



Administrative Report

To: Warden MacDonald and Members of Essex County Council

From: Jerry Behl, P.Eng.
Manager, Transportation Planning and Development

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Subject: Tecumseh School Safety Zones

Report #: 2024-0717-IPS-R16-JB

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide County Council with information regarding The Town of Tecumseh's request for the County of Essex to consider amending the effective times of School Safety Zones to 24 hours/day, 7 days per week for those County Roads located within the Town of Tecumseh.

Background

On March 26, 2024 Tecumseh Administration took a report to their Council and the Policy and Priorities Committee regarding Community Safety Zones (CSZ). The report recommended the following:

1) Removal of the CSZ located on County Road 34

Section 214.1(1) of the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) states: "The council of a municipality may by by-law designate a part of a highway under its jurisdiction as a community safety zone if, in the council's opinion, public safety is of special concern on that part of the highway".

As County Road 34 is not under the jurisdiction of the Town of Tecumseh it should be removed from the municipal by-law. It is noted that this section of County Road 34 is designated as a CSZ within the County of Essex's By-law 51-2013 and will remain in effect.

2) Revise the CSZ effective time to 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Section 214.1(3) of the HTA states: “a by-law or regulation designating a community safety zone shall specify the hours, days and months when the designation is in effect”.

This standardization of times and dates for all CSZ in Tecumseh is to enhance the ease of enforcement and is consistent with best practices throughout Ontario.

3) Revise the CSZ on Tecumseh Road which currently fronts DM Eagle Public School

The Greater Essex County District School Board is currently constructing the new Beacon Heights Public School at 13800 Tecumseh Road (150 m west of Arlington Road), which will be the replacement for DM Eagle Public School. It is recommended to relocate the CSZ on Tecumseh Road to align with the new Beacon Heights Public School in advance of its opening.

Discussion

There are three Community Safety Zones within Tecumseh that are located on County Roads and are captured within County By-law 51-2013. All three cover schools.

- County Road 34 (Malden to 500 meters easterly) St. Mary French Immersion Catholic School
- County Road 42 (County Road 43 to Lesperance Road) St. Peter Catholic Elementary School
- County Road 43 (County Road 42 to CP Rail). Tecumseh Vista Academy

The effective time for these zones is 7:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

On May 15, 2024 the County received a letter from the Town of Tecumseh requesting the County revise its By-law 51-2013 to have the effective times 24 hours/day, 7 days per week. This would coincide with the update to Tecumseh’s By-law 2015-53 and would standardize all Community Safety Zones within Tecumseh for the ease of enforcement. County Administration support this change.

County By-law 51-2013 includes CSZs in other local municipalities. County Administration intends to perform a full review of all Community Safety Zones on county roads in the future which may result in additional

recommendations to amend the by-law. So as not to delay standardization for the Town of Tecumseh, Administration recommends proceeding with Tecumseh’s request at this time.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of the By-Law amendment will be absorbed within the County's regular operations. Staff time spent preparing the revised By-Law will be managed within their normal duties. There are no additional costs to the County for amending the by-law, and the existing signs will remain in place.

Consultations

Consultation with Legislative Services

Strategic Plan Alignment

Working as Team Essex County	Growing as Leaders in Public Service Excellence	Building a Regional Powerhouse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Scaling Sustainable Services through Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Focusing “Team Essex County” for Results <input type="checkbox"/> Advocating for Essex County’s Fair Share 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Being an Employer with Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Government Working for the People <input type="checkbox"/> Promoting Transparency and Awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing Reliable Infrastructure for Partners <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting Dynamic and Thriving Communities Across the County <input type="checkbox"/> Harmonizing Action for Growth <input type="checkbox"/> Advancing Truth and Reconciliation

Recommendation

That Essex County Council receive report number 2024-0717-IPS-R16-JB, Tecumseh School Safety Zones as information and direct administration to amend Schedule I of County By-Law 51-2013.

Approvals

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Behl

Jerry Behl, P.Eng., Manager, Transportation Planning and Development

Concurred With,

Allan Botham

Allan Botham, P.Eng., Director, Infrastructure and Planning Services

Concurred With,

Sandra Zwiers

Sandra Zwiers, MAcc, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix	Title
I	Town of Tecumseh Report PWES-2024-18
II	Letter from Town of Tecumseh dated April 19,2024