



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: September 27, 2021

TITLE: Community Road Safety Advisory Committee – Recommendations to Council

DIVISION: Community & Protective Services

SUMMARY:

Melissa Johnson, Chair of the Community Road Safety Advisory Committee (the “Committee”), is coming before Council to present the Committee’s recommendations.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT the Community Road Safety Advisory Committee recommendations to Council be received as information.

THAT Administration be directed to bring back amendments to C-1098-19 – Community Road Safety Advisory Committee Bylaw to Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The Committee presented their annual work plan to Council on February 8, 2021 and since that time have identified several recommendations to provide to Council for their consideration:

1. That the amended terms of reference for the Committee be approved by Council.
2. The Committee strongly supports Administration’s business case for the detailed study of speed limits in the City of Spruce Grove that is being presented to Council as part of the Corporate Plan.
3. The Committee strongly supports Administration’s business case for the formal creation and maintenance of a Community Peace Officer Traffic Division within Enforcement Services that is being presented to Council as part of the Corporate Plan.

Community Road Safety Advisory Committee Bylaw

The Committee felt strongly that while the terms of reference, as outlined in C-1098-19 - Community Road Safety Advisory Committee Bylaw, was (and needed to be) developed prior to the formation of the Committee, further discussion and review was needed.

There are three recommended changes being proposed by the Committee.

1. Section 2.13 - Definition of "Road": While this may be defined in other legislation such as the *Traffic Safety Act*, the Committee felt that an expanded definition, for the purposes of the bylaw related to their mandate, would be appropriate. This would enable the Committee to discuss other aspects of safety including on the trail systems and for other modes of transportation such as bikes, electric scooters, etc. when/if those are brought forward for discussion.
2. Section 3.3 - The Committee felt that a slight adjustment was necessary to the section related to what they might do in order to fulfill its mandate. The Committee preferred the term "create" vs. "develop" when it came to assisting Council and Administration with programs and strategies; however, more importantly the Committee added the word "promote" as it was felt this was a more significant component of the Committee and what it could provide the City and community.
3. New Section 4.16 - The Committee felt that the Bylaw should specifically outline that the members of the Committee will read, sign, and adhere to the principles and parameters of the Committee Code of Conduct Bylaw. While this was done for each member, the Committee felt it is important to specifically outline this.

The Committee is recommending approval of the proposed changes. If Council is generally supportive of the recommendations the intent would be to direct Administration to bring the bylaw back for consideration at a later date.

Detailed Study of Speed Limits in the City of Spruce Grove

Administration provided the Committee with information on how speed limits are determined and approved in the City, the required considerations for speed limit reductions, and examples of other cities in Alberta that have recently reduced their residential speed limits.

This information was in response to several municipalities undergoing similar reviews, as well as a key component of the Committee's mandate. To be clear, Administration did not provide data or recommendations on proposed speed limits as that detailed study has not yet been completed. Administration shared information around what should be examined and details related to the proposed Business Case that is being brought forward to Council as part of the Corporate Plan deliberations.

The Committee is fully aware of the many priorities that Council will be considering as part of the Corporate Plan and is simply indicating that the Committee is strongly in support of the Business Case as there is enough community interest to examine this particular issue. Should Council approve the Business Case, the Committee would review the study information and recommendations from Administration and make further recommendations to Council following their review.

Formal Creation and Maintenance of a Community Peace Officer Traffic Division within Enforcement Services

A Community Peace Officer Traffic Pilot was approved to operate in 2021 with considerations for the pilot to become a permanent model via the corporate planning process. Administration provided the Committee with data related to the program and information around the Business Case being presented to Council for consideration as part of the Corporate Plan deliberations.

Again, the Committee is aware of the many priorities for Council to consider; however, is in strong support of dedicated traffic officers to increase road safety in the community.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

n/a

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

n/a

IMPACTS:

n/a

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a

STRATEGIC VISION ELEMENT:

Where People Choose to Live - A dynamic city with and exceptional quality of life

RELATED GOAL:

Citizens feel safe within their communities.