University Heights Suburban Centre Neighbourhood Traffic Review

ISSUE

Through the Neighbourhood Traffic Review (NTR) process a Traffic Plan for the University Heights Suburban Centre (SC) neighbourhood was developed in consultation with the community in response to concerns such as speeding, traffic shortcutting, and pedestrian safety.

BACKGROUND

A public meeting was held on May 9, 2019 to identify traffic concerns and potential solutions within the University Heights SC neighbourhood. Based on the residents' input provided at the initial public meeting and the analysis of the traffic data collected, a Neighbourhood Traffic Plan was developed and presented to the community at a second public meeting held on September 26, 2019. Additional feedback received at the follow-up public meeting was also incorporated into the NTR.

The proposed improvements were circulated to: Saskatoon Police Service, Saskatoon Light & Power, Saskatoon Fire Department, Parking Services, Roadways, Fleet & Support, and Saskatoon Transit and their comments were incorporated into the NTR recommendations.

CURRENT STATUS

To improve safety in the University Heights SC neighbourhood, the following will be completed:

- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB)
- Zebra crosswalks
- Curb extensions
- Parking restrictions
- Lane designation signs and pavement markings
- Speed display boards
- Stop signs
- Additional speed and traffic counts
- Extending a median
- Traffic signals

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The University Heights SC Neighbourhood Traffic Review report is included as Appendix 1.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs are summarized in the following table:

Item	2020-2021	Beyond 2021
Signs, Pavement Markings & Temporary Traffic Calming	\$11,450	-
Additional Traffic Counts	\$ 500	-
Speed Display Boards	ı	minimal
Pedestrian Safety Devices	-	\$ 45,000
Permanent Traffic Calming	-	\$ 70,000
Traffic Signals	-	\$200,000*
TOTAL	\$11,950	\$115,000

^{*} Planned to be funded by the Bus Rapid Transit project therefore not added to the total costs

There is sufficient funding within Capital Project #1512 – Neighbourhood Traffic Management to undertake the work in 2020 and 2021, which includes implementation of all signage, pavement markings, and temporary traffic calming measures. The remainder of the work, beyond 2021, including implementation of permanent traffic calming measures and pedestrian safety devices, will be considered alongside all other improvements identified through the NTR Program. The Administration will include these in the multi-year budget submission package listing the projects recommended to be funded and the rationale used to prioritize the projects.

It is planned that the traffic signals will be funded as part of the implementation of Bus Rapid Transit and installed with the construction of the green line and the development of a station at the intersection of Lowe Road and Nelson Road.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social, or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

The installation of each proposed improvement will be implemented in two specific time frames as follows:

Short-term (1 to 2 years)	Temporary traffic calming measures, signage, pavement markings, speed display boards
Medium-term (3 to 5 years)	Pedestrian safety devices, permanent traffic calming devices, traffic signals

The temporary traffic calming installations will begin as early as spring 2020. A status update on the permanent installation of traffic calming measures will be submitted annually in the fall.

APPENDICES

University Heights Suburban Centre Neighbourhood Traffic Review

Report Approval

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Department

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