
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report ECW-08-2020 King William Street and Park Street Road Closures at McClung Road, Caledonia



For Consideration by Council in Committee on October 6, 2020

OBJECTIVE:

To provide Council with a recommendation regarding the feasibility of closing King William Street and Park Street at McClung Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report ECW-08-2020 King William Street and Park Street Road Closures at McClung Road, Caledonia be received;
2. AND THAT King William Street be permanently closed at McClung Road;
3. AND THAT Park Street be temporary closed at McClung Road until such time as the subdivision development to the north incorporating Park Street is approved for construction;
4. AND THAT the required bylaws to close King William Street and Park Street be prepared for enactment.

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

Approved: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In response to safety concerns raised by local residents related to cut through traffic in the neighborhood staff have reviewed the requested closures of King William Street and Park Street at McClung Road.

Based the continued increase in traffic from the Empire Avalon subdivision, the feedback from County operational divisions related to the effect of the closures and the minimal impact on existing traffic flow staff are recommending that King William Street be closed permanently at McClung Road and Park Street be closed temporarily until the subdivision to the north incorporating Park Street is approved for construction.

BACKGROUND:

At the May 19, 2020 Special Council meeting staff were given direction through the following resolution:

"THAT staff be directed to report back to a future Council in Committee meeting on the feasibility of closing King William Street and Park Street at McClung Road."

The local Councillor also provided a petition from local residents requesting that both roads be closed at McClung Road (see Attachment 1).

As shown in Attachment 2 there is a small semi-rural residential area located in the east side of Caledonia at the northwest corner of Caithness Street and McClung Road. This area is an older established neighborhood with ten homes on the four streets (Seneca Street, Cayuga Street, King William Street and Park Street). The neighborhood is accessed from McClung Road at King William Street and Park Street and from Caithness Street at Seneca Street and Cayuga Street. The Empire Avalon subdivision is located to the north along McClung Road and can be seen on Attachment 2. A future phase of the Empire Avalon subdivision is planned to extend south from the limits of the current development to include Park Street and dead end Cayuga Street as shown in Attachment 3.

The issue of cut through traffic in this neighborhood has been raised before and in 2019, through Report ECW-05-2019 King William Street, Caledonia - Stop Sign Realignment at Cayuga Street and Seneca Street, staff recommended the stop sign alignments at Cayuga Street and Seneca Street be switched to the King William Street direction to help control cut through traffic. These changes were implemented in April 2019.

The purpose of this report is to review the feasibility of the proposed closures of King William Street and Park Street at McClung Road and provide a recommendation to Council regarding the requested closures.

ANALYSIS:

Based on discussions with the residents the primary concern prompting the road closure requests is the increase in cut through traffic heading southbound on McClung Road and then westbound on Caithness Street. This issue is anticipated to increase as the Empire Avalon subdivision continues to build-out and traffic volumes increase.

Under Section 10 (1) of the Municipal Act *“A single-tier municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public.”* Section 35 of the Municipal Act provides *“Without limiting sections 9, 10 and 11, a municipality may pass by-laws removing or restricting the common law right of passage by the public over a highway and the common law right of access to the highway by an owner of land abutting a highway.”*

Through this authority the County can close King William Street permanently and Park Street temporarily through by-law. The actual method of closure will be determined through discussions with Roads Operations, Engineering Services and Empire Homes given their responsibilities for future traffic upgrades at the McClung Road/Caithness Street intersection.

Staff have discussed the proposed road closures with the affected operational divisions and received the following responses:

- **EMS** – responded that from an operational perspective there are no concerns for access issues related to the house located north on Cayuga Street and the house east on King William Street. EMS also indicated that it is always beneficial to have the ability to have two means of access/egress and/or the ability to have a turn around.
- **Solid Waste** – responded that the proposed closures will not impact operations as Cayuga Street can be used as the entry point to service this area.
- **Roads Operations** – responded that there are no operational issues with the closure of King William Street and while the Park Street closure can also be accommodated with no operational issues the preference would be for Park Street to be made a one way street exiting onto McClung Road.

It should also be noted that both these roads will eventually be closed to neighborhood access, King William due to the proposed upgrades at the Caithness Street intersection and Park Street when it is connected to the new development.

Based the continued increase in traffic from the Empire Avalon subdivision, the feedback from County operational divisions related to the effect of the closures and the minimal impact on existing traffic flow staff are recommending that King William Street be closed permanently at McClung Road and Park Street be closed temporarily until the subdivision to the north incorporating Park Street is approved for construction.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

There will be some costs related to the road closures including ensuring there is adequate space to turn around vehicles at the north end of Cayuga Street and the east end of King William Street; the actual permanent closure of King William Street; and, signage related to the closures.

It is anticipated that some of the costs related to the permanent closure of King William Street may be shared with Empire Homes as part of the required traffic upgrades at McClung Road and Caithness Street and that the remainder of the costs will be funded from Road Operations operating accounts.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: Yes

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Petition for Closure of King William and Park Streets
2. Map of Proposed Road Closures
3. Concept Plan of Proposed Development North of Park Street