City Council

Motion without Notice

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Request for Expansion of the "Watch Your Speed" Program - by Councillor Christin Carmichael Greb, seconded by Councillor Anthony Perruzza

* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.

* This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.

Recommendations

Councillor Christin Carmichael Greb, seconded by Councillor Anthony Perruzza, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, as part of the Road Safety Plan, to:

a. investigate and report to Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on the capital and operating funding needs of expanding the mobile "Watch Your Speed" Program to provide one mobile radar speed display device per Ward, as part of the update report on the Road Safety Plan in Q1 of 2017;

b. investigate the feasibility of implementing pole-mounted radar speed display devices for use on streets where existing mobile "Watch Your Speed" trailers cannot be accommodated;

c. relax the criteria for the mobile "Watch Your Speed" program to include things like arterial roads with a maximum of 2 lanes in each direction and to extend the operation of the mobile "Watch Your Speed" Program at each site from 1 week in duration to 3 weeks in duration; and

d. investigate and report back on the feasibility of accepting donations from the public to provide additional funding support for the on-going operational cost of expanding services and programs, such as the "Watch Your Speed" Program.

Summary

The "Watch Your Speed Program" uses electronic radar speed display signs to measure and display the speed of oncoming vehicles as a means of affecting driving behaviour by alerting motorists of their speed. These devices have shown to be effective in reducing the speed of

traffic and reducing excessive speeding (over 10km/h above the speed limit) over a long-term application.

Currently, the City has 4 mobile "Watch Your Speed" signs which are placed in different locations across each district for a one week timeframe. These signs are placed on mobile trailers that require a large amount of space and can only be used in certain locations and placement is based on specific criteria. Transportation Services will also be rolling out a 'fixed' "Watch Your Speed" sign program around school zones; implementing 20 signs over the next 5 years. The implementation of these signs is also based on a very strict criteria set by Council. The fixed types of signage do allow for more flexibility in placement as they are fixed to utility poles or other items that already exist within the public right of way.

When the Road Safety Plan was presented to Council in July, 2016, a motion was approved to increase the long term total of 20 mobile watch your speed trailers up to 44, so that there could be one trailer unit available for each City Ward. There is currently no plan in place to fund the capital costs to procure the additional trailers and the necessary staffing resources to manage the deployment and maintenance of the 44 trailers.

Local residents have shown an interest in donating funds towards an increase in the "Watch Your Speed" signs and the operating costs associated with implementing signs in their communities. Currently, no mechanism exists for residents to donate to the City for any traffic calming measures.

This Motion is urgent as Transportation Services staff will be reporting back on the Road Safety Plan in the first quarter of 2017.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM22.29