



Committee Report

To:	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	February 11, 2021
Subject / Report No:	TR-CW-08-21
Title:	Amendments to By-Law 4788-13 – Regulating Traffic and Parking within the County of Grey Roads System
Prepared by:	Matt Marck, Engineering Manager
Reviewed by:	Pat Hoy, Director of Transportation Services
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	Member Municipalities
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution CW40-21; Endorsed by County Council February 25, 2021 per Resolution CC24-21

Recommendation

1. That Report TR-CW-08-21 be received and that Schedule “N” of By-Law 4788-13 being the By-law to regulate traffic and parking on Grey County roads not be amended to reflect the requested revisions.

Executive Summary

By-Law 4788-13 was adopted by Grey County Council to regulate traffic and parking on roads under the jurisdiction of the County of Grey.

The By-Law includes twenty-one schedules that identify a variety of restrictions and associated fines, with changes reviewed to several schedules as follows:

Schedule	Description	Changes Requested	Recommended
N	Rates of Speed	<u>Grey Road 1 Georgian Bluffs</u> Resident request to reduce existing areas posted 80 km/h between Kemble Rock Road and Wiarnton to 70 km/h (entire length of Island View Drive)	No
		<u>Grey Road 1 Georgian Bluffs</u> Resident request to extend existing speed limit of 50 km/h from existing easterly termination of 50 km/h limit in Big Bay (existing length 580 m) for another 1.0 km easterly (requested length 1,580 m)	No

Background and Discussion

Schedule “N” Rates of Speed

In accordance with the Highway Traffic Act, municipalities have the authority to establish rates of speed on their roads. For the speed limit rates to be applicable, a by-law must be passed identifying the limits and the rate of speed.

Schedule “N” regulates the rates of speed on County roads that differ from the standard rural (80 kilometres per hour) and urban (50 kilometres per hour) regulatory speeds.

Many requests have been received to lower speed limits. It should be noted the intent of County roads are to serve increased traffic volumes, at higher travel speeds, with reduced interruption. The majority of the requests are summarized and forwarded to the local police for the consideration of increased enforcement.

A resident located on Grey Road 1, east of Big Bay, raised concerns with speeding and traffic volumes on Grey Road 1 (Island View Drive) between Wiarion and Kemble Rock Road. Transportation Services reviewed the section and disagrees that the existing 80 kilometres per hour should be posted at the requested 70 kilometres per hour at all locations currently posted at 80 km/h (+/- 29 kilometres with multiple areas posted at 50, 60 and 70 km/h already). Transportation Services does not recommend this revision to Schedule “N” of By-Law 4788-13.

Based on several factors, including the number and density of horizontal curves and density of entrances, the warrant for a change in the speed limit would be considered moderate.

Grey Road 1 through this section is a low volume road with an AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic) volume of approximately 300 per day. Volumes do increase in the summer due to cottagers and tourists, but no accident history exists that would warrant any changes.

2019 speed data does indicate that up to 40% of vehicles are travelling above the posted speed of 80 km/h, and of those, 85% of vehicles are driving at or below 91 km/h.

Typical data across the system demonstrates that a vast majority of vehicles are running at 10-15 km/h above the posted limit, whether it be 50 km/h or 80 km/h.

It has been documented that lowering the posted speed limit does not necessarily deter speeding, especially in rural sections where the data demonstrates that drivers are comfortable driving at or above the posted limit.

Grey County transportation passes along all speeding complaints to local law enforcement, but resident priorities are not necessarily police priorities. County speed software indicates Grey Road 1 in this section would be considered of low to medium priority for speed enforcement by police services.

It should be noted, that a majority of speeding complaints are typically centred around pedestrian movements. Grey Road 1 between Wiarion and Owen Sound is a rural road with partially paved and granular shoulders (as are most sections of Grey County Roads) and pedestrian movements are not a predominant function of the road.

The below noted change is not recommended.

Grey Road	From	To	Rate of Speed
1	Kemble Rock Road	Wiaraton	70 km/h (locations currently posted at 80 km/h)

The same resident located on Grey Road 1, east of Big Bay, raised concerns with speeding and traffic volumes through Big Bay and wishes the 50 km/h zone be extended by 1.0 km to the east. Transportation Services disagrees that the existing 50 kilometres per hour in the hamlet of Big Bay should be lengthened, as it extends well beyond the perceived boundaries of the hamlet. Transportation Services does not recommend this revision to Schedule “N” of By-Law 4788-13.

Grey Road	From	To	Rate of Speed
1	A point 1350 m east of the intersection of Grey Road 1 and Division Street (Big Bay)	A point 230 m west of the intersection of Grey Road 1 and Division Street (Big Bay)	50 km/h

Legal and Legislated Requirements

For the above locations to be enforceable the By-Law must be consistent with field signage.

Financial and Resource Implications

Labour, material and equipment to procure and install/change signage, if changes were adopted would cost approximately \$10,000.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal
Clerks Department
- External – Township of Georgian Bluffs

Appendices and Attachments

Grey Road 1 Township of Georgian Bluffs By-Law 4788-13 “N” Rates of Speed Location Map

Grey Road 1 Municipality of Georgian Bluffs By-Law 4788-13 Schedule "N" Rates of Speed Location Map



