

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MAY 5, 2008

MELVILLE AVENUE PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works in consultation with the Director of Reserves and Investments recommends:

1. That staff proceed to obtain input from area residents and schools, proceed with detailed design and to obtain quotes for the installation of a pedestrian signal at the existing crosswalk on Melville Avenue at the access to the West Maple Creek Park; and
2. That funding for this project in the amount of \$52,000 be drawn from the approved 2008 Capital Budget and funded from the City Wide Development Charge Reserves.

Economic Impact

The cost to install the Pedestrian Signal and pavement markings was included in the approved 2008 Capital Budget as Project No. EN-1727-08. The cost to maintain the signal and pavement markings would be included in future Operating Budgets.

Communications Plan

Staff received a request from the Human Resources Department, who received concerns that the existing crossing guard is having difficulty safely crossing the children in this location.

If approved by Council, a letter describing the proposed pedestrian signal installation will be circulated to the residents within 100m of the subject crossing, to the two schools in the area (Maple Creek Public School and Blessed Trinity Separate School) and posted on the City Web page. The design would be completed taking comments from the public into consideration and a further notice would be issued prior to construction.

Purpose

Engineering Services staff were requested to review the feasibility of installing a pedestrian signal on Melville Avenue near West Maple Creek Park from the Human Resources Department, due to various issues at this existing school crossing guard location. The project was approved in the 2008 Capital Budget and staff are now planning to proceed with the design of the pedestrian signal.

Background - Analysis and Options

Melville Avenue is a four lane collector road with an 26.0 metre Right-of-Way and 14.0 metres of travelled pavement width. The speed limit is a statutory 50 km/h.

Staff conducted a pedestrian count during the evening peak period from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm on Tuesday, April 24, 2007, and in the AM peak period of 7:00 am – 9:00 am on Friday, May 11, 2007. The count was completed on Melville Avenue at the walkway to the West Maple Creek Park, where the existing School Crossing Guard is located. The results of the study are summarized below:

Time Period	Pedestrians Crossing Melville Avenue south of Crosswalk	Pedestrians Crossing Melville Avenue at Crosswalk	Pedestrians Crossing Melville Avenue north of Crosswalk
7:00 am 9:00 am	0 Elementary Students 0 High School Students 0 Adults	84 Elementary Students 17 High School Students 27 Adults	0 Elementary Students 0 High School Students 0 Adults
3:00 pm 6:00 pm	0 Elementary Students 0 High School Students 0 Adults	105 Elementary Students 28 High School Students 31 Adults	3 Elementary Students 0 High School Students 0 Adults

A pedestrian signal will provide drivers with greater identification and warning of pedestrians crossing Melville Avenue. This traffic control device would also be beneficial outside school hours for those who wish to access to the park. Staff note that this type of traffic control device is only activated when accessed by a pedestrian wanting to cross the travelled roadway.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and complete with Vaughan Vision 2020's objectives, specifically Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health & Wellness.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

Based on the traffic study, it would be beneficial to install a pedestrian signal at the access to the West Maple Creek Park on Melville Avenue to assist students and other pedestrians crossing the roadway. Funds are available in the approved 2008 Capital Budget.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by:

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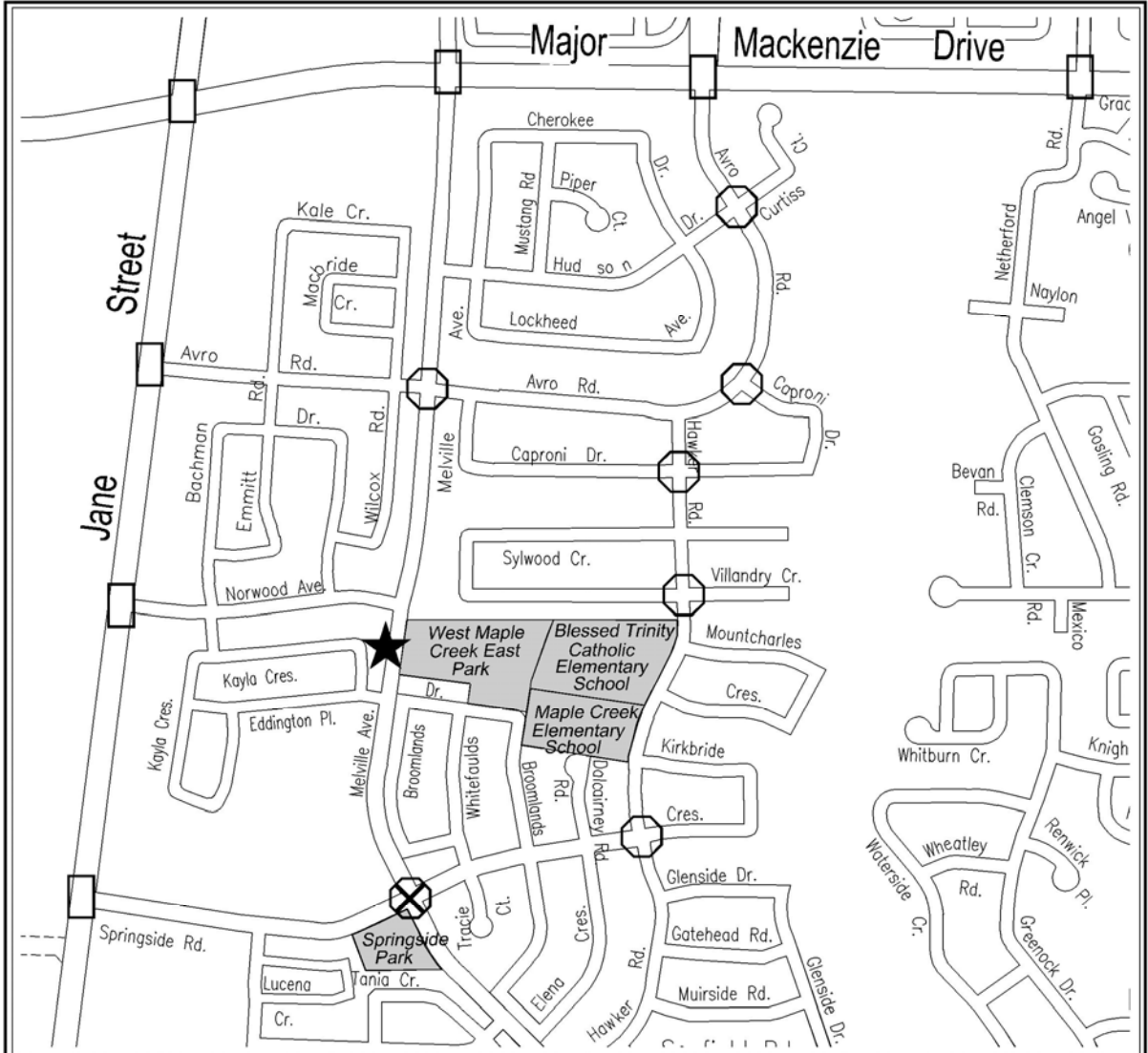
Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P. Eng.
Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

Mike Dokman, C.E.T.
Supervisor, Traffic Engineering





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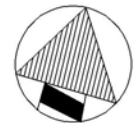
ATTACHMENT No. 1



MELVILLE AVENUE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL

LEGEND

-  PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL
-  EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNALS
-  EXISTING ALLWAY STOP CONTROL
-  EXISTING ADULT SUPERVISED SCHOOLCROSSING



NOT TO SCALE