

# DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

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**Title:** School Zone Time Update

**Date Prepared:** July 24, 2025

**Report To:** Regular Meeting of Council

**Councillor and Role:** Councillor Sandy Hickman, Engineering and Regulatory Services

**Ward:** N/A

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## Decision/Direction Required:

**According to The Highway Traffic Act (HTA), a reduced speed limit is enforceable between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on school days. School zone signs will be updated citywide to have a speed limit of 30 km/h from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm on school days in alignment with the Highway Traffic Act (HTA). The update will extend the time that a reduced speed limit is in effect by an additional 30 minutes in the morning, changing the start time to 7:00am instead of 7:30am as currently posted on City signs. This change is being implemented in coordination with the rollout of the provincial image capturing enforcement system.**

## Discussion – Background and Current Status:

On February 2, 2015, Council approved the implementation of school zones throughout the city according to the recommendations from the Police and Traffic Committee. A 30 km/h speed limit was applied to all identified school zones, with the reduced speed in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on school days.

The Highway Traffic Act (HTA) provides slightly different regulations for school zones, including the specific times when the reduced speed limit is enforceable “between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on days when school is regularly held.”

In preparation for the upcoming roll-out of automated speed enforcement using image-capture technology, City staff will be aligning the school zone signage with the HTA regulations. This adjustment is to ensure consistency with provincial enforcement standards.

The signs will be updated before the first day of school on September 3, 2025.

To implement this change, school zone signs will be updated indicating the HTA-compliant times at the following schools.

Pennywell Road – vicinity of Bishop Abraham  
Bond Street - Bishop Field

# ST. JOHN'S

Canada Drive - Cowan Heights  
Doyles Road - Goulds Elementary  
Hazelwood Crescent - Hazelwood Elementary  
Larkhall Street - Larkhall Academy  
Toronto Street - Macdonald Drive Elementary  
Elizabeth Avenue - Rennie's River School  
Airport Heights Drive - Roncalli School  
University Avenue - St. Andrew's School  
Linegar Avenue – St. John Bosco  
Cowan Avenue - St. Matthews  
Mundy Pond Road - St. Teresa's  
Ennis Avenue – Vanier Elementary  
Middleton Street – Virginia Park Elementary  
Waterford Bridge Road – St. Mary's

**Key Considerations/Implications:**

1. Budget/Financial Implications: No additional funds are required. This will be completed within the existing operational budgets.
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: City staff consulted with RNC leading up to this decision.
3. Is this a New Plan or Strategy: No  
  
If yes, are there recommendations or actions that require progress reporting?  
  
If yes, how will progress be reported? (e.g.: through the strategic plan, through Cascade, annual update to Council, etc.)
4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:  
  
A City that Moves: Improve safety for all users on a well-maintained street network.  
  
A City that Moves: Expand and maintain a safe and accessible active transportation network.
5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: N/A
6. Accessibility and Inclusion: N/A
7. Legal or Policy Implications: This change will align the City's school zone signage with the HTA regulations.
8. Privacy Implications: N/A

9. Engagement and Communications Considerations: Communications Division will notify residents of the change.

10. Human Resource Implications: N/A

11. Procurement Implications: N/A

12. Information Technology Implications: N/A

13. Other Implications: N/A

**Recommendation:**

That Council approve the change to implement school zone speed limits for an additional 30 minutes in the morning on school days. School zone signs will be updated citywide to have a reduced speed limit of 30 km/h from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm on days when school is regularly held. This will bring the City's school zone times in alignment with the NL Highway Traffic Act (HTA). This change will apply to the following schools zones:

Pennywell Road – vicinity of Bishop Abraham  
Bond Street - Bishop Field  
Canada Drive - Cowan Heights  
Doyles Road - Goulds Elementary  
Hazelwood Crescent - Hazelwood Elementary  
Larkhall Street - Larkhall Academy  
Toronto Street - Macdonald Drive Elementary  
Elizabeth Avenue - Rennie's River School  
Airport Heights Drive - Roncalli School  
University Avenue - St. Andrew's School  
Linegar Avenue – St. John Bosco  
Cowan Avenue - St. Matthews  
Mundy Pond Road - St. Teresa's  
Ennis Avenue – Vanier Elementary  
Middleton Street – Virginia Park Elementary  
Waterford Bridge Road – St. Mary's

**Prepared by:** Marianne Alacoque  
**Approved by:** Amer Afridi

**Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	School Zone Timing Update.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Jul 25, 2025

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

**Amer Afridi - Jul 24, 2025 - 11:30 AM**

**Scott Winsor - Jul 24, 2025 - 11:35 AM**

**Jason Sinyard - Jul 25, 2025 - 11:30 AM**