



## Report to Council

Department: Infrastructure Services

Division: Operations

Date: April 22, 2025

Prepared by: Norm Nussio C.E.T., CRS-I, Manager of Operations and Drainage

Report Number: Operations-2025-06

Subject: Community Safety Zones Essex District High school

Number of Pages: 5

### Recommendation(s)

**That** Operations-2025-06 entitled “Community Safety Zones Essex District High School” prepared by Norm Nussio Manager of Operations and Drainage dated April 22, 2025, be received, and

**That** Council direct administration to implement a Community Safety Zone on Talbot Street North from Maidstone Avenue to Hopgood Side Road, and on Maidstone Avenue from the Talbot Street North to Allen Avenue and amend By-Law No. 915 to reflect such.

### Purpose

Administration has reviewed the noted sections of roadway around Essex District High School and are seeking Council approval and direction to implement Community Safety Zones in these areas. In accordance with Town of Essex Community Safety Zone policy number 47, Council must approve the implementation of Community Safety Zone before signs can be installed.

## Background and Discussion

Community Safety Zones (CSZ) were introduced to Ontario in 1998 under the Highway Traffic Act. These are sections of roadway where public safety is of special concern and are under the jurisdiction of the local municipality. CSZs are typically identified on roadways near school, daycares, playgrounds, parks, hospitals, senior citizen residences, and roadway sections with identified high collision or road speed violations rates.

The goal of setting a CSZ is to help modify driver behaviour and improve safety on municipally selected sections of road where public safety is of special concern. The behaviour modification is to be achieved through increased fines for traffic violations committed within the CSZ, therefore, it relies heavily on the enforcement of these posted sections of road.

In accordance with Section 4.3.2 of the Town's policy, CSZs should only be considered where one of the following apply:

- a) A school, daycare, playground, park, hospital, or senior citizen residence is located within the proposed CSZ; or*
- b) Local police, at their discretion, determine and/or verify an unusually high road speed violation or high collision rate within the proposed CSZ; or*
- c) A minimum of three of the following concerns to public safety are determined to be present in the proposed CSZ location:*
  - a. Posted speed limit causes concern for collision risk;*
  - b. Relatively high 85<sup>th</sup> percentile over speed limit;*
  - c. High annual average daily traffic (AADT) volumes (>2,000 vehicles/day)*
  - d. Absence or limitations of sidewalks causes risks for pedestrians;*
  - e. Relatively high truck volumes;*
  - f. Relatively high number of intersection or accesses causing concern for increased collision risk; and*

- g. A high number of crashes per year on the proposed segment of road (> 1:900 crashes per year)*

Since the two sections of roadway are directly adjacent to a school, they meet the eligibility criteria of section 4.3.2 (a) and meet the criteria for subsections (b, c, e) of the policy.

Administration has also consulted with the OPP, and they are in agreeance with designating these roadways as Community Safety Zones. Sections of roadway are shown below in figure 1.

**Maidstone and Talbot CSZ map (Figure 1)**



## **Financial Impact**

The cost of implementing these Community Safety Zone and installation of signs will be captured under the Public Works operating budget.

## **Consultations**

Kevin Girard, Director of Infrastructure services

### **Link to Strategic Priorities**

- ☒ Embrace asset management best practices to build, maintain, and continuously improve our municipally owned infrastructure.
- ☐ Leverage our Town's competitive advantages to promote jobs and economic investment.
- ☐ Take care of our natural environment and strengthen the sense of belonging to everyone who makes Essex "home".
- ☐ Deliver friendly customer service in an efficient, effective, and transparent manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.
- ☐ Build corporate-level and community-level climate resilience through community engagement and partnership and corporate objectives.

### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Community Safety Zones Essex District Highschool - Operations-2025-06.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 14, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Girard", written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services - Apr 14, 2025 - 11:48 AM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Sweet", written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer - Apr 14, 2025 - 11:55 AM**