

Request for Decision

Maximum Posted Speed Limit - Spanish River Road, Whitefish

Presented To:	Traffic Committee
Presented:	Monday, Mar 21, 2011
Report Date	Thursday, Mar 10, 2011
Type:	Managers' Reports

Recommendation

That the speed limit on Spanish River Road from Fairbank Lake Road to the City limits be 60 km/h, and;

That a by-law be passed by City Council to amend Traffic and Parking By-Law 2010-1 in the City of Greater Sudbury to implement the recommended change all in accordance with the report from the General Manager of Infrastructure Services dated March 10, 2011.

Background

While reviewing warning sign requirements in the Whitefish area, City staff identified that the posted speed limit on Spanish River Road is 60 km/h while the Traffic and Parking By-Law 2010-1 indicates that the speed limit is 80 km/h. Due to the discrepancy, staff has undertaken a review to determine an appropriate maximum speed limit.

Spanish River Road is located in Whitefish and provides a connection between Fairbanks Lake Road (M.R. 4) and Nairn Centre (**see Exhibit "A"**). Spanish River Road is a 6.1 m wide surface treated road with gravel shoulders. Under the Official Plan, it is classified as a local roadway.

At the October 13, 2010 meeting, City Council adopted the use of the Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits, published by the Transportation Association of Canada, for evaluating posted speeds on arterial and major collector roadways. Although Spanish River is classified as a local roadway, staff applied the physical characteristics of the road to the new Canadian Guidelines and the roadway obtained a total risk score of 20 (**see Exhibit "B"**). Based on the functional classification of the road being "two lane rural undivided local roadway", a total risk score of 20 results in a recommended speed limit of 60 km/h.

Staff also completed a speed study on Spanish River Road on February 24, 2011. The study was conducted approximately 100 metres east of Worthington Road. The speed of nearly 350 vehicles was recorded, and showed the average speed to be 53.0 km/h and the 85th percentile speed to be 64.4 km/h. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85 percent of drivers are travelling and is generally accepted as a good indicator of an appropriate speed limit. Considering the function of the

Signed By

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Division Review

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roadway and the prevailing operating speeds, staff recommends the maximum posted speed limit to be 60 km/h.

Additionally, there are several horizontal curves along Spanish River Road that have a measured “comfortable” speed of less than 60 km/h. Therefore, staff will be enhancing the existing curve warning and advisory speed signs along Spanish River Road to further enhance safety.



Automated Speed Limit Guidelines FORM A - Automated Speed Limit Guidelines Spreadsheet

Version:
10-Apr-09

Name of Corridor: Spanish River Road
 Segment Evaluated: Fairbank Lake Road to City Limits
 Geographic Region: Walden
 Road Agency: City of Greater Sudbury
 Road Classification: Local Length of Corridor: 10,000 m
 Urban / Rural: Rural Design Speed: (Required for Freeway, Expressway, Highway) km/h
 Divided / Undivided: Undivided Current Posted Speed: 60 km/h
 (For information only)
 Major / Minor: Minor Prevailing Speed: 64 km/h
 (85th Percentile - for information only)
 # Through Lanes Per Direction: 1 lane Policy: (Maximum Posted Speed)

		RISK	Score
A1	GEOMETRY (Horizontal)	Lower	2
A2	GEOMETRY (Vertical)	Lower	2
A3	AVERAGE LANE WIDTH	Medium	2
B	ROADSIDE HAZARDS	Lower	3
C1	PEDESTRIAN EXPOSURE	Lower	1
C2	CYCLIST EXPOSURE	Lower	1
D	PAVEMENT SURFACE	Medium	6
E1	NUMBER OF INTERSECTIONS WITH PUBLIC ROADS	<i>Number of Occurrences</i>	1
	STOP controlled intersection	0	
	Signalized intersection	0	
	Roundabout or traffic circle	0	
	Crosswalk	0	
	Active, at-grade railroad crossing	2	
Sidestreet STOP-controlled or lane	5		
E2	NUMBER OF INTERSECTIONS WITH PRIVATE ACCESS DRIVEWAYS	<i>Number of Occurrences</i>	1
	Left turn movements permitted	21	
	Right-in / Right-out only	0	
E3	NUMBER OF INTERCHANGES	<i>Number of Occurrences</i>	0
	Number of interchanges along corridor	0	
F	ON-STREET PARKING	Lower	1

Total Risk Score:

20

Recommended Posted Speed Limit (km/h):

As determined by road characteristics

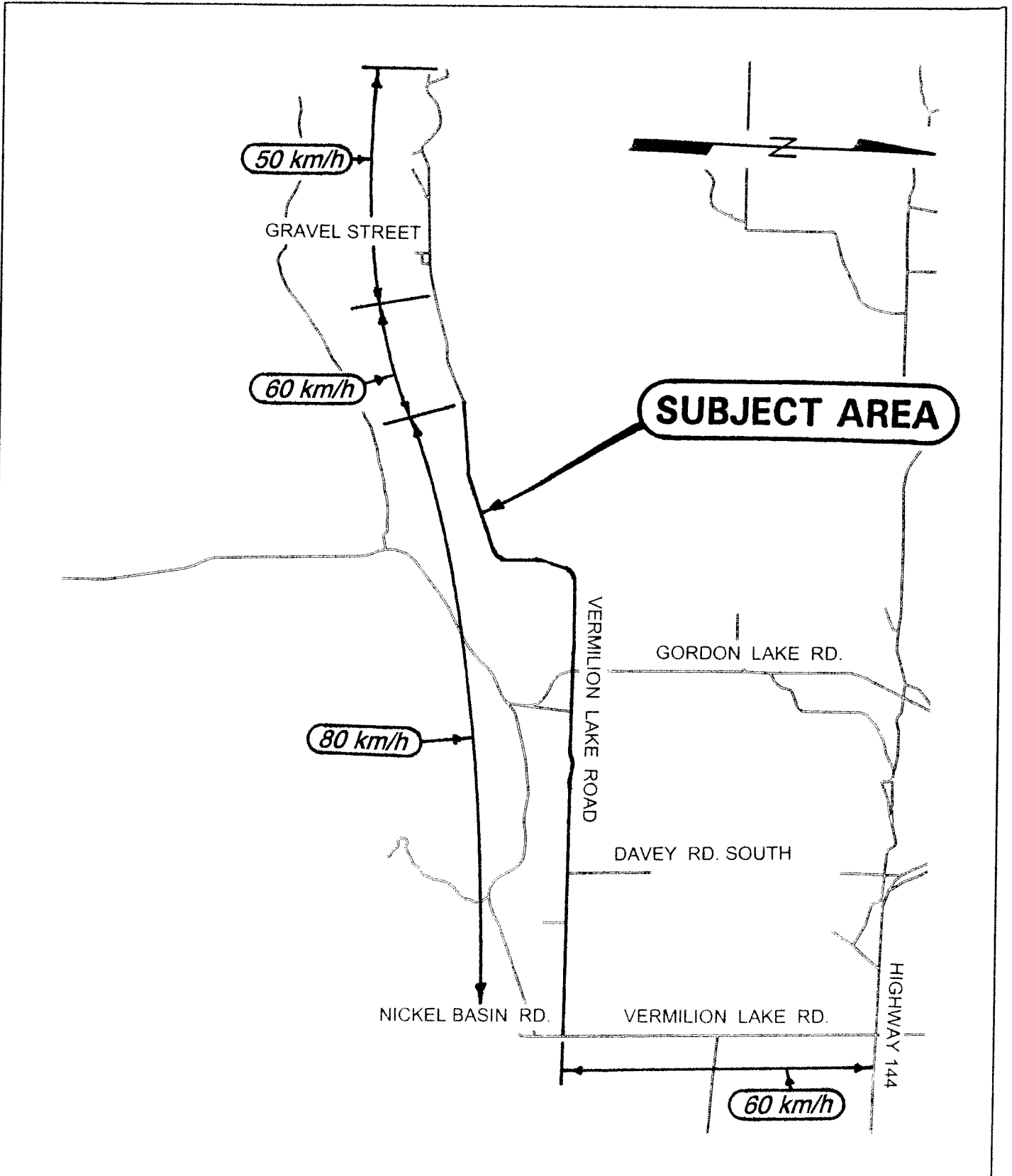
60


As determined by policy

The recommended posted speed limit may be checked against the prevailing speeds of the roadway and the road's safety performance

Comments:

EXHIBIT: A



	VERMILION LAKE ROAD - NICKEL BASIN RD. to 1,550 METRES EAST OF GRAVEL STREET	
	MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS	
	NTS	2010-09-15