



Administrative Report

To: Warden MacDonald and Members of Essex County Council

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

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Subject: County Road 11 Near Concession 4, Town of Essex – Speed and Safety Review

Report #: 2025-0319-IPS-R07-JB

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information on a review of safety and speed on County Road 11 south of its intersection with Concession 4 in the Town of Essex.

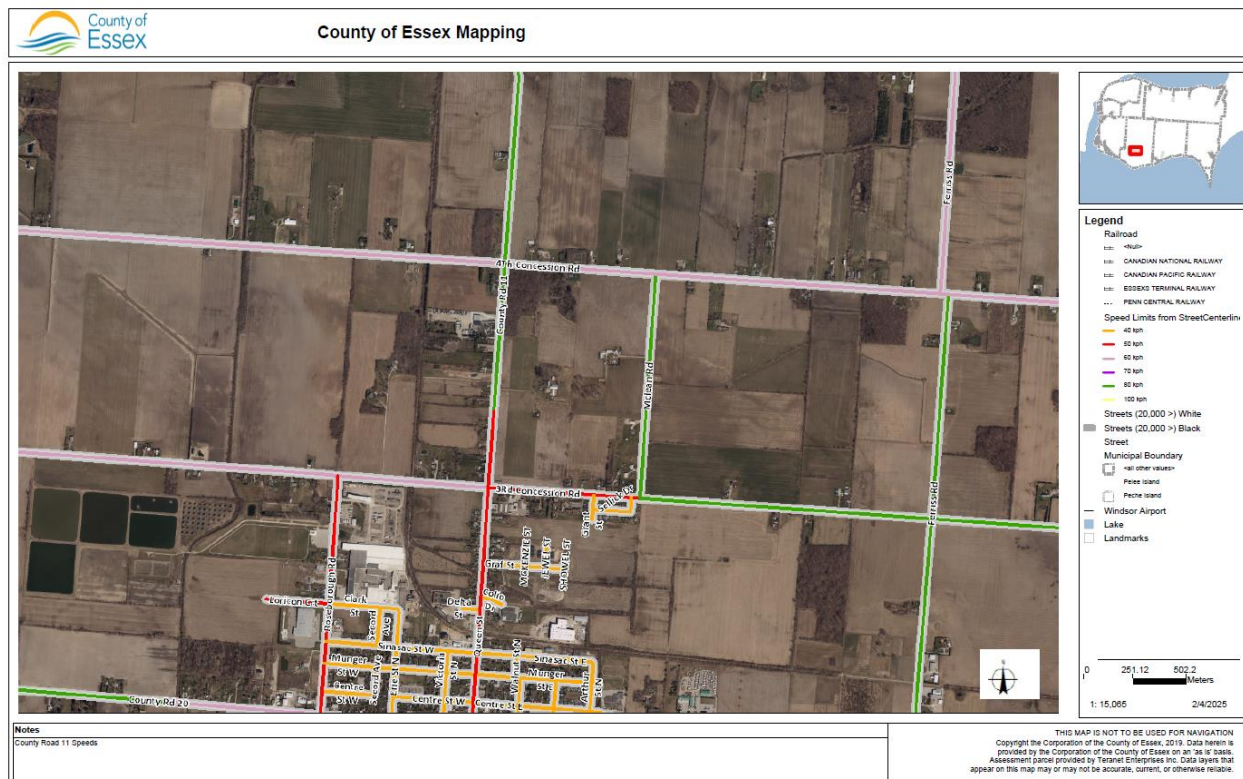
Background

Further to a number of concerns, and requests, Administration has reviewed a reduction to the speed limit of County Road 11, north of the Community of Harrow, in the Town of Essex.

County Road 11, from County Road 20 to 375m north of 3rd Concession Road, has a posted speed of 50km/h. To the north of this point the posted speed is 80km/h.

The subject road segment is shown in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1



Discussion

Administration conducted a review following the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) guidelines for "Establishing Posted Speed Limits," considering the following factors:

- Vehicle speed
- Road geometry
- Pedestrian and cyclist exposure
- Roadside hazards
- Proximity of intersections
- Number of driveways

The technical review supports a reduction in the posted speed limit; however, effective decision-making in transportation planning requires more than just numerical analysis. Engineering principles emphasize the importance of combining data-driven insights with professional judgment. While quantitative models provide essential information, relying solely on

numbers can overlook critical factors such as human behavior, environmental conditions, and practical feasibility.

For example, traffic volume data may indicate an intersection is functioning efficiently, yet adjustments may still be necessary based on sightlines, pedestrian activity, or driver behavior. Similarly, in this case, the recommendation to reduce the posted speed limit reflects both the findings of the technical review and a broader assessment of real-world conditions.

This approach ensures that the decision supports not only compliance with guidelines but also road safety and the overall well-being of the community. Given these considerations, Administration recommends reducing the posted speed along County Road 11, between 3rd Concession Road and 4th Concession Road in the Town of Essex, to 50 km/h.

Financial Implications

The installation of signage at the intersection is estimated to cost approximately \$2,000, will be completed by the County's sign group, and will be managed within the approved Intersection Safety Improvement budget.

Consultations

County Administration has consulted Administration in the Town of Essex regarding proposed modifications to the posted speed.

Strategic Plan Alignment

Working as Team Essex County	Growing as Leaders in Public Service Excellence	Building a Regional Powerhouse
<input type="checkbox"/> Scaling Sustainable Services through Innovation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focusing “Team Essex County” for Results <input type="checkbox"/> Advocating for Essex County’s Fair Share	<input type="checkbox"/> Being an Employer with Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Government Working for the People <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promoting Transparency and Awareness	<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 2025-0319-IPS-R07-JB, County Road 11 Near Concession 4, Town of Essex – Speed and Safety Review, as information.

AND

That Essex County Council direct Administration to reduce the speed limit on County Road 11 from 3rd Concession Road to 50 metres north of 4th Concession Road.

AND

That by-law 2025-10 be adopted, amending By-law 26-2002 to Regulate Traffic and Parking on Highways within the Essex County Roads System, ‘Schedule H’ to reduce the speed on County Road 11 from 3rd Concession Road to 50 metres north of 4th Concession Road from 80km/h to 50km/h.

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
N/A	N/A