The Willows Neighbourhood Traffic Review

ISSUE

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

BACKGROUND

An online public meeting was held on August 13, 2020 to identify traffic concerns and potential solutions within The Willows 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 online public meeting held on March 18, 2021. Both public meetings were hosted online to comply with the public health orders for COVID-19. 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 and Power, Saskatoon Fire Department, Saskatoon Transit, Environmental Services, Planning and Development, Roadways, Fleet and Support, and Community Standards and their comments were incorporated into the NTR recommendations.

CURRENT STATUS

To improve safety in The Willows neighbourhood, the following are recommended:

- Standard crosswalk;
- Median island;
- Speed display boards;
- Pedestrian accessibility ramps; and
- Sidewalks.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The Willows Neighbourhood Traffic Review report is included as Appendix 1.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs are summarized in the following table:

Item	2021	Beyond 2021
Signs, Pavement Markings and Temporary Traffic Calming	\$1,250	-
Speed Enforcement	-	-
Permanent Traffic Calming	-	\$ 5,000
Pedestrian Accessible Ramps and Sidewalks	-	\$1,564,000
TOTAL	\$1,250	\$1,569,000

There is sufficient funding within Capital Project #1512 – Neighbourhood Traffic Management to undertake the work in 2021, which includes implementation of all signage, pavement markings, and temporary traffic calming measures.

The implementation of permanent traffic calming measures will be considered alongside all other improvements identified through the NTR Program. The Administration will include these in the multi-year business plan and budget submission package listing the projects recommended to be funded using annual reserve funding allocations.

The remainder of the work, beyond 2021, including pedestrian ramps and sidewalks will be included in the prioritization process for the Curb Ramp Infill Program and Sidewalk Infill Program for delivery. The Administration will include the funding request for these recommendations in the multi-year business plan and budget submission package listing the projects recommended to be funded and the rationale used to prioritize the projects.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

NEXT STEPS

The installation of each proposed improvement will be implemented in three 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)	Permanent traffic calming devices
Long-term (5 plus years)	Pedestrian ramps, sidewalks

The temporary traffic calming installations will begin as early as summer 2021. A status update on the permanent installation of traffic calming measures will be submitted annually.

APPENDICES

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Report Approval

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