

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**CITY OF WHITE ROCK**  
**CORPORATE REPORT**



**DATE:** January 25, 2021

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Jim Gordon, P.Eng., Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations

**SUBJECT:** Street and Traffic Bylaw Amendment – Johnston Road Speed Limit Reduction

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**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council give first, second and third reading to the "Street and Traffic Bylaw, 1999, No. 1529, Amendment No. 7, Bylaw 2021, No. 2374".

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to introduce the Street and Traffic Bylaw 1999, No. 1529, Amendment No. 7, Bylaw 2021, No. 2374", which is presented to Council for consideration of first, second, and third readings. This Amendment is necessary to change the speed limit on Johnston Road between North Bluff Road and Five Corners from 50 km/h to 30 km/h, as directed by Council.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION**

<b>Motion # &amp; Meeting Date</b>	<b>Motion Details</b>
September 28, 2020 2020-463	THAT Council directs the speed limit on Johnston Road from Five (5) Corners to North Bluff Road be reduced to 30 km/hr.

**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

At the September 28, 2020 Regular Council Meeting, Council directed that the speed limit from Five (5) corners to North Bluff Road along Johnston Road be reduced to 30 km/hr from 50 km/hr.

The City's Street and Traffic Bylaw is the bylaw that regulates traffic and the use of streets in the City of White Rock. The Bylaw's Schedule B regulates truck routes and is the appropriate Schedule to note streets with nonstandard speed limits.

Pursuant to the *BC Motor Vehicle Act* (MVA), municipalities may reduce speed limits through bylaw. Staff reviewed the Bylaw and found that the Bylaw does not show which roadways have speed limits below 50 km/hr. For the Bylaw to follow MVA regulation, Schedule B of the Bylaw will need to be updated to show roadways where the speed limit is below 50 km/hr. It is proposed that the City Street Plan (Schedule D) be combined into Schedule B.

Staff retained Urban Systems to update Schedule B. The proposed Schedule B (refer to Appendix B) includes existing roadway speed limits and adds Johnston Road between North Bluff and Pacific Avenue (Five Corners) as a 30 km/hr zone. The new Schedule B combines speed limits, road classification (City Street Plan), and truck routes on one map.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Section 146 (1) of the MVA sets the standard municipal speed limit at 50km/h. Section 146 (6) states that the respective road authority (MOTI or an incorporated municipality) may alter posted speed limits by passing a bylaw. After a new speed limit has been selected and the bylaw has been approved, the road authority must use traffic signs on each block where the new speed limit is to be enacted (Section 146 (2)). This ensures that motorists are aware of the altered speed limit and enables enforcement of speed related offences. Municipalities are not permitted to enact speed limit changes without signing each road segment that is impacted.

In 2019, the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) passed the Safer Slower Streets: 30 km/h Residential Street Pilot resolution, calling for MOTI to consider amending the MVA to allow incorporated municipalities to institute blanket speed zones in residential areas; however, this resolution was rejected by the Province of BC in February 2020. MOTI reiterated that municipalities are free to adopt lower speed limits within their borders using bylaws and noted that the Ministry has committed to review legislative, regulatory, and policy frameworks, such as the MVA, to acknowledge all road users and emerging active transportation modes.

### **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS**

The RCMP is aware of the proposed speed limit reduction.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Not applicable.

### **OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES**

The following options are for Council consideration:

1. Do not update the bylaw.

If this option is selected, existing roadways with posted speed limits below 50 km/hr would not adhere to the MVA. The speed limit along Johnston Road from North Bluff Road to Five (5) Corners would remain unchanged.

## **CONCLUSION**

Council directed that the speed of Johnston Road from Five (5) Corners to North Bluff Road be reduced to 30 km/hr. The proposed amendment to Schedule B of the Street and Traffic Bylaw No. 1529 is consistent with Council direction. Therefore, Staff recommends that Council give first, second and third reading to "Street and Traffic Bylaw, 1999, No. 1529, Amendment No. 7, Bylaw 2021, No. 2374" to identify roadways currently posted below the standard 50 km/hr pursuant to the MVA and change the speed limit on Johnston Road from Five (5) Corners to North Bluff Road from 50km/hr to 30 km/hr.

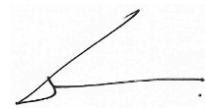
Respectfully submitted,



Jim Gordon, P.Eng.  
Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations

## **Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

I concur with the recommendation of this corporate report.



Guillermo Ferrero  
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: Street and Traffic Bylaw, Schedules B and D.  
Appendix B: Proposed Street and Traffic Bylaw, Schedule B

## APPENDIX A

### Street and Traffic Bylaw Schedules B and D.

