



## 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 46 at the Intersection of County Road 19 – Speed and Safety Review

**Report #:** 2025-0319-IPS-R06-JB

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### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information on a review of safety and speed at the intersection of County Road 46 and County Road 19.

### Background

At the regular meeting of Council held on September 18, 2024, County Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution 253-2024:  
Moved By Michael Prue  
Seconded By Chris Gibb

*"That County Administration prepare a report to review the rate of speed on County Road 46 at the intersection of County Road 19".*

County Road 46 is a two-way, two lane, rural arterial with a posted speed limit of 80km/h that runs in an east-west direction.

County Road 19 is also a two-way, two lane, arterial with a posted speed limit of 60km/h that runs in a north-south direction.

The intersection is signalized.

There are three unsignalized intersections fairly close to the intersection of County Road 46 and County Road 19:

1. Middle Road 380m east on County Road 46;
2. North Talbot Road 260m west on County Road 46; and
3. 12<sup>th</sup> Concession 740m west on County Road 46.

The subject intersection 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:

- Speed of vehicles
- 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 46, between Middle Road and North Talbot Road, to 60 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 consulted with the Administration in the Town of Tecumseh and Municipality of Lakeshore regarding proposed modifications to this intersection.

### Strategic Plan Alignment

| Working as Team<br>Essex County   | Growing as Leaders in<br>Public Service<br>Excellence   | Building a Regional<br>Powerhouse  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scaling Sustainable Services through Innovation<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focusing “Team Essex County” for Results<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Advocating for Essex County’s Fair Share | <input type="checkbox"/> Being an Employer with Impact<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Government Working for the People<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promoting Transparency and Awareness | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing Reliable Infrastructure for Partners<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supporting Dynamic and Thriving Communities Across the County<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Harmonizing Action for Growth<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Advancing Truth and Reconciliation |

### Recommendation

That Essex County Council receive report number 2025-0319-IPS-R06-JB, County Road 46 at the Intersection of County Road 19 – Speed and Safety Review, for information.

#### AND

That Essex County Council direct Administration to reduce the speed limit on County Road 46 from 80km/h to 60km/h from 50 metres east of Middle Road and 50 metres west of North Talbot 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 46 from 50 metres east of Middle Road and 50 metres west of North Talbot Road from 80km/h to 60km/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 |
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| N/A      | N/A   |