in addition to the existing school, staff be directed to contract for an additional interim crossing guard at this location until such time as the new school (Mapleview) is opened;

AND THAT the cost of this interim crossing guard be reflected as an unbudgeted 2018 operating expenditure, to be offset by other corporate operating surpluses;

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on the permanent, ongoing crossing guard requirement at this location.”

Based on this resolution an interim school crossing guard is currently located on Fairview Avenue and assists students crossing the street to enter the newly opened Mapleview Elementary School (see Attachment 1). There is also an existing crossing guard located on John Street.

The purpose of this report is to present an analysis of the need for a school crossing guard at Fairview Avenue West at Maplevue Elementary School using the County's School Crossing Guard Warrant Guidelines.

ANALYSIS:

As part of this request staff compiled pedestrian data for the school crossing guard operating hours at Fairview Avenue. Staff then assessed the request for a school crossing guard at Fairview Avenue using the School Crossing Guard Warrant Guidelines. The results of the warrant analysis are shown in Attachment 2 and summarized as follows:

Warrant 1: Minimum Number of Students

- satisfied as there is an average of 60 students (33 in the morning and 88 in the afternoon) crossing at the intersection per day.

Warrant 2: Site Safety Review

- 2(a) Sufficient Sightlines – satisfied as Stopping Site Distance is 90 m (required Stopping Site Distance is 65 m).
- 2(b) Motor Vehicle Accident History – not satisfied as no accidents that could be potentially mitigated by crossing guards have been recorded in past three years.

Warrant 3: Traffic Data Collection

- 3(a) Posted Speed - satisfied as posted speed is 50 km/h (required to be less than or equal to 60 km/h).
- 3(b) Gap Study – not satisfied based on volume of traffic on Fairview Avenue (gap study not conducted).

Warrant 4: Student Behaviour Before Entering Roadway

- satisfied as students appeared intimidated and were showing hesitation before entering the road.

The warrant summary indicates that Warrants 1, 2(a) and 3(a) are satisfied. Based on the warrant requirements, all three of these warrants have to be satisfied as well as one of Warrants 2(b), 3(b) or 4 for the school crossing guard to be considered and, as Warrant 4 is satisfied, a school crossing guard is recommended at this location.

The interim crossing guard is currently operating at the location shown on Attachment 1 and once the demolition, final paving and landscaping for the Maplecreek School is completed in the spring the permanent location will be determined and the signage and line painting will be installed at this location. The existing crossing guard location on John Street will also be reviewed to determine the best location given the new sidewalk constructed on the north side of Fairview Street as part of the school project.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The current crossing guard contract includes nineteen locations across the County. It is anticipated that the addition of one crossing guard will have a minimal cost impact for 2019 and will form part of the overall 2019 operating variance. Staff will further review the cost impacts for the Draft 2020 Tax Supported Operating Budget.

The relocation of the signage and line painting can be funded through the Roads Operations annual operating budgets for these items.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Fairview Avenue West Crossing Guard Location
2. School Crossing Guard Warrant Guidelines