

**Subject: Pillette Road (Tecumseh to Plymouth) Traffic Calming - Wards 5 & 8**

**Reference:**

Date to Council: July 27, 2022  
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Clerk's File #: ST/13863

**To:** Mayor and Members of City Council

**Recommendation:**

THAT Report S 13/2022, "Pillette Road (Tecumseh to Plymouth) Traffic Calming Plan" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Executive Summary:**

N/A

**Background:**

Pillette Road was identified as a candidate for traffic calming based on two resident service requests received in February 2019. These service requests followed shortly after a collision at the intersection of Pillette Road and Grand Marais Road where a vehicle struck a house on the east side of the intersection.

In response to these service requests, Administration collected speed and volume data on Pillette Road and conducted a traffic calming review. Pillette Road was confirmed to meet the speed and volume criteria for traffic calming. A petition form (required under the 2015 Traffic Calming Policy, which was in effect at the time) was provided to the original requestor; the completed petition was returned in July 2019.

Following the receipt of the completed petition, a warrant/prioritization review was carried out for the full traffic calming project area (Tecumseh Road East to Plymouth Drive).

Based on its prioritization score relative to other traffic calming project locations, Pillette Road was not prioritized immediately for traffic calming plan development.

In June 2020, based on its score relative to other projects, Pillette Road moved forward for traffic calming plan development.

### Other Reviews

Prior to the 2019 traffic calming request, a sight line review and an all way stop warrant review were carried out at the Pillette Road and Grand Marais Road intersection in response to resident requests. These reviews found:

- An all-way stop is not warranted for the intersection.
- There are no view obstructions due to hedges, fences, or other fixed objects.
  - A view obstruction due to illegal parking south of the intersection was noted during the review; this issue was addressed by Parking Enforcement.

### Discussion:

Development of the traffic calming plan took a number of key factors into account, as summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1: Key Issues and Design Constraints**

| Factor                                | Details  | Notes   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Key Issues for Traffic Calming</b> |  |   |
| Traffic Speed                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speed limit: 50 km/h</li> <li>• Average speed: 58-59 km/h</li> <li>• 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed: 65-67 km/h</li> </ul>  | These results indicate a high degree of speeding.                                   |
| Traffic Volumes                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South of Tecumseh Road: 7,500 vehicles per day</li> <li>• South of Grand Marais Road: 3,950</li> <li>• Target maximum traffic volume (Class 1 Collector): 6,000 vehicles per day</li> </ul> | These results indicate moderately high volumes for a street of this classification. |
| Collision History (2014-2018)         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tecumseh to Somme: 1.4 collisions per year</li> <li>• Somme to Plymouth: 0.6 collisions per year</li> </ul>   | The collision history on Pillette Road is in keeping with other similar streets.    |

| Factor                        | Details   | Notes   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Key Design Constraints</b> |   |   |
| Road Classification           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pillette is a Class 1 Collector road</li> </ul>  | <p>Pillette Road is intended for relatively high volumes of traffic.</p> <p>Displacement of traffic onto nearby local streets would not be a desirable outcome.</p> |
| Heavy Trucks                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pillette Road is a truck route (8:00 am to 6:00 pm)</li> </ul>   | The traffic calming plan should accommodate heavy truck traffic.  |
| Transit                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing: transit route (Central 3) on Pillette Road for entire study area</li> <li>Future (Transit Master Plan): transit route (future route 56) on Pillette Road – Tecumseh to Grand Marais</li> </ul> | The traffic calming plan should accommodate transit buses along its entire length, as well as bus turning movements at the Pillette & Grand Marais intersection.    |
| Cycling                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing: no cycling infrastructure</li> <li>Future (Active Transportation Master Plan): connector bikeway, non-AAA (“all ages and abilities), low priority</li> </ul>                                   | The traffic calming plan should be compatible with future cycling infrastructure.   |

The traffic calming plan that was developed and presented to the public at the June 17, 2021 online public meeting included the following features:

- Roadway narrowing (Adstoll to Grand Marais)
- Reduced intersection corner radius (Grand Marais & Pillette intersection)
- Landscaped median islands (Grand Marais to Plymouth)
- Extended on-street parking areas
- Pedestrian crossover – Pillette Road between Somme Avenue and Adstoll Avenue

This plan can be seen in Appendix A.

Based on resident feedback received at and following the meeting, additional traffic calming measures were added to the plan:

- Radar speed feedback signs

The plan presented to residents for the project approval poll can be seen in Appendix B. The estimated construction cost of this plan is \$408,385.

### Approval Poll

An approval poll of residents and business owners in the project area was carried out from December 3, 2021 to January 31, 2022 (extended from an original deadline of December 23, 2021). Respondents were invited to contact 311 or complete an online survey form.

Residents were notified of the approval poll by a variety of methods:

- Two mailouts to all property owners and tenants in the project area (December 3, 2021 & January 13, 2022)
- Two rounds of social media posts, geo-targeted on the postal codes for the project area (December 2021 & January 2022)
- Notification signs posted on Pillette Road (4 signs total, placed at the ends and midpoint of the project area)

The results of the survey are summarized in Table 2. As noted, the minimum level of support was not reached; therefore, it is recommended that the traffic calming plan not be implemented.

**Table 2: Survey Results**

| Criteria         | Minimum Required   | Received                                     | Criteria Met? |
|------------------|--|--|---------------|
| Response rate    | 50%<br>(125 out of 250 households & commercial properties) | 18%<br><b>(44 out of 250)</b>                | No            |
| Level of support | 60% of respondents voting "yes"                            | 70% "yes"<br><b>(31 out of 44 responses)</b> | Yes           |
| <b>Overall</b>   | <b>Both Criteria Above Are Met</b>                         |  | <b>No</b>     |

An additional 38 responses were received from people outside the project area. Of these responses, 74% (28 responses) were in favour of the traffic calming plan. These responses from outside the project area are not included in Table 2.

Respondents were able to provide additional comments. The most frequent issues raised in the comments:

- Concerns about speeds on Pillette Road

- Concerns about specific recent collisions
- Difficulty crossing Pillette Road as a pedestrian
- Requests for traffic calming on other streets in Windsor

## Next Steps

Because approval poll did not achieve the minimum level of support to proceed, Pillette Road between Tecumseh Road East and Plymouth Drive will not be eligible for re-review for permanent traffic calming for 3 years, as per the process in the Traffic Calming Policy.

For the most recent traffic calming project brought before Council (Drouillard Road), Administration recommended waiving the policy to allow the traffic calming plan to be constructed, despite a low response rate. The Drouillard Road traffic calming study was affected by a number of special concerns that do not apply to the Pillette Road study:

- **Previous relevant consultations:** the Drouillard Road traffic calming project was within the area of the Ford City Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP underwent significant public consultation and had a high level of support from residents and property owners along Drouillard Road. One of the recommendations of the CIP was traffic calming for Drouillard Road.
  - For Pillette Road, there were no prior consultations, studies, master plans, etc., recommending traffic calming.
- **Extenuating circumstances involving community groups:** Ford City Neighbourhood Renewal (FCNR) was instrumental in initiating requests for traffic calming on Drouillard Road and circulating the resident petition. However, FCNR disbanded due to a loss of funding shortly after the public information centre for the project; because of this, FCNR – who had been a major conduit for project information to residents – was inactive by the time of the resident approval survey.
  - For Pillette Road, similar circumstances did not occur.
- **Pandemic impacts:** the resident approval poll for Drouillard Road took place at the height of pandemic restrictions, which raised concerns that these circumstances may have reduced the response rate.
  - For Pillette Road, these concerns were addressed by different means, including multiple mailouts to property owners and tenants, geo-targeted social media posts, and placing signs on Pillette Road advising residents of the approval survey.

There are other initiatives that are available or in process to address speeding on Pillette Road or other concerns identified in resident comments:

- Residents may still initiate petitions under the Parking Control Changes Policy for any or all of the new on-street parking recommended as a speed control measure in the Traffic Calming Plan (north of Somme Avenue and between Grand Marais Road East and Plymouth Drive). If a petition with sufficient support is received, these on-street parking changes could be installed.
- The pedestrian crossover identified in the traffic calming plan for Pillette Road near Somme Avenue & Adstoll Road continues to meet warrant. The intersection of Pillette Road and Grand Marais Road East also meets warrant for a pedestrian crossover.
  - Based on the short distance between these two locations, installation of a pedestrian crossover would only be recommended at one of them.
  - Pillette Road at Grand Marais Road East is #24 in the priority list for a pedestrian crossover, ranked against other warranted locations City-wide.
- A traffic calming study for Grand Marais Road East (Plymouth Drive to Pillette Road) was initiated recently based on resident request. Traffic calming on this section of Grand Marais Road East, if implemented, has the potential to reduce cut-through traffic on Pillette Road as well. Grand Marais Road East is currently #1 in the prioritization list for development of a traffic calming plan.

**Risk Analysis:**

Not proceeding with the traffic calming plan on Pillette Road would create a moderate reputation risk to the City, since no action would be taken for a street with an identified speeding issue. This risk is mitigated by the other approaches available to address speeding and cut-through traffic on Pillette Road, described above under “Next Steps.”

Proceeding with the traffic calming plan on Pillette Road by waiving the Traffic Calming Policy would also create a moderate reputation risk to the City, since the funding required would reduce the number of traffic calming concerns on other streets in the City that could be addressed.

**Climate Change Risks**

**Climate Change Mitigation:**

No action is recommended by this report.

**Climate Change Adaptation:**

No action is recommended by this report.

**Financial Matters:**

No expenditures are recommended by this report.

The estimated capital cost to implement the traffic calming plan shown in Appendix B is \$408,385. Sufficient funds are available in the Traffic Calming Initiatives capital project (7069022) to fund these works; however, this would reduce funds available for other traffic calming projects that met the support criteria.

## **Consultations:**

### **Staff Consultation**

The following departments were consulted during the development of the traffic calming plan:

- Operations
- Traffic Operations
- Operations – Maintenance
- Parks
- Windsor Fire Rescue Services
- Windsor Police Service
- Transit Windsor

### **Public Consultation**

Key points of public consultation were as follows:

- Public information centre (online): June 17, 2021
  - Notification for the public information centre was by mailout to all property owners and tenants in the project area and geo-targeted social media posts.
  - Presentation boards and the meeting recording were posted to the City website.
- Two mailouts to all property owners and tenants in the project area (December 3, 2021 & January 13, 2022)
- Two rounds of social media posts, geo-targeted on the postal codes for the project area (December 2021 & January 2022)
- Notification signs posted on Pillette Road (4 signs total, placed at the ends and midpoint of the project area)

## Conclusion:

Based on a lack of resident support, the traffic calming plan for Pillette Road between Tecumseh Road East and Plymouth Drive is not recommended for construction.

Other options to address concerns received by Plymouth Drive have been identified. Initiatives that require resident support (e.g. on-street parking changes or other neighbourhood traffic calming projects) will be brought forward for approval as resident support is obtained. Initiatives that are City-led will be brought forward for approval based on priority relative to other projects.

## Planning Act Matters:

N/A

## Approvals:

| Name            | Title  |
|-----------------|--|
| John Revell     | Chief Building Official  |
| Josie Gualtieri | Financial Planning Administrator                               |
| Jelena Payne    | Commissioner of Economic Development and Innovation            |
| Chris Nepszy    | Commissioner of Infrastructure Services and City Engineer      |
| Joe Mancina     | Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer |
| Onorio Colucci  | Chief Administrative Officer                                   |

## Notifications:

| Name  | Address | Email |
|---|---------|-------|
| Councillor Sleiman  |         |       |
| Councillor Kaschak  |         |       |
| <i>Project area property owners, tenants and survey respondents<br/>(list provided to Clerks)</i> |         |       |

## Appendices:

- 1 Appendix A: Presentation Materials - June 17, 2021 Public Meeting
- 2 Appendix B: Approval Poll Letter (including Final Traffic Calming Plan)