
TO: Regional District of Nanaimo Board **MEETING:** January 22, 2019

FROM: Chris Midgley
Manager, Strategic Initiative and
Asset Management **FILE:**

SUBJECT: AVICC Resolution – Traffic Calming

RECOMMENDATION

That the following resolution be forwarded to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for consideration at its 2019 Annual General Meeting:

WHEREAS regional district efforts to build more complete, compact communities within electoral areas have increased pedestrians and cyclists on roads in areas designated for growth;

AND WHEREAS the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on roads in rural areas designated for growth would be enhanced with traffic calming measures designed to reduce vehicle speeds and prioritize non-motorized traffic;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure develop new criteria and standards for traffic calming in areas designated for growth in Electoral Areas.

SUMMARY

The resolution for Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) for endorsement at the 2019 Annual Meeting requests that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) develop new criteria and standards for traffic calming in Electoral Areas.

BACKGROUND

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) has maintained a long-standing commitment to responsible growth management, including focusing growth and development in rural village centres in the region's Electoral Areas. As these village centres, and other desirable locations within the region have grown into larger, more complete communities, there has been a corresponding increase in pedestrians, cyclists and other users of non-motorized transportation. At the same time, authority for the design, construction and maintenance of roads in Electoral Areas resides with MOTI.

Recognizing the growing risk of injury or death to pedestrian and cyclists on high speed, high traffic volume roads, RDN staff and Electoral Area directors have repeatedly raised the issue of traffic calming at meetings with MOTI staff. Responses have consistently focused on MOTI's

mandate to construct and maintain roads to standards that prioritize commercial traffic flow; the high cost of constructing traffic-calming measures within an existing road right-of-way; exposure to liability; and financial uncertainty arising from potential changes to the maintenance contract for provincial roads. Further, in order to justify any changes to provincial right-of-ways the Province must complete a comprehensive engineering study that includes an analysis of vehicle flows, speeds and accident history. This effectively eliminates any proactive effort to mitigate the risks to pedestrians and cyclists of high speed, high volume traffic on provincial roads.

It is not realistic for such a change to be considered on all provincial roads. To provide some focus, this resolution stresses the importance of developing new criteria and standards for traffic calming in areas designated for growth, where there is an increasing number of pedestrians or cyclists occupying the right-of-way.

The AVICC Annual General Meeting provides the appropriate forum for further consideration of the resolution. If supported at AVICC, the resolution will be further debated at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM Conference) later in 2019.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Board forward to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities the resolution to develop new criteria and standards for traffic calming in areas designated for growth in Electoral Areas, for endorsement at the 2019 AVICC Annual General Meeting.
2. That alternate direction be provided to staff.

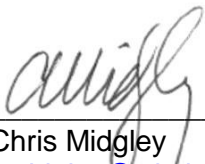
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Focus On Relationships - We Will Facilitate/Advocate For Issues Outside Of Our Jurisdiction

The preparation of draft resolutions for the Board's consideration and submission to the AVICC aligns with the Board's key focus area within the Strategic Plan of 'Relationships'. Through the AVICC resolutions process, the Board is provided with opportunities for the RDN to partner with other governments to advance our region's interests, and to advocate for issues outside of our jurisdiction.



Chris Midgley
cmidgley@rdn.bc.ca
January 14, 2019

Reviewed by:

- G. Garbutt, General Manager, Strategic and Community Development
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer