

STAFF REPORT ENG016-11

April 11, 2011

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TO:

GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT:

THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL SAFETY AUDIT

PREPARED BY AND **KEY CONTACT:**

J. MACDONALD TRAFFIC TECHNOLOGIST (Ext. 5178)

SUBMITTED BY:

R. W. MCARTHUR, P. Eng.

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DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVAL:

R. J. FORWARD, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng.

GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:

JON M. BABULIC

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the existing traffic safety measures which address traffic safety concerns on Cloughley Drive remain as is.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

2. On November 29, 2010, City Council adopted Motion 10-G-413 regarding the investigation of safety concerns in the vicinity of the Good Shepherd Catholic School on Cloughley Drive to increase pedestrian crossing safety:

> "That Staff in the Engineering Department review the traffic safety concerns in the vicinity of the Good Shepherd Catholic School on Cloughley Drive and report back to General Committee with recommendations for improvements."

- Cloughley Drive is an eleven (11) metre wide two-lane residential roadway with a current traffic 3. volume of 3,500 vehicles per day and an 85th percentile speed of 51 km/h. Sidewalks are located on both sides of Cloughley Drive.
- 4. A Community Safety Zone with a speed limit of 40 km/h posted speed limit is located adjacent to The Good Shepherd Catholic School. The posted speed limit on Cloughley Drive, outside of the Community Safety Zone, is 50 km/h.
- 5. On-street parking is permitted on both sides of Cloughley Drive. Overnight on-street parking is prohibited from November 1st to April 15th, between 12:00 midnight and 7:00 a.m. for the purpose of snow clearing.
- 6. In accordance with Traffic By-law 80-138, no person shall park a vehicle within nine (9) metres of an intersection unless otherwise indicated by a sign and no person shall stop a vehicle within thirty (30) metres of the designated school crossing located on Cloughley Drive at Benson Drive to access The Good Shepherd Catholic School.
- The Good Shepherd Catholic School participates in the Student Patroller Program and has a 7. patroller positioned on Cloughley Drive at Benson Drive to access The Good Shepherd Catholic School.

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ANALYSIS

8. A Parking Questionnaire was prepared and mailed to 37 property owners on Cloughley Drive. Results of the Parking Questionnaire responses are as follows:

CLOUGHLEY DRIVE ON-STREET PARKING SURVEY	RESPONSES RECEIVED	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES
Option A: Implement No Stopping, Monday – Friday 8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M. September to June on the west side of Cloughley Drive from Northview Crescent to Hodgson Drive. Implement No Parking Monday – Friday 8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M. September to June on the east side of Cloughley Drive from Northview Crescent to Hodgson Drive. Please refer to Appendix "A".	4	33%
Option B: Leave current on-street parking regulations in place.	8	67%
TOTAL (Out of 37)	12	34%

- 9. Based on the survey results and staff review, it is recommended that parking not be prohibited on Cloughley Drive as the majority of the residents do not support the parking prohibition on Cloughley Drive and on-street parking does not negatively impact current roadway operations.
- Staff investigations revealed that sufficient parking is available adjacent to the Good Shepherd Catholic School property therefore parking restrictions typically seen at other schools is not warranted.
- Staff observed that sight lines could be blocked if a large vehicle was parked along Cloughley Drive causing a safety concern for both pedestrians and motorists. Respondents raised concerns regarding a recreational vehicle parking along Cloughley Drive and the owner of the recreational vehicle was contacted and has agreed not to park on Cloughley Drive. With the removal of the recreational vehicle parking along Cloughley Drive, sight lines would not be obstructed.
- Parking restrictions within "School Zones" are regularly patrolled and enforced by Municipal Law Enforcement staff.
- 13. In 2009 staff reviewed pedestrian safety measures along Cloughley Drive in the vicinity of The Good Shepherd Catholic School and requested that boulevard trees in the immediate vicinity be pruned to provide clearance from sidewalks and roadways, as well as improved sightlines. Staff have confirmed with the Forestry Department that the work orders have been completed.
- 14. A Variable Time Flashing 40 km/h School Zone was considered for The Good Shepherd Catholic School, but was not warranted as volumes on Cloughley Drive did not meet the minimum daily traffic volume of 5,000 vehicles per day.
- 15. A Pedestrian Crossing Study was conducted in October 2009 on Cloughley Drive between Benson Drive and Hodgson Drive, to collect the pedestrian volumes crossing Cloughley Drive in the vicinity of the Good Shepherd Catholic School over the busiest eight hours of the day. During this study period 38 pedestrians were observed crossing Cloughley Drive. Based on the pedestrian volumes on Cloughley Drive a Pedestrian Crossing was not warranted based on provincial warrant guidelines regarding the installation of a Pedestrian Signal. With current traffic volumes of 3,500 vehicles per day on Cloughley Drive, a minimum of 276 pedestrians are required to cross Cloughley Drive in an eight hour period to satisfy minimum warrant requirements.

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- Staff will continue to monitor the pedestrian activity in the vicinity of The Good Shepherd Catholic School.
- 17. Staff contacted the Principal of The Good Shepherd Catholic School regarding traffic and pedestrian safety along Cloughley Drive. The Principal stated concerns with vehicles speeding in the vicinity of the school. Staff will include Cloughley Drive for investigation of Traffic Calming measures.
- School Crossing signs on Cloughley Drive were reviewed and staff found that the School Crossing Ahead signs were not located in the proper location. Staff have contacted the Operations Department who will relocate the School Crossing Ahead signs in April when the ground is clear of snow and thawed.
- The Barrie Police Service and Municipal Law Enforcement do not oppose the recommended motion.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

20. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVE

21. The following Alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could prohibit on-street parking on Cloughley Drive.

This Alternative is not recommended as resident feedback and staff observation revealed on-street parking does not negatively impact current roadway operations.

Alternative #2

General Committee could decide to install a Pedestrian Signal on Cloughley Drive. The cost to install a Pedestrian Signal is approximately \$45,000 which has not been budgeted for in the 2011 Business Plan.

This Alternative is not recommended as pedestrian and average daily traffic volumes do not meet provincial warrants.

Alternative #3

General Committee could decide to install a Variable Time Flashing 40 km/h School Zone on Cloughley Drive. The cost to install Variable Time Flashing 40 km/h School Zone is approximately \$15,000 which has not been budgeted for in the 2011 Business Plan.

This Alternative is not recommended as volumes on Cloughley Drive do not meet the provincial warrants for minimum daily traffic volumes of 5,000 vehicles per day.

FINANCIAL

22. There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommended motion.

LINKAGE TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

23. The recommendation included in this Staff Report is not specifically related to any of City Council's Strategic Priorities.





Appendix "A"

