

**Subject: Matchett Road (Chappus Street to Sprucewood Avenue) Traffic Calming - Ward 1**

**Reference:**

Date to Council: July 27, 2022  
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Planning & Building Services  
Report Date: June 17, 2022  
Clerk's File #: ST/13863

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

**Recommendation:**

THAT Administration **BE DIRECTED** to implement traffic calming on Matchett Road between Chappus Street and Sprucewood Street as shown in Appendix B to report S 81/2022.

**Executive Summary:**

N/A

**Background:**

Matchett Road was identified as a candidate for traffic calming based on a resident service request received in August 2019.

This request followed a recommendation by the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) made at its July 4, 2019 meeting for seasonal closures of Matchett Road and Malden Road to address traffic-related wildlife mortality in and around the Ojibway Prairie Complex. WECEC's recommendation came before Council at its September 9, 2019 meeting and was not supported (CR463/2019 CR411/2019).

In response to the traffic calming service requests, Administration conducted a traffic calming review. Matchett 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 January 2020.

Following the receipt of the completed petition, additional traffic data was collected and a warrant/prioritization review was carried out for the full traffic calming project area

(Chappus Street to Sprucewood Drive) in May 2021. A traffic calming plan was prepared and was presented to the public at an online public open house on February 1, 2022.

### Related Projects

The project area for the Matchett Road Multi-Use Trail project, currently underway, overlaps the traffic calming project area. Phase 1 (Chappell to EC Row Expressway) was completed in 2021. Phase 2 (EC Row Expressway to Broadway) is scheduled for completion in 2022.

The multi-use trail project is not expected to have a significant effect on traffic speeds or volumes on Matchett Road and does not affect Matchett Road’s traffic calming warrant score.

### 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	Implications
<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: 61 km/h</li> <li>• 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed: 69 km/h</li> </ul>	These results indicate a high degree of speeding.
Traffic Volumes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South of Matchett: 8,800 vehicles per day</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.

Factor	Details	Implications
Collision History (2015-2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadway to Sprucewood:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4 collisions per year (0.4 per year reducible by traffic calming)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Matchett/Sprucewood intersection:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2.8 collisions per year (0.8 per year reducible by traffic calming)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Matchett Road has a collision rate that is lower than the city-wide average for other similar streets.
<b>Key Design Constraints</b>		
Road Classification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matchett is a Class 1 Collector road</li> </ul>	<p>Matchett 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>
Roadway Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the project area, Matchett Road has a narrow pavement width (6.5 m to 7.0 m)</li> <li>• In the project area, Matchett Road has a rural cross-section (i.e. ditches without curbs or catch basins) gravel shoulders or no shoulders</li> </ul>	Most traffic calming measures would not be suitable for Matchett Road in the project area.
Road Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matchett Road has an interchange on the E.C. Row Expressway</li> </ul>	Significant diversion of traffic off of Matchett Road onto other major roads in the area would need measures that are beyond the scope of a traffic calming project.

Factor	Details	Implications
Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing: transit route (South Windsor 7) on Matchett Road for entire study area</li> <li>Future (Transit Master Plan): study area is within an ASD (alternative service delivery) area.</li> </ul>	<p>For existing conditions, the traffic calming plan should accommodate transit buses along its entire length.</p> <p>For future conditions, the traffic calming plan should accommodate through movements and turns for smaller ASD vehicles.</p>
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>	<p>The traffic calming plan should be compatible with future cycling infrastructure.</p>

The traffic calming plan that was developed and presented to the public at the February 1, 2022 online public meeting included the following features:

- Peripheral transverse bars: striped pavement markings to increase the feeling of speed for drivers.
- Radar speed feedback signs
- Potential pedestrian crossover at Titcombe Road / Ojibway Nature Centre

The presentation boards from this meeting can be seen in Appendix A.

A comment period was provided following the public meeting, in which residents were invited to respond via 311 or online poll to express their opinion on the traffic calming plan presented and provide additional comments, if any. 167 responses were received during the comment period following the public meeting, broken down as follows:

- Confirmed study area residents: 2 responses (1% of responses)
- Residents (of Windsor, LaSalle or Amherstburg) outside the study area: 148 responses (89% of responses)
- Respondents who did not provide their location: 17 responses (10% of responses)

Responses are summarized in Table 2. Percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.

**Table 2: Response Summary - February 2022 Online Public Meeting**

Category	Number of Responses	Do you support the proposed traffic calming plan within the study area?		
		Yes	No	No Answer or Unclear
Study Area Residents	2	100%	0%	0%
Outside Study Area (includes unknown location)	165	43%	55%	1%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>1%</b>

Some residents chose to provide additional comments. Common themes expressed in the comments are summarized below:

- Concerns about speeding on Matchett Road
- Concerns about wildlife mortality on Matchett Road
- Requests for measures to increase capacity of Matchett Road as a commuting route (e.g. roundabout or signal at the Sprucewood and Matchett intersection or increasing the number of lanes on Matchett Road)
- Requests for speed limit increases on Matchett Road
- Suggestions for other alternative speed control measures (e.g. speed humps or automated speed enforcement)
- Requests for other Windsor streets to be prioritized for traffic calming ahead of Matchett Road
- Requests for the cycling infrastructure on Matchett Road to be extended

### **Approval Poll**

An approval poll of residents and business owners in the project area was carried out from June 3, 2022 to July 3, 2022. Respondents were invited to contact 311 or complete an online survey form. The notice letter, including the traffic calming plan presented for resident approval, is provided in Appendix B.

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

- Mailouts to all property owners and tenants in the project area (June 1, 2022)
- One round of social media posts, geo-targeted on the postal codes for the project area (June 2022)

- Notification signs posted on Matchett Road (4 signs total, placed at the ends and midpoint of the project area)

The results of the survey are summarized in Table 3. As noted, all resident approval criteria are met; therefore, it is recommended that the traffic calming plan be implemented.

**Table 3: Survey Results**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Minimum Required</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Criteria Met?</b>
Response rate	50% (5 out of 10 households & commercial properties)	60% <b>(6 out of 10)</b>	Yes
Level of support	60% of respondents voting "yes"	83% "yes" <b>(5 out of 6 responses)</b>	Yes
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Both Criteria Above Are Met</b>		<b>Yes</b>

An additional 4 responses were received from people outside the project area. Of these responses, 100% (all 4 responses) were in favour of the traffic calming plan. These responses from outside the project area are not included in Table 3.

## **Next Steps**

Pending Council approval, Administration will implement the proposed traffic calming plan shown in Appendix B. Based on the project value, no additional approvals from Council will be required before implementation.

In accordance with the Traffic Calming Policy, a follow-up report will be provided 6 to 12 months after implementation of the traffic calming plan. This report will provide information on the effectiveness of the traffic calming measures.

## **Risk Analysis:**

Proceeding with the traffic calming plan is subject to minor financial risk due to the uncertainty in predictions of future capital and maintenance costs. This risk is normal and inherent in construction projects and will be mitigated by standard project management and cost control practices. It is recommended that this risk be tolerated.

## **Climate Change Risks**

### **Climate Change Mitigation:**

N/A

### **Climate Change Adaptation:**

N/A

## **Financial Matters:**

The total construction cost for the traffic calming plan shown in Appendix B is \$30,000 exclusive of HST. There are sufficient funds in Traffic Calming capital budget project ID #7069022 for this work.

The ongoing annual maintenance cost is estimated as \$3,500 per year. Maintenance costs for initiatives such as this have not been previously identified within operating budgets and therefore this cost may not be able to be accommodated in the existing Signs and Markings operating budget. Should Council approve the traffic calming plan, a budget increase may be brought forward as part of the 2023 operating budget submission.

## **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): February 1, 2022
  - 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.
- Mailout to all property owners and tenants in the project area (June 1, 2022)
- One round of social media posts, geo-targeted on the postal codes for the project area (June 2022)
- Notification signs posted on Pillette Road (4 signs total, placed at the ends and midpoint of the project area)

## **Conclusion:**

Based on the results of the resident approval survey, Administration recommends that the traffic calming plan for Matchett Road between Chappus Street and Sprucewood Avenue, shown in Appendix B, be implemented.

## **Planning Act Matters:**

N/A



**Approvals:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
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
Janice Guthrie	On behalf of Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer
Onorio Colucci	Acting Chief Administrative Officer

**Notifications:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Email</b>
Councillor Francis		
Windsor Essex County Environment Committee		
<i>Area residents and project notification list (list provided to Clerks)</i>		

**Appendices:**

- 1 Appendix A: Presentation Slides, February 1, 2022 Online Public Meeting
- 2 Appendix B: June 1, 2022 Letter to Residents (includes proposed traffic calming plan)