

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MARCH 7, 2005

### TRAFFIC CIRCULATION REVIEW AT SCHOOL SITES

#### Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works in consultation with the Enforcement Services Department recommends:

1. That this report be received for information purposes; and
2. That the City Manager and appropriate staff meet with the Directors of Education and their appropriate staff of the two school boards to review and address the issue of non-compliance with the intent of the site traffic circulation plans at the various schools; and
3. That a copy of this report and Council's resolution be forwarded the School Boards and the Council/School Board Liaison Committee.

#### Purpose

This report is in response to the Council direction of November 29, 2004, for staff to provide a list of elementary schools showing a lack of compliance with respect to traffic circulation at their school sites and in the immediate vicinity of such sites.

#### Background - Analysis and Options

At its meeting of November 8, 2004, Council recommended:

**“That in furtherance of proper circulation of traffic at all school sites and in the immediate vicinity of such sites, staff shall review and report to the Committee of the Whole meeting of November 29, 2004, any instances of a failure on the part of school staff, of either board, to respect and maintain the intent of on site traffic circulation plans.”**

At its meeting of November 29, 2004, Committee of the Whole considered a report dealing with traffic circulation at four new schools and recommended:

**“That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, dated November 29, 2004, be approved; and**

**“That staff review the matter further and provide a report to the Committee of the Whole meeting of March 7, 2005.”**

By-law Enforcement and Engineering Staff conducted a traffic investigation at 55 elementary schools between December 2004 and February 2005 during the peak morning drop off and after school pick up periods and the results are summarized and tabulated below. The majority of the older schools were built on smaller properties and the site circulation designs were limited to shared bus drop off zones and parent drop off zones. The new schools have incorporated separate areas for on-site bus drop off zones and parent drop off zones in the site designs.

No.	School	Ward	<u>Not</u> in compliance with the intent of the traffic circulation plan	In compliance with the intent of the traffic circulation plan
1.	Blessed Trinity	1		X
2.	Father John Kelly	1		X
3.	Our Lady of Peace	1	X	
4.	St. James	1		X
5.	Divine Mercy	1	X	
6.	Holy Jubilee	1		X
7.	St. David	1	X	
8.	St. Agnes of Assisi	1	X	
9.	St. Emily	1		X
10.	Kleinburg	1	X	
11.	Mackenzie Glen	1	X	
12.	Michael Cranny	1	X	
13.	Discovery	1		X
14.	Joseph A. Gibson	1		X
15.	Maple Creek	1	X	
16.	La Fontaine	1		X
17.	Le Petit Prince	1		X
18.	Fossil Hill	1	X	
19.	Julliard	1		X
20.	Vellore Woods	1		X
21.	San Marco	2	X	
22.	St. Andrew	2	X	
23.	St. Catherine of Siena	2		X
24.	Our Lady of Fatima	2		X
25.	St. Angela Merici	2		X
26.	St. Clement	2	X	
27.	St. Peter	2		X
28.	St. Margaret Mary	2	X	
29.	St. Stephen	2	X	
30.	Lorna Jackson	2		X
31.	Woodbridge	2		X
32.	Pine Grove	2	X	
33.	Immaculate Conception	3	X	
34.	St. Clare	3	X	
35.	St. Francis of Assisi	3	X	
36.	St. Gabriel of Archangel	3	X	
37.	St. John Bosco	3		X
38.	St. Gregory the Great	3	X	
39.	Blue Willow	3		X
40.	Our Lady of the Rosary	4	X	
41.	St. Joseph the Worker	4	X	
42.	Glen Shields	4		X
43.	Forest Run	4		X
44.	Bakersfield	4		X
45.	Brownridge	4		X
46.	Ventura Park	4		X
47.	Wilshire Elementary	4		X
48.	Charlton	4		X
49.	Louis Honore Frechette	4	X	
50.	Bishop Scalabrini	5		X
51.	Holy Family	5		X

No.	School	Ward	<u>Not in compliance with the intent of the traffic circulation plan</u>	<u>In compliance with the intent of the traffic circulation plan</u>
52.	Rosedale Heights	5	X	
53.	Thornhill	5	X	
54.	Westminster	5		X
55.	Yorkhill	5	X	

Of the above listed 55 schools, 26 (47%) were determined to be out of compliance with their traffic circulation plans. Although the on-site parking areas, drop-off areas, driveways and signage were constructed in accordance with the approved site plans, the staff at some of the schools were blocking the accesses with pylons and gates in order to deter vehicles from entering the school site. This effectively, restricted access to the internal parking areas and “kiss and ride” loops which were intended to help improve traffic circulation. In some cases, as a result of blocked access to school property, parents were parking on the street thereby causing congested conditions on the adjacent roads during the morning and afternoon peak periods. Accordingly, it is recommended that the City Manager and appropriate staff be directed to meet with the Directors of Education and their appropriate staff of the two school boards to review and address the issue of non-compliance with the intent of the site traffic circulation plans at the various schools.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

This traffic review is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 which seeks to improve community safety through design, prevention, enforcement and education (1.1) through the review of the level of enforcement, compliance and monitoring of regulations relating to public safety (1.1.6).

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

#### **Conclusion**

Engineering and By-law Enforcement staff conducted a traffic investigation at 55 elementary schools in the City of Vaughan. Based on the observations at the above school sites, it appears that approximately 47% of the schools do not maintain the intent of the site traffic circulation plans. As the older schools do not have a separate on-site parent drop off zone, the traffic circulation at these schools can be problematic. As well, proper traffic circulation at some of the newer schools, with separate bus and parent drop-off zones, is being impeded as a result of blocked accesses to the site during the peak morning drop off and afternoon pick up periods. A meeting between appropriate City staff and the Directors of Education and their staff should be held to review and address the issue of non-compliance with the intent of the site traffic circulation plans at the various schools.

#### **Report prepared by:**

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Respectfully submitted,

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