

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MAY 5, 2008

PORTION OF JULES AVENUE RUNNING NORTH FROM RIVERVIEW AVENUE TO JEANNE DRIVE TRAFFIC REVIEW

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. That this report be reviewed for information purposes;
2. That York Regional Police be requested to enforce the existing posted 40 km/h speed limit on Jules Avenue; and
3. That a community meeting be held with area residents to present the findings of the traffic study and to obtain input on the possible installation of horizontal traffic calming measures on Jules Avenue in the area of the bend.

Economic Impact

None.

Communications Plan

Engineering Services staff will contact the residents with the information in the report on the options presented.

Purpose

To present information to the Committee of the Whole, as directed by Council to review the traffic speeds and volumes on Jules Avenue.

Background - Analysis and Options

At its meeting on October 22, 2007, Council approved:

“That appropriate staff conduct a traffic study along that portion of Jules Avenue which runs north of the intersection with Riverview Avenue to Jeanne Drive, to identify measures that may be taken to mitigate speed, especially in the vicinity of the right angle turn in the direction of the roadway.”

Jules Avenue is a local roadway with a 20.0 metre right-of-way and 8.5 metre pavement width. The posted speed limit is 40 km/h on the portion of Jules Avenue running north from Riverview Avenue to Jeanne Drive. There is an existing all-way stop control at the intersection of Jules Avenue and Riverview Avenue. The area is shown in Attachment No.1.

Staff conducted radar speed studies on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 from 8:00am to 9:00am, and from 4:00pm to 5:00pm at #145 Jules Avenue, west of Jeanne Drive. The weather on the day of the studies was clear and then partly cloudy. The results of these studies have been summarized in the following table:

AM Period			
Direction	Average Speed	85 th Percentile Speed	Highest Speed
Eastbound	43 km/h	49 km/h	55 km/h
Westbound	43 km/h	49 km/h	52 km/h
PM Period			
Direction	Average Speed	85 th Percentile Speed	Highest Speed
Eastbound	41 km/h	48 km/h	55 km/h
Westbound	43 km/h	49 km/h	58 km/h

The average speeds range from 41 km/h to 43 km/h on Jules Avenue. The highest recorded speed was 58 km/h during the afternoon period.

Utilizing Automatic Traffic Recorders (ATR's), staff collected speed and volume data from March 17, 2008 to March 20, 2008. The unit was installed at #148 Jules Avenue – 75 metres west of Jeanne Drive. The results have been summarized below:

Direction	Average Speed	85 th Percentile Speed	Highest Speed
Eastbound	39 km/h	48 km/h	64 km/h
Westbound	40 km/h	48 km/h	64 km/h

The recorded average speed on Jules Avenue range between 39 km/h and 40 km/h using the Automatic Traffic Recorders. The highest recorded speed was 64 km/h.

The overall average recorded 85th percentile speed on Jules Avenue is 48 km/h. The recorded 85th percentile speed is the speed at which or below 85th of the motorists are travelling

In accordance with the Council approved Neighbourhood Traffic Committee Policy and Procedure, speed humps are considered only when the following three warrants are met:

- The street is not a primary emergency response route.
- The speed limit is 50 km/h or less.
- The average speed is 10 km/h greater than the speed limit.

The posted speed limit is 40 km/h on the portion of Jules Avenue running north from Riverview Avenue to Jeanne Drive. However, this portion of Jules Avenue is identified as an emergency response route, and although close, the average speeds do not exceed the speed limit by 10 km/h. Installation of a speed hump on this portion of Jules Avenue does not meet the City criteria. Possible alternative traffic calming measures for this roadway would be a centre line marking for the portion of road and curb bump-outs prior to the curve in both directions. There is sufficient space to install two curb bump-outs in both directions. Also, centre road medians can be accommodated on this section of Jules Avenue. Curve warning signs can be installed in advance of curve.

There have been no reported vehicle collisions on Jules Avenue from Jeanne Drive to Riverview Avenue from January 2005 to December 2006, the last year for which collision data is available.

It was noted that several speeds were in excess of the posted 40 km/h speed limit. Staff will notify York Regional Police for their action.

Should Council consider alternative options such as bump-outs or centre medians, that the Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Policy and Procedure be followed. The cost to implement would be determined at a later date depending on the type and number of possible measures proposed. The installation of the centreline could be incorporated in the 2008 Pavement Marking contract should this measure be deemed desirable.

In order to gauge the desire of the area residents to have horizontal traffic calming measures installed in the vicinity of the curve, a community meeting could be held. Staff could present options and obtain input following which a further report would be prepared for Committee's consideration.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness – To advocate for, protect and enhance community safety, health and wellness through education, design and enforcement.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

Based on staff's review, it is recommended that York Region Police be requested to strictly and frequently enforce the speed limit on Jules Avenue and that a community meeting be held to obtain input from area residents on horizontal traffic calming measures in the area of the bend. Staff will proceed with the installation of curve warning signs.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by:

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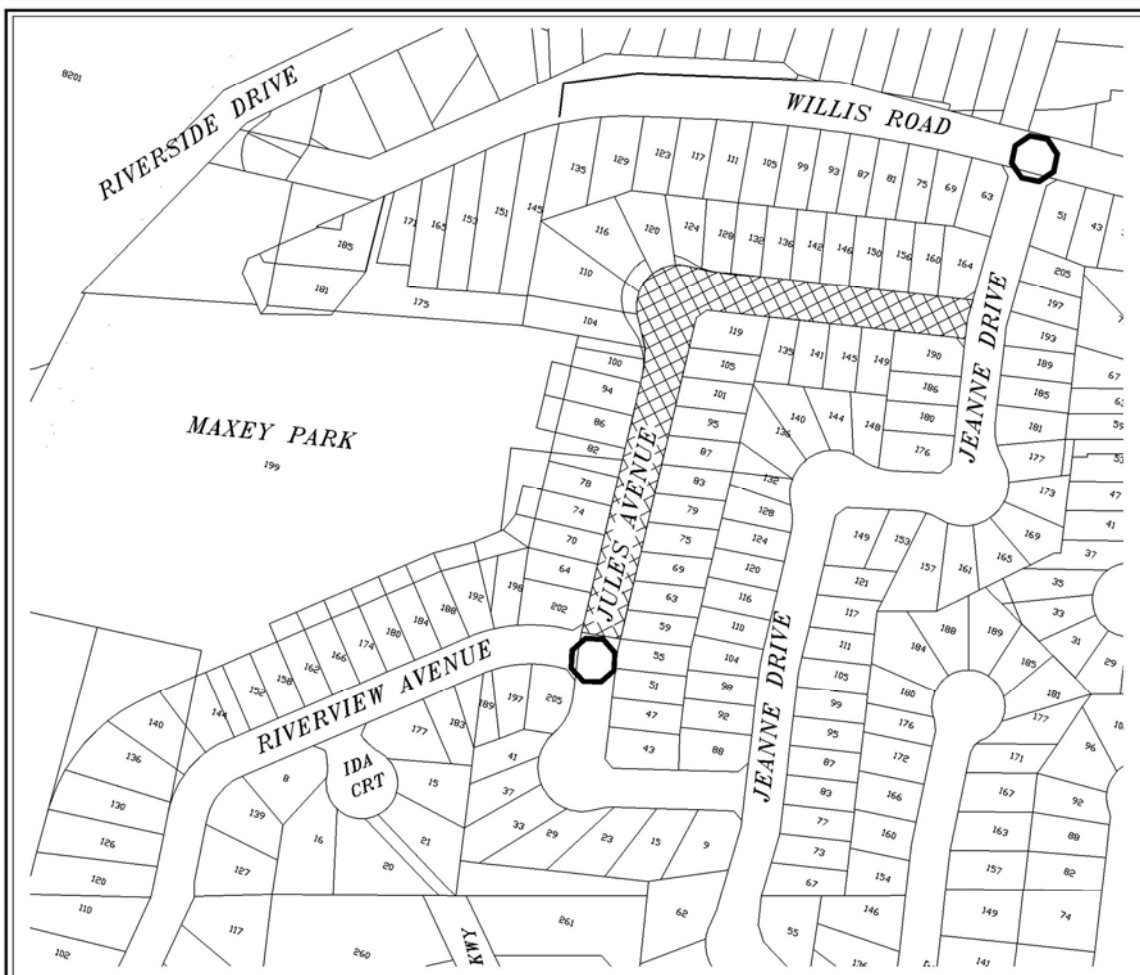
Respectfully submitted,

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

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


DF:mc

ATTACHMENT No. 1



JULES AVENUE TRAFFIC REVIEW

LEGEND

 EXISTING ALL-WAY STOP CONTROL

 ROADWAY SECTION UNDER REVIEW



NOT TO SCALE