



## MUNICIPALITY OF THAMES CENTRE

**REPORT NO.** PW-TS-005-23  
**TO:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**FROM:** Director of Public Works  
**MEETING DATE:** November 27, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Mill Road – Reduction in Speed

### RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT** Report No. PW-TS-005-23 be received for information;

**AND THAT** the posted speed limit on Mill Road between Christie Drive and 100 meters south of East Gate Pass be reduced from 80km/h to 50km/h;

**AND THAT** By-law 29-2019 be amended to reduce the speed along Mill Road, between Christie Drive and 100 meters south of East Gate Pass to 50km per hour;

**AND THAT** Staff install the appropriate signage and provide communication to the residents regarding this change.

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to lower the posted speed limit on Mill Road between Christie Drive and East Gate Pass.

### BACKGROUND:

The Municipality has received several requests from residents to reduce the speed of traffic on Mill Road between Christie Drive and Donnybrook Drive. This section of roadway although inside the Dorchester urban boundary, is finished in a rural cross section, meaning it has a tar & chip surface and shallow grass ditches on either side. Future phases of Mill Pond on the Boardwalk subdivision will require Mill Road to be upgraded from its current rural cross section to an urban cross section which will include curbs, sidewalks, and streetlighting.

Since the development of Mill Pond on the Boardwalk subdivision, the traffic volume on Mill Road and Dorchester Road have both increased. The added volume was deemed enough to warrant a drop in the Dorchester Road posted speed limit south of Boardwalk Way from 80 km/h to 70 km/h and has seen appropriate driver compliance.

## COMMENTS:

The currently speed limit is 50km/h throughout Tiner subdivision and extends to 150 meters south on Mill Road before it increases to 80km/h for the remaining section to Donnybrook Drive. Staff have reviewed the road section and completed a speed study and have concluded that a reduction in speed from 80km/h to 50km/h between East Gate Pass and Christie Drive (970-meter section) is warranted as a result of development in the immediate area. The 740-meter section south of East Gate Pass should remain posted at 80km/h but will be reevaluated as development expands.

It is important to remember that changing the posted speed limit in areas where it is not warranted can create lower compliance with drivers and actually decrease the safety of travelers in the area due to a larger discrepancy of vehicle speeds.

If approved by Council, staff will ensure that local residents are made aware of this reduction in speed.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

## STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

**Pillar:** Infrastructure

**Goal:** Thames Centre focuses on infrastructure to support all stages of your life.

## CONSULTATION:

None.

## REFERENCES:

Draft Amending By-law

## ATTACHMENTS:

None.

Prepared by: J. Craven, Director of Public Works

Reviewed by: D. Barrick, Chief Administrative Officer