



# **TRAFFIC CALMING REVIEW**

## ***Deer Ridge Drive***

### **INFORMATION PACKAGE & PUBLIC COMMENT FORM**

Tuesday, June 4, 2019  
Presentation: 7:00pm – 9:00pm  
Howard Robertson Public School  
130 Morgan Avenue, Kitchener

**BACKGROUND:**

Transportation Services has received requests from the local residents of Deer Ridge Drive to review the existing traffic conditions along this roadway.

In response to these requests, the City of Kitchener has initiated a Traffic Calming Review for Deer Ridge Drive. This process includes extensive public input and the consideration of a number of options with respect to social, economic and environmental impacts. This process will ensure that any decision resulting from this study is transparent, defensible and traceable. It is important that any future decisions made by the City in this regard are technically feasible, economically responsible and socially acceptable.

The traffic calming review for Deer Ridge Drive will include the following processes:

- Early and ongoing public consultation in the planning process;
- Identification and review of appropriate traffic calming measures;
- An investigation of the impacts of those traffic calming measures;
- Identify a preferred traffic calming plan;
- Implementation and monitoring of the plan.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the study is to address traffic issues and concerns on Deer Ridge Drive. This meeting and information package is intended to obtain your input on these issues and possible solutions. The presentation will summarize existing conditions, potential traffic calming methods and allow discussion on any issues and the process.

Your timely input and comments are crucial to the success of the traffic calming review. We strongly encourage your participation both by responding to correspondence and attendance at the public information centres.

**TRAFFIC CALMING PROCESS:**

The City of Kitchener has an approved traffic calming policy that affects this study as follows:

- Traffic calming is used to address safety, speeding or through traffic issues.
- The City requires minimum 25% support from affected residents to initiate a traffic calming study.
- Traffic calming devices can involve changes in traffic signage, pavement markings and/or physical changes to the geometrics of the roadway.

- Vertical deflection devices are typically not recommended on transit routes, emergency response routes and major collector roadways.
- In order to implement a traffic calming plan, at least 60% support is required from the responses of a minimum 50% of the affected residents.

If you are concerned and affected by traffic on Deer Ridge Drive, we need your involvement, input, and support for any changes.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:**

Deer Ridge Drive is designated as a major collector roadway from King Street East to Pioneer Tower Road and as a minor collector for the remaining portion. The function of a typical collector roadway is to collect and distribute traffic between local streets, other collector roads and the arterial road system. Deer Ridge Drive has a speed limit of 40 km/h, as outlined within the City of Kitchener Uniform Traffic Control By-law 2007-138.

Traffic Volume & Speed Studies

Traffic volumes and vehicle speeds were collected on Deer Ridge Drive in 2017. The following data was recorded:

Location	Count Date	AADT*	AADT* Combined	85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile** Speed (km/h)
<b>between Candle Crescent and Grand Hill Drive</b>	July 2017	Northbound – 2,305 Southbound – 2,252	4557	49
<b>between Deer Ridge Drive and Terrace Wood Drive</b>	July 2017	Northbound – 725 Southbound – 763	1488	60
<b>between Longview Crescent and Terrace Wood Crescent</b>	July 2017	Eastbound – 457 Westbound – 387	843	55

\*Note: AADT = Annual Average Daily Traffic

\*\*Note: 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is the speed at which 85% of drivers travel at or below.

Collision Analysis (January 2016 – December 2018)

In the past three (3) years there have been six (6) reported collisions on Deer Ridge Drive. This yields an annual collision rate of 2.0 collisions per year. Analysis performed on the six (6) reported collisions determined that there is no discernable pattern to the collisions.

### **TRAFFIC CALMING METHODS:**

A range of planning alternatives will be considered through this study in order to develop a preferred traffic calming plan.

The following concepts are being considered as possible alternatives.

1. **Passive:** The use of passive traffic calming measures can include added traffic signage, improvements to pavement markings, textured pavement, police enforcement or movement restrictions. Although these are low-cost measures and have often been used by municipalities to try to address traffic concerns, they have been found to be less effective in addressing those concerns as they are not physical changes or they require continuous enforcement which is not always feasible.
2. **Moderate:** The use of more moderate physical traffic control devices can include speed humps, road narrowings (chokers/centre medians) or traffic circles to slow traffic and try to discourage “non-local” traffic from cutting through. These types of solutions typically are effective in slowing traffic down but they generally are less effective in discouraging through traffic than restrictive measures.
3. **Restrictive:** Traffic calming measures that are much more restrictive to drivers can include road closures, diverters and other physical measures to prevent certain movements or through traffic. They can be very effective in reducing through traffic volume but often lead to concerns regarding accessibility for local residents who will also be inconvenienced in accessing or exiting the neighbourhood.
4. **Combination:** A combination of the above concepts can be used.
5. **Do-Nothing:** This is also a possible option if there is not sufficient support for any of the above measures.

One or more of the above basic concepts can be considered to address the traffic issues present along Deer Ridge Drive. Some will be more effective than others. Your input on these concepts will assist our work in selecting one or all of them in the design phase of the study.



We thank you for your participation and involvement. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the study, please feel free to contact the City of Kitchener:

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**Traffic Technologist**  
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Email: [eric.bentzen-bilkvist@kitchener.ca](mailto:eric.bentzen-bilkvist@kitchener.ca)

**PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ATTACHED PAGES AND LEAVE THEM AT THE MEETING OR MAIL THEM TO THE CONTACT LISTED ABOVE BY:**

**Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019**



**Development Services Department**  
*Transportation Services*

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**WE NEED YOUR INPUT!**

To help the study team with its work, we are requesting input from the public on the following three questions:

1. What do you consider to be the traffic issues (if any) in the neighbourhood and specifically on Deer Ridge Drive?

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2. What do you think of the traffic calming options described in the information package and presented at the public meeting? Which ones are best for Deer Ridge Drive in your opinion? (ie. Passive, Moderate, Restrictive, etc)

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3. General Comments:

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PLEASE INDICATE YOUR SUGGESTIONS/IDEAS ON THE ATTACHED MAP

Study Area



Comments/Explanation of Suggestion(s):

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**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING CONTACT INFORMATION SO THAT WE CAN DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS IF REQUIRED.**

**Eric Bentzen-Bilkvist**  
**Traffic Technologist**  
City of Kitchener  
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5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Berlin Tower  
P.O. Box 1118  
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7

**NAME AND EMAIL:**

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**ADDRESS:**

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Email: eric.bentzen-bilkvist@kitchener.ca

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMMENTS BY EMAIL/PHONE BY**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019**