



Date: March 17, 2025

To: Mayor and Council

Author: Tim Del Greco, Senior Manager, Capital Projects and Engineering

RE: Jasperson Drive – School Traffic Operations

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That Council **direct** Administration to proceed with planning and installation of a full traffic signal at the intersection of Woodycrest Ave and Jasperson Drive;

And that Council **direct** Administration to make a formal request to the Greater Essex County District School Board to widen the full length of their south driveway access at 1620 Jasperson Drive.

BACKGROUND

In September of 2024, the Greater Essex County District School Board opened a new school at 1620 Jasperson Drive. Prior to construction and during the planning stages of this school, the Town hired a Traffic Engineer to review Jasperson Drive and the proposed site plan and make recommendations if warranted. This review was completed based on forecasted traffic volumes and patterns (both vehicular and pedestrian). It was concluded that a controlled pedestrian crossing (PXO) at the south school access was warranted. The PXO was installed in 2021.

During the August 12, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council, Jasperson Drive was discussed and Council passed a motion to upgrade the existing PXO to a pedestrian traffic signal (IPS) to provide for a higher level of service. Parts and materials are still on back order for this IPS.

After the new school was opened, the Town received some complaints with respect to traffic operations. Council asked Administration to review and report back on what improvements could be made, if any.

DISCUSSION

In December of 2024, the Town hired a Traffic Engineer to visit the site and make observations, collect new traffic counts, and provide recommendations. As always, recommendations are made in accordance with applicable design manuals and standards (for example – the Ontario Traffic Manual Series).

Highlights of the Engineer's report and findings include:

- A controlled pedestrian crossing is now warranted at the Woodycrest intersection based on the number of children crossing Jasperson at this location. The engineer's report did note that, though it wasn't warranted, a full traffic signal would provide a higher level of service, if desired by Council.
- The location of the current PXO (which is now being converted to an IPS) should remain as is.
- The School Board should widen the length of the south driveway access to permit two-way ingress and egress. It is currently difficult to do so with the current access width.

Should Council adopt the recommendations of this report, it should be noted that traffic signal controllers and equipment have a long lead time for delivery.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Design and installation of a full traffic signal at the intersection of Woodycrest Ave and Jasperson Drive is estimated at \$400,000 (versus approximately \$150,000 for the design and installation of a pedestrian traffic signal).

Should Council proceed, it is recommended that approved Capital Project PW-2025-1 (to address various traffic signal upgrades throughout town), which included a \$150,000 budget, be deferred to 2025. Additional funding can be available through reserves, to be confirmed at Council meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

CONSULTATIONS

Kingsville Administration
RC Spencer Associates Inc.

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