



**CITY OF HAMILTON**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**Transportation Operations and Maintenance Division**

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	July 8, 2020
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Traffic Calming Management Policy (PW20044) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
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<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Edward Soldo Director, Transportation Operations & Maintenance Public Works Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

### RECOMMENDATION

That the City of Hamilton, Traffic Calming Management Policy, attached to Report PW20044 as Appendix "A", be approved and supersedes any previous Traffic Calming Policies.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Hamilton is responsible for ensuring roadways serve the needs of all users such as vehicles, transit, pedestrians (including those with accessibility needs), cyclists, emergency vehicles and operations.

Traffic calming can be a contentious subject and should be managed in a clear, concise and transparent approach that meets the needs and expectations of the community. This Traffic Calming Management Policy has been developed based on traffic calming experience gained in the City of Hamilton and industry best practices.

The policy provides guidance on process and structure by which the City of Hamilton will respond to neighbourhood traffic issues in the City. Application of the policy defines a formal process from the initial contact through data collection, assessment, consultation, evaluation, planning, design, and implementation of traffic calming attached to Report PW20044 as Appendix "A".

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

The policy applies to retrofit locations, existing roadways that have identified operational and safety needs. It does not apply to major capital projects that the City undertakes as the project needs assessment process takes into account Vision Zero principles and the road safety requirements as part of the overall project scoping exercise.

**Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 6**

**FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial: Traffic calming initiatives are funded from a number of existing capital accounts or from Ward Area Rating Reserves.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

In 2007, Council approved Traffic Calming/Traffic Management Policy and Procedure (PW07150) which provided a formal traffic calming program to respond to concerns related to individual streets or locations. Before this policy, staff focused mainly on large-scale neighbourhood traffic calming reviews.

In 2013, a new policy was approved by Council which superseded the 2007 policy. The Traffic Calming Management Policy Update (PW07150a) was created upon direction from Council to provide a document that better aligned with the emerging community expectations for a more balanced transportation network. This policy update was consistent with a complete streets approach and the priorities and objectives of neighbourhood action plans. The policy aligned with the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Program (HSRSP) and the program's primary emphasis on intersections and vulnerable road users, while incorporating a review of several traffic calming policies from municipalities across Canada

On February 4, 2019, Council approved the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Program and Vision Zero Action Plan 2019-2025, through Report PW19015, which aims to provide a safe road network for all users and to eliminate incidents that result in injury or fatality. The Action Plan, which is funded by the Red Light Camera reserve, identifies priorities and initiatives that are focused on high-level actions of road safety improvement pertaining to the 5 E's which are engineering, education, enforcement, engagement and evaluation.

On January 13, 2020, Council approved the City of Hamilton Vision Zero Action Plan 2019-2025 Update (PW19015a).

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS**

The recommended Traffic Calming Management Policy aligns with the “Community Vision” established in the following Council approved policies.

Urban Official Plan

Applicable Section	Description
1.0 Planning Act Implementation Tools – Complete Application Requirements and Formal Consultation	g) Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Options Report
4.0 Road Network	4.5 Functional Road Classification (Collector and Local Roads) - Horizontal traffic calming features such as curb extensions, median islands, and roundabouts shall be permitted where appropriate subject to meeting City Traffic warrants...  Traffic Management 4.5.9 Traffic calming shall be considered an effective means of reducing the negative impacts of traffic on the quality of life for Hamilton residents in existing and planned neighbourhoods and other built up areas...  4.5.11 Traffic management plans for entire neighbourhoods (bounded by an arterial road network) shall be preferred over street-by-street solutions that may shift problems to adjacent roadways...

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Hamilton Transportation Master Plan

Applicable Section	Description
2.3 Key Policy Themes	<p>Building Liveable Communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design streets to support a pedestrian and transit-friendly environment.</li> <li>• Consider traffic calming as an effective means of reducing the negative impacts of traffic...</li> </ul>
7.2 Road Network	<p>7.2.4 Supporting Measures            ... supporting strategies to enhance the capability of the road network while also improving quality of life for residents by implementing measures such as traffic calming and road diets.</p> <p>Minor Arterial Roads            8. Gateway traffic calming features may be implemented where required.</p> <p>Urban Residential Collector            7. Horizontal traffic calming features should be provided where required.</p>

Hamilton Council Strategic Plan 2016-2025

Applicable Section	Description
Our Mission	To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Program and Vision Zero Action Plan 2019-2025

Applicable Section	Description
Vision:	To have the safest traffic record in Canada.
Mission:	To improve the quality of life of the citizens of Hamilton through a reduction in property damage and injury resulting from traffic collisions.
Primary Emphasis Areas:	Aggressive Driving, Intersections, and Vulnerable Users

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## **RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

The following City of Hamilton Departments/Divisions have been consulted in the development of this report:

- City Clerks;
- Corporate Services, Finance & Administration;
- Transportation Planning;
- Hamilton Fire Department;
- Hamilton EMS; and
- Hamilton Transit.

## **ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Transportation Operations & Maintenance receives approximately 1,500 requests annually to investigate various concerns related to the operations and safety of roadways. Most requests are a result of concerns related to speeding, traffic volume on local roadways and unsafe conditions for vulnerable road users. These noted concerns from residents and Councillors commonly request the installation of traffic calming measures.

The purpose of the Traffic Calming Management Policy, attached to Report PW20044 as Appendix “A”, is to create a transparent and defined process for responding to requests, with minimum criteria and with a prioritizing or ranking system.

The proposed policy will enable residents, Councillors, and the City to work together to determine solutions to identified problems, screen solutions, gather public support and integrate implementation into annual capital budget cycles.

As outlined in the Traffic Calming Management Policy, upon receipt of a traffic calming request, Transportation Operations & Maintenance will undertake a pre-screening evaluation of the subject location. Each location must meet a set criterion of eight geometric and operation features.

Prior to undertaking a detailed review of a location, Transportation Operations & Maintenance will survey localized residents. There must be a minimum of 50% plus one, support from the surveyed residents to continue to the next steps.

If a location has been identified as supported for review by the residents, Transportation Operations & Maintenance will undertake a variety of studies and complete a point assessment and ranking of the location. Local roadways will need to meet a minimum requirement of 35 points and collector roadways will need to meet a minimum requirement of 52 points.

For roadways that meet the minimum requirements, Transportation Operations & Maintenance will initiate a public consultation and notice process to finalize a preferred traffic calming plan.

### **ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

Council could choose to support portions of the Traffic Calming Management Policy. This alternative is not recommended since it may not align with other related Council approved policies in the City of Hamilton relating to traffic calming and pedestrian issues.

Council could choose to accept the Traffic Calming Management Policy with additional amendments. This alternative is not recommended because amendments may conflict with other Council approved related policies in the City of Hamilton relating to traffic calming and pedestrian issues. Additional amendments may also provide less clarity to staff, result in additional staff time, and may cause a delay in the resolution of roadway safety issues.

### **ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

#### **Community Engagement and Participation**

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

#### **Economic Prosperity and Growth**

Hamilton has a prosperous and diverse local economy where people have opportunities to grow and develop.

#### **Healthy and Safe Communities**

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

#### **Built Environment and Infrastructure**

Hamilton is supported by state of the art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

### **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix “A” to Report PW20044 – City of Hamilton Traffic Calming Policy 2020