

CITY OF HAMILTON

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Environment and Sustainable Infrastructure Division

TO: Chair and Members Public Works Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: WARD 11
COMMITTEE DATE: February 6, 2012	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Petition for Road Safety Improvements - Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road (PW12006) - (Ward 11) (Outstanding Business List Item)	
SUBMITTED BY: Gerry Davis, CMA General Manager Public Works Department	PREPARED BY: Chris van Berkel (905) 546-2424, Extension 5663
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (a) That the speed limit on Highway 8 between Fruitland Road and Lewis Road be reduced from 70 km/h to 60 km/h;
- (b) That the existing part-time School Zone Flashing Speed Limit of 60 km/h on Highway 8 in the vicinity of Glover Road be reduced to 50 km/h in conjunction with the speed reduction noted above;
- (c) That the existing "Curve Warning" signs for both directions of travel on Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road be replaced with "High Intensity Diamond Grade" reflective sign sheeting;
- (d) That a full traffic signal be installed at the intersection of Highway 8 and Glover Road in 2012 with funding from account 55916-461010;
- (e) That an appropriate by-law to amend the City of Hamilton Traffic By-law 01-215 be passed and enacted;
- (f) That the "Petition for Road Safety Improvements on Highway 8 east of Jones Road to east of Glover Road" be identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting held April 13, 2011, City Council referred a petition, signed by approximately 1,416 residents, to staff for review/action of several items, namely:

1. A reduced speed limit on Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road from 70 km/h to 60 km/h.
2. A reduced part-time Flashing School Zone Speed Limit of 40 km/h in the vicinity of Glover Road.
3. A Flashing Amber Beacon above the existing "Curve Warning" sign on Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road.
4. A full-time traffic signal at the intersection of Glover Road and Highway 8.

This matter was subsequently placed on the Public Works Committee's Outstanding Business List for a follow up report in 2012.

Although the subject petition requested the City to review Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road only, staff reviewed the entire stretch of Highway 8 between Fruitland Road and Fifty Road, as part of this overall road safety audit.

The existing posted speed limit on Highway 8 between Fruitland Road and Lewis Road is 70 km/h. A review of this stretch of roadway revealed that a 60 and/or 70 km/h speed limit would be considered appropriate. However, since Queenston/Highway 8 from Centennial Parkway to the east municipal boundary at Fifty Road is presently posted at 60 km/h (except the segment between Fruitland and Lewis) it would be appropriate to post this entire stretch of roadway at 60 km/h for consistency purposes. In conjunction with the speed reduction mentioned above, it would also be appropriate to reduce the existing 60 km/h part-time Flashing School Zone Speed Limit, in the vicinity of Glover Road to 50 km/h.

The existing curves on Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road are presently signed with oversized "Curve Warning" signs. A safety review of these two curves revealed that Flashing Amber Beacons are not required. However, in an effort to enhance the visibility of these signs, particularly during night-time driving conditions, staff are recommending that they be replaced with High Intensity Diamond Grade reflective sheeting.

The intersection of Highway 8 and Glover Road is presently controlled by northbound and southbound stop signs on Glover Road. However, the criteria for the installation of a full traffic signal is very close to being met and therefore, a traffic signal is recommended for installation in 2012. The estimate cost for the traffic signal is \$150,000.00. There are sufficient funds in the 2012 Capital Budget.

Alternatives for Consideration - See Page 3

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The financial implications associated with these recommendations include the costs to operate and maintain the new traffic signals of approximately \$ 4,000.00 per year. The additional costs to reduce the part-time Flashing School Zone Speed Limit; and replace the existing “Curve Warning” signs are covered under the existing signage Operating Budget.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

As a result of previous concerns received a few years ago, Staff reviewed the curves on Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road and, as a result of that review, increased the size of the “Curve Warning” signs. At that time, staff also installed delineators to highlight the two curves particularly during night-time driving conditions. The most recent review was the result of a petition signed by 1,416 area residents. The collision record for this section of road did not reveal any documented collision “patterns”. However, there have been two serious (fatal injury) collisions on these curves and the Police Collision Reports noted alcohol was a contributing factor in both fatal collisions.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The reduced Flashing 50 km/h School Zone Speed Limit conforms to the Policy for Reduced School Zone Speed Limits. The Policy allows for a maximum 10 km/h speed reduction from the background speed limit, which in this case will be 60 km/h.

The recommendations contained in this report support the Mission Statement of the Public Works Business Plan “Innovate Now”, *“Provide safe, strategic and environmentally conscious services that bring our communities to life.”*

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Staff has consulted with Ward 11 Councillor who has advised she supports these recommendations.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Staff utilized the Transportation Association of Canada’s (TAC) methodology for determining speed limits which resulted in either a 60 km/h or a 70 km/h speed limit on Highway 8. The traffic signal proposed for Highway 8 and Glover Road was very close to meeting the Policy that staff can support its installation in 2012.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

Staff considered leaving the existing 70 km/h speed limit in place on Highway 8 as the evaluation and Policy would support either a 70 km/h or a 60 km/h in this stretch of roadway. However, for consistency purposes, staff supported the request of the residents as it will provide for a uniform 60 km/h speed limit on Highway 8 from Centennial to the east municipal boundary.

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

Financial Sustainability

- ◆ Delivery of municipal services and management capital assets/liabilities in a sustainable, innovative and cost effective manner.

Healthy Community

- ◆ An engaged Citizenry that participates in decision making.

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

Appendix "A": By-law to amend the City of Hamilton Traffic By-law 01-215

Appendix "B": Map - Petition for Road Safety Improvements - Highway 8 between Jones Road and Glover Road

Authority: Item: Name of Committee
Report:
CM: Date

Bill No.

CITY OF HAMILTON

BY-LAW NO. 12-

**To Amend By-law No. 01-215
Being a By-law To Regulate Traffic**

WHEREAS sections 8, 9 and 10 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, authorize the City of Hamilton to pass by-laws as necessary or desirable for the public and municipal purposes, and in particular paragraphs 4 through 8 of subsection 10(2) authorize by-laws respecting: assets of the municipality, the economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality; health, safety and well-being of persons; the provision of any service or thing that it considers necessary or desirable for the public; and the protection of persons and property;

AND WHEREAS on the 18th day of September, 2001, the Council of the City of Hamilton enacted By-law No. 01-215 to regulate traffic;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to amend By-law No. 01-215.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

1. Schedule 2 (Speed Limits) of By-law No. 01-215, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding to Section "F" (Stoney Creek) thereof the following item, namely:

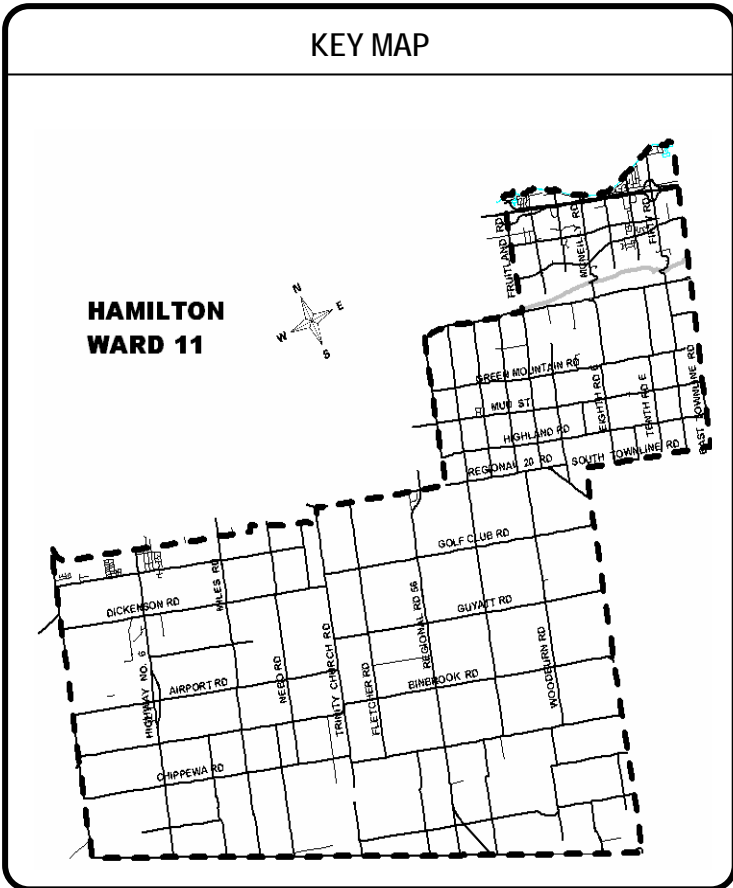
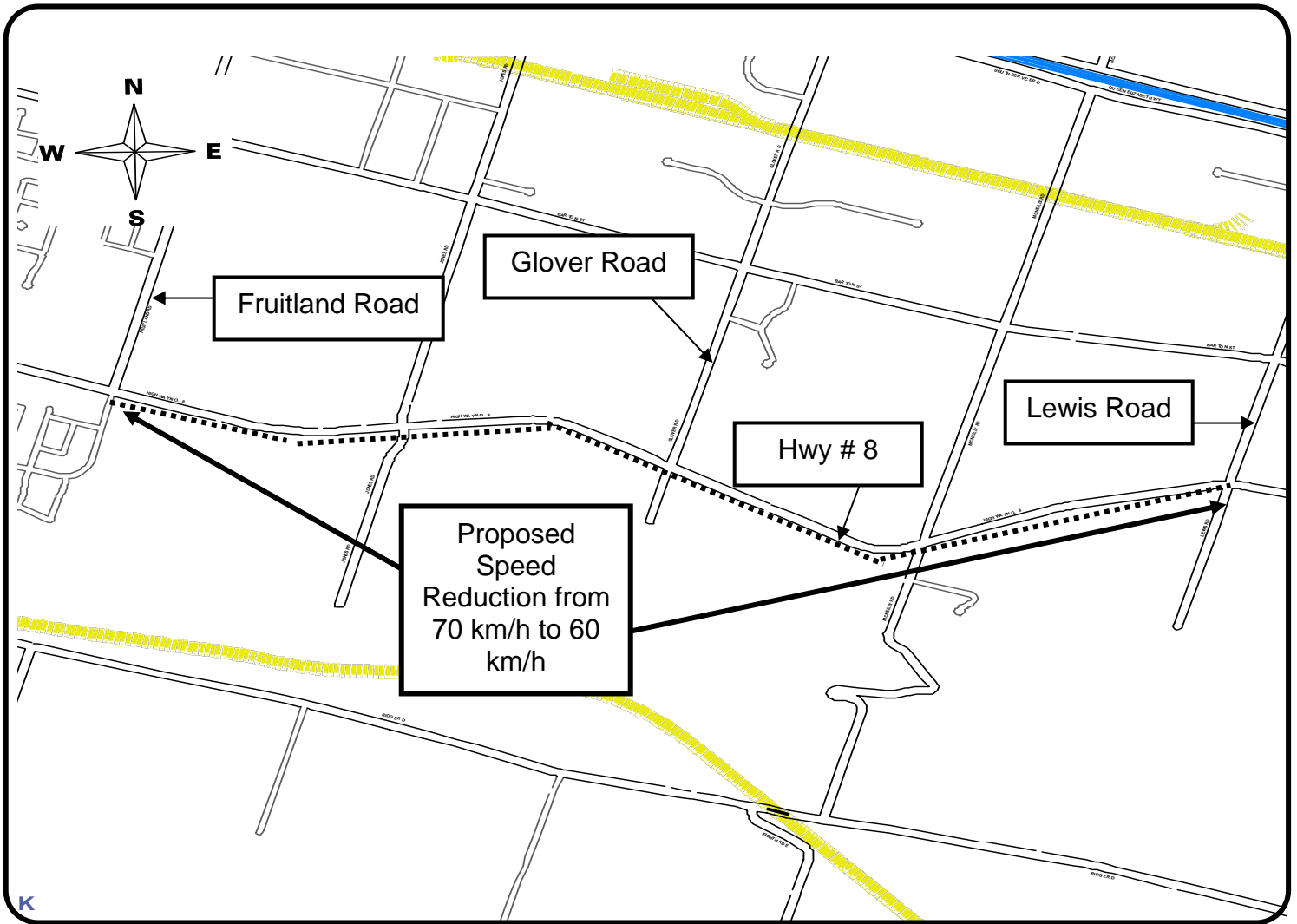
"Highway 8	Donn Avenue	East City Boundary	60"
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and by deleting from Section "G" (Former Regional Roads) Sub-section 6 (Stoney Creek) the following items, namely:

"Highway 8	East Region Limit	66m east of Lewis Road	60
Highway 8	66m east of Lewis Road	Fruitland Road	60
Highway 8	Donn Avenue	Fruitland Road	60"

2. Schedule 3 (Flashing School Zones – Reduced Speed Limit) of By-law No. 01-215, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding to Section "F" (Stoney Creek) thereof the following item, namely:

"Highway 8	300m east of Glover Road to 150m west of Glover Road	50	8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m."
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LOCATION PLAN

PROPOSED STOP CONTROL:

Highway 8 between Fruitland Road and Lewis Road

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

LEGEND

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PROPOSED SPEED REDUCTION

SCALE
NOT TO SCALE

DATE
February 6, 2012

REFERENCE FILE NO
APPENDIX "B"
REPORT PW12006