Proposed Amendments to Bylaw No. 7200, The Traffic Bylaw – Speed Limit Changes May 2025

ISSUE

This report outlines proposed speed limit changes to support the implementation of rapidly deployed cycling facilities and improved safety for cyclists on Munroe Avenue North between College Drive and 14th Street East.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council:

- 1. That the speed limit on Munroe Avenue North between College Drive and 14th Street East be reduced from 50 km/h to 30 km/h;
- 2. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the appropriate amendments to Bylaw No. 7200, The Traffic Bylaw, effective August 31, 2025.

BACKGROUND

At its Regular Business Meeting held December 20, 2023, City Council considered the Neighbourhood Bikeways 30 km/h Speed Limit Policy <u>report</u> and resolved:

- "1. That Council Policy C07-034, Reduced Speed Limits for Neighbourhood Bikeways be approved; and
- 2. That the City Clerk be requested to adopt Council Policy C07-034, Reduced Speed Limits for Neighbourhood Bikeways, as outlined in this report."

The approved policy states that the posted speed limit on a neighbourhood bikeway will be 30 km/h.

At its Regular Business Meeting held on May 29, 2024, City Council considered the Opportunities for Rapid Deployment of Safety Improvements on Active Transportation Routes – May 2024 Update <u>report</u> and resolved, in part:

- "1. That the Administration implement a neighbourhood bikeway using rapid deployment on Route 6;
- 2. That rapid deployment of Route 6, from College Drive to 14th Street, be installed in 2025."

The report outlined various routes and gaps for Saskatoon's cycling network that could be improved through rapid deployment methods. Route 6 was proposed to be a neighbourhood bikeway installed on the following streets:

- Munroe Avenue from College Drive to Cascade Street;
- Cascade Street from Munroe Avenue to Churchill Park;
- Ferguson Avenue from Wilson Crescent to Calder Crescent; and
- Calder Crescent from Clarence Avenue to Ferguson Avenue.

The neighbourhood bikeway on Munroe Avenue from College Drive to 14th Street East will be installed in summer 2025.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Rapid deployment is a tool used by cities to accelerate the expansion of their active transportation network. Rapid deployment uses semi-permanent materials, existing street space and focused engagement techniques to create a process where active transportation facilities can be planned and installed within months.

A neighbourhood bikeway is a type of all ages and abilities (AAA) cycling facility that features people riding their bike in the street in mixed traffic and are best suited for streets with low vehicle volumes. These streets can be enhanced using a range of design treatments, including signs, pavement markings, and traffic calming measures that are tailored to the existing conditions of the street. Implementing a 30 km/h speed limit is the final step for a street to be considered a neighbourhood bikeway. All design elements, including the reduced speed limit, must be in place for a neighbourhood bikeway to be considered as a cycling facility appropriate for people of all ages and abilities.

A neighbourhood bikeway will be implemented on Munroe Avenue between College Drive and 14th Street East using rapid deployment techniques in summer 2025.

As per the process set out under Council Policy C07-034, Reduced Speed Limits for Neighbourhood Bikeways, the speed limit on Munroe Avenue between College Drive and 14th Street East is to be reduced from 50 km/h to 30 km/h after the physical changes to the street such as traffic calming have been installed. The limits of the proposed speed limit changes are shown in Appendix 1. Required signage will be installed on each effected block in conjunction with the speed limit change.

Any traffic calming measures that are required for Munroe Avenue to be considered a neighbourhood bikeway will be installed prior to the reduced speed limit coming into effect.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications. Costs associated with implementing the speed limit change on Munroe Avenue have been included in the implementation costs for the rapid deployment project.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by City Council, the City Solicitor be requested to prepare bylaw amendments to Bylaw No. 7200, The Traffic Bylaw, effective August 31, 2025.

APPENDICES

1. Posted Speed Limits

Report Approval	
Written by:	Carly Grassing, Transportation Engineer, Transportation
Reviewed by:	Nathalie Baudais, Engineering Manager, Transportation
	Jay Magus, Director of Transportation
Approved by:	Terry Schmidt, General Manager, Transportation and Construction

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