



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

REPORT

Item No.

REPORT TO: Reeve Vincent and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: Sean McGhee
DATE: 15/01/2018
SUBJECT: Automated Speed Enforcement
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receive the report of the Director of Public Works, dated January 15, 2018 regarding use of Automated Speed Enforcement systems for information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Concern has been raised by members of Council and the general public surrounding pedestrian and vehicular safety in downtown areas; the intersection of Highways 25 and 4; and pedestrian safety in existing Community Safety Zones.

At the November 20, 2017 Council meeting, staff was directed to investigate the use of Photo Radar as a means to enhance public safety in these areas. Photo Radar technology, which is now referred to as an Automatic Speed Enforcement (ASE) system was in use in the province from 1994 to 1995 before the program was discontinued and repealed.

New Legislation entitled Bill 65, the Safer School Zones Act, received Royal Assent on May 30th, 2017. This legislation may provide the necessary mechanisms to aide municipalities in their efforts to increase safety for pedestrians and motorists. The regulations for this legislation could be filed as early as 2018. Once the regulations for this Act are in place, municipalities, including North Huron, will be in a position to consider the use of Automated Speed Enforcement.

DISCUSSION

The Safer School Zones Act (Bill 65) introduces amendments to the Highway Traffic Act which include the following:

1. The Bill provides municipalities with broader authority to impose speed limits of less than 50 kilometers per hour in areas that they so designate. The reduced speed limit in these areas is designated by By-Law of the Council of the Municipality and enforceable through Section 128 of the Highway Traffic Act.
2. Automated Speed Enforcement systems may be used in accordance with applicable regulations under the Safer School Zones Act in municipally designated Community Safety Zones as well as designated school zones.
3. Amendments surrounding the use of Red Light Camera Systems have been incorporated into the Act and apply to the language pertaining to evidence acquired through this technology.

The Ministry of Transportation is in the process of developing the regulations necessary to implement this Act. Once the regulations are in place, the Township will be in a position to move forward with the measures contained in Bill 65.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications at this time.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Once the regulatory framework is in place, the Council of the Township of North Huron may wish to pursue this issue further. Staff will continue to monitor the status of Bill 65. A report will be brought forward which will outline the available options for consideration at that time.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 3 the Township is healthy and safe. Goal 4 the administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence.



Sean McGhee, Director of Public Works



Dwayne Evans, CAO