

<b>Department:</b>	Public Works	<b>Policy Code:</b>	A09-PW
<b>Approval Date:</b>	March 1, 2023	<b>Approved by:</b>	Council
<b>Next Review:</b>	February 29, 2028	<b>Revision Date:</b>	

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## Purpose

This policy provides a consistent process for establishing speed limits on all Township of Springwater roadways, in line with section 128 of the Highway Traffic Act (HTA), and a process to consider requests to alter the posted speed limits along the Township's road network.

## Scope

Road safety may be enhanced through the posting of credible speed limits that match the expectations of drivers for a given roadway and its surrounding area. The purpose of this policy is to establish the process for undertaking a speed limit analysis on Township owned roads. The following analysis has been developed to put in place a systematic, consistent, and repeatable process for reviewing and establishing appropriate posted speed limits on the Township's road network.

## Definitions

This section is to include terms that are specific to the policy.

**Built-up/Urban Areas** – As defined by the HTA.

**Corporation** - means The Corporation of the Township of Springwater.

**HTA** – The Highway Traffic Act of Ontario, **R.S.O.** 1990, CHAPTER H.8, as amended.

**Posted Speed Limit** – The speed prescribed by municipal by-law for motor vehicles on a section of road.

**Rural Road** – A road that is located within a rural area as defined by the TAC Speed Limit Guidelines.

**Posted Speed Limit Review** – A review of the operating characteristics and infrastructure data for a roadway to determine the appropriate recommended maximum speed limit.

**Speed Study** – A minimum one-week study to assess the operating speeds of vehicles and the volume under free-flowing conditions.

**TAC** – Transportation Association of Canada.

**TAC Posted Speed Limit Guidelines** – The Transportation Association of Canada’s Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits (December, 2009).

**Urban Road** - A road that is located within an urban area as defined by the TAC Speed Limit Guidelines.

## **Policy/Procedure**

### **Posted Speed Limit Reviews**

All requests for a change in the posted speed limit shall be assessed using the following.

- Posted Speed Limit Policy.
- The Township’s Traffic Calming Policy
- The TAC – Canadian Guidelines for Establishing Posted Speed Limits
- The Township of Springwater Engineering Design Guidelines and Specifications Manual
- A speed study.

### **Process To Undertake a Posted Speed Limit Review**

A request to review the posted speed limit along a stretch of Township road shall be submitted, for consideration, to the General Manager of Infrastructure and Operational Services or designate.

The minimum period between a posted speed review study on the same or portions of the same stretch of roadway shall be three (3) years. Notwithstanding, the Township may request or undertake a posted speed limit review earlier, if in its sole opinion, that posted speed limit review is necessary.

If the last posted speed limit review on the same or portions of the same stretch of roadway was less than three (3) years since the current request for a posted speed limit study review, the requester shall bring the request forward to the local Ward Councillor, who will confer with the General Manger of Infrastructure and Operational Services or designate, and may bring a motion forward to Council to waive the three-year wait period.

If the request is more than three (3) years since the last posted speed limit review on the same or portions of the same stretch of roadway, the General Manager may authorize the posted speed limit review study.

### Speed Limit Considerations

The maximum speed limit per the HTA is 50km/h in urban areas and 80km/h in rural areas.

Speed limit recommendations shall be in increments of 10km/h. The maximum speed limit change between adjacent zones shall be 20km/h. The minimum length of a speed zone should be 500m for urban sections and 1,000m for rural sections.

### Authority

By signing below, the official representative validates that the policy has been approved by the appropriate Approval Authority (Council, Senior Management, Department Director).

<b>Approval Authority</b> <b>Official Representative:</b>	Mayor	<b>Resolution or By-law #:</b> <b>C141C-2023</b>
<b>Signature:</b>		
<b>Date signed:</b>	March 8, 2023	