

TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 14, 2022

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Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on April 14, 2022 in the City of Leduc Operations Building, Second Floor Boardroom, as well as virtually via Zoom.

Attendance

Those in Attendance in Person:

Mayor Bob Young

Shawn Olson, Director, Engineering

Rick Sereda, Director, Public Services

Mike Pieters, General Manager, Infrastructure & Planning

Kyle van Steenoven, Manager, Capital Projects and Development

Kyle Wilkin, Manager, Infrastructure Maintenance

John Prokopiw, Community Peace Officer I, Enforcement Services

Cameron Chisholm, Manager, RCMP Administration and Leduc Enforcement Services

Blair Martin, Engineering Project Manager

Kevin Wenzel, Manager, Public Transportation

Shannon Bremner, Recording Secretary

Keri Nelson, Administrative Assistant

Those in Attendance Virtually:

Brian Oliver, Fire Prevention Officer

Michael Stadnyk, Community Peace Officer, Sergeant

With Regrets

Councillor Laura Tillack

Gerry Kelly, Deputy Fire Chief

Sgt. Thomas Dimopoulos, RCMP

Public Commentary

No Public Commentary

CALL TO ORDER

Shawn Olson called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Shawn Olson introduced Keri Nelson, who will be assuming the position of Administrative Assistant for the Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) going forward.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following emergent items were added to the agenda.

Under New Business Items:

12. Schubert Street & Knie Park – Speeding Concerns (Shawn Olson)

13. Blackstone Blvd. – Request for No Parking Signage in Back Lane (Michael Stadnyk)

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14. Crosswalk at Capri Road & Corinthia Drive (Kyle Wilkin)
15. Hospital District – Traffic Concerns and Solutions (Michael Stadnyk)

PREVIOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

Background

1. Traffic Sign Art Submissions – Sign Locations (Cameron Chisholm)

Cameron Chisholm was approached by an Art teacher and commissioned their class to submit drawings. They then picked four pieces and made them into traffic signs. Cameron Chisholm sponsored the event and in return, hosted a pizza party. The winners also had a traffic sign given to them. Cameron is unsure about deviating from normal traffic signs. The “art” piece would be something that would make Leduc different. We could have the standard “High Collision Area” sign with an art sign below. Cameron recommends installing signs at the 50 Avenue and 50 Street, and 50 Avenue and Highway 2 intersections. We would probably need four signs at 50 Avenue and 50 Street and then depending upon how we sign 50 Avenue at Highway 2, maybe 3 more. Cameron suggests picking a couple of winners to get a good variety. This was a hit when we put up the railroad traffic art signs with some of the Council; they really liked the art concept. Cameron suggests we have to do something to address our issues at these intersections.

September 16, 2021 Meeting: Cameron Chisholm will present signs at the next TAC meeting. There will be 4 signs chosen, one for each intersection.

December 2, 2021 Meeting: Bring back to the next meeting for discussion.

February 24, 2022 Meeting: Bring back to the next meeting for discussion.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: This project is temporarily on hold, as the schools are not prepared to progress at this time.

Decision

Cameron Chisholm will bring this item back to TAC once the schools are prepared to proceed.

Action

No action is required at this time.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda. Cameron Chisholm will bring this back to a future meeting.*

Background

2. Speeding on Grant MacEwan (Kyle van Steenoven)

This concern was brought forward during Council Orientation. Speed awareness signs are currently installed south of Black Gold Drive on Grant MacEwan. The average speed is 52 km/hour in the North end, and 57 km/hour South of 50 Avenue.

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December 2, 2021 Meeting: A speed awareness sign will be moved further North on Grant MacEwan to gather data for the new portion of the road. TAC also suggested speed signs South of the train tracks and in the new area North of Black Gold Drive. Kyle Wilkin will bring the speed awareness sign data back to the next meeting.

February 24, 2022 Meeting: Public Services has been extremely busy with snow removal, so the speed awareness signs have not been deployed yet. The speed awareness signs will be installed as soon as crews are available.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: The speed awareness sign data was reviewed. The Northbound sign indicates that the 85th percentile speed is 55 km/hour and the average speed is 44 km/hour. The average hourly speeds are consistent around 43-50 km/hour on weekdays. These figures are within compliance, although some speeding is noted.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – This item will be removed from the agenda, as the data indicates that speeds are within compliance. The speed sign will stay in place for speed awareness purposes.

Action No follow up is required, as this item was brought forward during Council Orientation.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **3. Highway 2 through Leduc (Mayor Young)**

TAC suggested that there should be a light installed for the merging lane onto Highway 2, and suggested that the speed should be reduced to 80 km/hour due to the many accidents and traffic violations and in consideration of many resident complaints.

December 2, 2021 Meeting: TAC agreed to draft a letter to MLA Rutherford addressed from Mayor Young, providing recommendations to install a flashing light indicating “Merging Traffic” and to consider reducing traffic speed to 80 km/hour.

February 24, 2022 Meeting: The letter signed by Mayor Young was sent to MLA Rutherford on February 15, 2022. Mayor Young noted that he also spoke with the Minister regarding poor road conditions on the section of Highway 39 that is underneath the Highway 2 overpass, which requires attention. It was suggested that the City could manage this repair work, and invoice the Province afterwards for the work undertaken.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: MLA Rutherford responded to Mayor Young on March 8, 2022 by email, which was attached to the TAC agenda for reference.

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- Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Mayor Young will follow up with MLA Rutherford and the Minister regarding the merge ahead sign, and whether the City can take care of minor maintenance concerns and invoice the Province.
- Action **Mayor Young** will follow up with MLA Rutherford.
- CARRIED.** *Remove from the agenda.*
- Background **4. Traffic Speed on 45 Avenue and 52 Street (Shawn Olson)**
- A resident has brought forward concerns regarding regular speeds in excess of 50 km/hour North and South bound on 52 Street north of 45 Avenue. This request was previously brought forward to TAC in 2016 and Enforcement Services found no speeding concerns in this area. However, in the years that have followed the resident believes that the speeds have increased and at that time it may have just been temporarily slow due to weather conditions. It was suggested to consider installing a speed awareness sign to verify whether conditions have changed in the last 5 years, especially given the new housing development in Linsford.
- December 2, 2021 Meeting: A speed awareness sign will be installed North of 45 Avenue catching Southbound traffic, which will be in convert mode. Kyle Wilkin will bring the speed awareness sign data back to the next meeting.
- February 24, 2022 Meeting: Public Services has been extremely busy with snow removal, so the speed awareness sign has not yet been deployed. The speed awareness sign will be installed as soon as crews are available.
- April 14, 2022 Meeting: Public Services experienced issues with downloading the speed awareness sign data from this location. Kyle Wilkin will circulate the speed data information to TAC members once available. TAC can then assess the data and make a recommendation, which may be able to be addressed prior to the next TAC meeting.
- Decision The decision was deferred until the speed sign data can be reviewed.
- Action **Kyle Wilkin** will circulate the speed data information to TAC members once available.
- CARRIED.** *Bring back to the next meeting.*
- Background **5. TAC Conference (Shawn Olson)**
- The 2022 TAC Conference will be held at the Edmonton Convention Centre from October 2 - 5, 2022. The conference will be a hybrid event, held both in person and remotely. Registration is now open and early bird rates are available until June 28, 2022.

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Decision TAC members were encouraged to attend this informative training opportunity.

Action No action is required.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Background **6. Traffic Speed on 49 Avenue between 50 Street – 52 Street (Shawn Olson)**

A resident is concerned about the speed of traffic on 49 Avenue, between 50 Street and 52 Street. When vehicles turn onto 49 Avenue from 50 Street, they race down 49 Avenue to avoid the traffic lights on 50 Avenue and 50 Street. There is a daycare that recently opened on this Avenue and the resident is concerned for the children's safety. Shawn Olson suggested setting up a speed awareness sign facing East on 49 Avenue, half way between 51 Street and 50 Street to measure traffic speeds and volume. It is suspected that the short cutting is limited in duration to the afternoon peak, where people are bypassing the lights at 50 Street and 50 Avenue and heading East down 49 Avenue and then back North to 50 Avenue. The data from a speed awareness sign will advise TAC as to how prevalent this is and whether this is a traffic speed or volume concern.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: A speed awareness sign was installed on March 18, 2022, located on 49 Avenue between 50 Street and 51 Street. The highest speed recorded was 59 km/hour, with only three high speeds recorded since the date of installation. From March 28 – April 3, 2022, the 85th percentile speed was 37 km/hour and the average speed was 30 km/hour. Overall, speeds are below 40 km/hour. A total of 7,235 vehicles used this route over this period, which equates to an approximate 10% increase in traffic volumes.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – The traffic speeds and volumes at this location are within the realm of what is expected on a local/collector road and therefore does not justify the need for traffic calming measures.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will send the speed sign data to Shawn Olson.

Shawn Olson will contact the resident to advise of TAC's decision.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **7. 50 Street & 57 Avenue Intersection – Vehicles Running Red Lights (Cameron Chisholm)**

A resident has brought forward a concern regarding vehicles running the red light at the 50 Street and 57 Avenue intersection, located by Tim Hortons. The resident witnesses 20+ vehicles proceed through the red light on a daily basis, which they

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have reported to Enforcement Services in the past. Compounding this unsafe North/South scenario, vehicles heading East on 57 Avenue attempt to make the traffic lights as soon as they see the green, so they accelerate to make it before the light changes. This often results in the vehicle entering the intersection while the North or South are also pushing the red light. Drivers know that Bylaw is not enforcing infractions here, so there is no deterrent to be cautious. The resident has experienced several near miss situations when walking across this intersection and would like to escalate this concern to TAC.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: It was noted that this is a difficult location for Enforcement Services to monitor, as there are limited locations for an Officer to park and watch traffic. However, the traffic collision data does not provide evidence that there is a concern at this intersection. Public Services has already identified this intersection for a traffic signal system upgrade, which should help alleviate and address these concerns.

Following the TAC meeting, further investigation found that this intersection has an extended red light in place. Public Services will be making modifications to the red light signal timing to avoid the extended cycle, which in turn should alleviate some of the vehicles that may be running yellow/red lights. As a result, no upgrades to the traffic light signal system are required.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Public Services will make modifications to the red light signal timing to avoid the extended cycle.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to modify the red light timing at this intersection.

Mayor Young will advise Councillor Lars Hansen of TAC's decision.

Shawn Olson will contact the resident to advise of TAC's decision.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **8. Pedestrian Safety – 50 Street & Black Gold Drive (Kyle Wilkin)**

On weekday mornings, approximately between 8:00 - 8:30 am, there are typically 3 - 5 Northbound vehicles on 50 Street that are queued waiting to make the left turn onto Westbound Black Gold Drive. The time allocated for the left turn arrow is very short, only allowing for 2 vehicles to make the turn onto Westbound Black Gold Drive before the traffic light turns yellow. It is observed that a third vehicle attempting to make the turn on the yellow signal is unable to clear the intersection completely before the activation of the "Walk" pedestrian signal for Southbound pedestrians crossing Black Gold Drive in the West crosswalk. The concern is that pedestrians, mostly students, may step onto the roadway before it is safe to do so and result in a vehicle/ pedestrian collision. The resident requested that the City conduct an investigation to determine the best course of action to minimize the

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potential for a vehicle/ pedestrian collision at this intersection. Kyle Wilkin reviewed the turning movement at this intersection and noted that the Northbound left turn movement is not able to fully clear for a very short timeframe during the morning school rush. It was noted that any changes to this traffic signal will have impacts to delays for both Black Gold Drive and 50 Street.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: The City has video footage of this intersection, as a Miovision camera is set up at this location. The video indicates that there is sufficient time for 3 - 4 vehicles to clear the intersection; however, once the pedestrian crosswalk is cued the last vehicle does not have sufficient time to clear the intersection. It was suggested that a delay could be added to the crosswalk, which would not have an impact on traffic movements. The other option is to extend the turn light; however, this would impact traffic movements.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Public Services will arrange to add time to delay the crosswalk que, with no changes to the left hand turn signal.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to delay the crosswalk que and will follow up with the resident to advise of TAC's decision.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **9. Blackstone Blvd. – Speeding in Playground Zone (Rick Sereda)**

A resident has brought forward a dangerous situation in Blackstone, where vehicles are speeding in excess of 50 km/hour through the playground zone. An incident recently occurred where two young girls were walking a dog that was run over and killed at this location. There are often children playing in this park, so it is only a matter of time until a child is run over as the problem appears to be getting worse. The resident suggested a speed awareness sign that is effective in reducing speeding. Public Services installed a speed awareness sign at this location the week of March 28, 2022 to gather speed and volume data for TAC's analysis. Rick Sereda further suggested that this would be an ideal location to install flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: A speed awareness sign was installed on March 28, 2022 at this location. The data indicates that within playground zone hours, the 85th percentile speed is 40 km/hour, with average speeds within 30 - 33 km/hour. Outside of playground zone hours, the average traffic speed is 35 - 39 km/hour. TAC agreed that flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights would be appropriate for this location.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Public Services will install flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights and zebra crossing marks at this location. The speed awareness sign will stay in place to gather traffic data and monitor the effectiveness of the flashing

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pedestrian crosswalk lights. The sign will be switched off covert mode in late April 2022.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to install flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights and zebra crossing marks. Kyle Wilkin will also switch the speed awareness sign off covert mode and send the speed awareness sign data to Cameron Chisholm and John Prokopiw.

Rick Sereda will follow up with the resident to advise of TAC's decision.

CARRIED. *This will be brought back to the next TAC meeting to evaluate the data over a longer period of time and to evaluate the effectiveness of the flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights, to see if additional measures are necessary.*

Background **10. Speeding on Corinthia Drive (Cameron Chisholm)**

A resident has brought forward concerns to the Mayor's office regarding speeding on Corinthia Drive, particularly between 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. The resident has spoken to enforcement services and would like more done to stop the speeders. The resident indicated that Bylaw has already been out and speeding has not stopped or been deterred as a result.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: A speed awareness sign will be installed the week of April 18, 2022 and the data will be brought back to the next TAC meeting for assessment.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – A speed awareness sign will be installed at this location and the data will be brought back to the next TAC meeting for assessment.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to install a speed awareness sign at this location and will bring the data to the next TAC meeting.

CARRIED. *Bring forward to next meeting.*

Background **11. Intersection of 50 Street & Highway 2A – Southfork (Cameron Chisholm)**

A resident has a concern with the intersection of 50 Street and Highway 2A by Southfork. The resident has witnessed vehicles turning left (South) from the straight through lane that goes West into Southfork. The resident has been cut off at this intersection by vehicles turning left from the through lane at least 5 times in the past 12 years; once by a cement truck, and 2 weeks ago by a semi-trailer. The resident recommends better signage attached to the traffic lights, such as a sign that shows a left turn symbol with the word "Only", as well as a straight through symbol with the word "Only". It would also be helpful to include something that would help drivers get into the appropriate lane sooner, especially large industrial vehicles. Drivers appear to think this may be a dual turn lane.

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April 14, 2022 Meeting: It was noted that there are three left hand turn signs visible as you approach this intersection. It was suggested to install a straight through sign on the traffic signal entering Southfork, to provide further clarification. Signage will also be installed further North of this intersection to advise drivers in advance that this is not a dual left turn lane. There are markings on the roadway for the left turn lane; however, there are no road markings for the straight through lane, which may also be helpful to add.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Public Services will install a lane designation sign indicating “straight through lane ahead” North of this intersection, as well as a straight through sign on the traffic signal lights of the Southfork intersection ahead for further clarification.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange for the two straight through signs to be installed at this intersection.

Cameron Chisholm will follow up with the resident to advise of TAC’s decision.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **12. Schubert Street & Knie Park – Speeding Concerns (Shawn Olson)**

A resident is requesting speed bumps to be installed on Schubert Street, across from Knie Park and for the speed limit to be reduced to 15 km/hour. The resident has witnessed multiple close call incidents involving children at this location, who were nearly hit by passing and/or speeding vehicles. It is suggested to install a speed awareness sign at this location to capture both the North and South bound traffic on this road.

April 14, 2022 Meeting: This is a playground zone that is legislated to be 30 km/hour, so the speed cannot be reduced to 15 km/hour as per the Traffic Bylaw. A speed awareness sign will be installed at this location to record traffic speed data.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – A speed awareness sign will be installed at this location to record traffic speeds. The data will be brought back to the next meeting for TAC’s assessment.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to install a speed awareness sign at this location and will bring the data to the next TAC meeting.

CARRIED. *Bring back to the next meeting.*

Background **13. Blackstone Blvd. – Request for No Parking Signage in Back Lane (Michael Stadnyk)**

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Enforcement Services has brought forward concerns regarding vehicles parking in the alley of Blackstone Blvd., which is causing issues for waste trucks and other drivers. Vehicles are parking along the fence of the back lane in the bulb out area. Enforcement Services is requesting that no parking signage is installed here to prevent this concern.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Public Services will install no parking signs in this portion of the Blackstone Blvd. alley.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to have no parking signs installed in the Blackstone Blvd. alley.

Cameron Chisholm will advise the complainant of TAC's decision.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **14. Crosswalk at Capri Road & Corinthia Drive (Kyle Wilkin)**

Public Services brought forward a concern regarding the crosswalk at the intersection of Capri Road and Corinthia Drive. It is very difficult for vehicles that are travelling West on Corinthia Drive to see pedestrians entering the crosswalk from the East. This is a collector road and there are concerns with the visibility of this crosswalk. It was suggested to install flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights at this crosswalk. Public Services was also asked to look into relocating the para-ramp, if possible.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Public Services will install flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights at this crosswalk and will look into relocating the para-ramp, if possible.

Action **Kyle Wilkin** will arrange to have flashing pedestrian crosswalk lights installed at this crosswalk and will look into relocating the para-ramp.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

Background **15. Hospital District – Traffic Concerns and Solutions (Michael Stadnyk)**

Enforcement Services requested to discuss traffic concerns and solutions regarding the upcoming Hospital district construction project. Engineering will be closing 48 Street as part of this construction project, and a temporary access will be made to access the Hospital from the South on 42 Avenue. Fire Services is concerned with two-way ambulance traffic and would like all parking removed from 42 Avenue. To accommodate this request, it was suggested to remove parking from only one side of 48 Street, which would be a good compromise to still accommodate residential parking. It was suggested that parking would be most suitable for the West side of 48 Street (Hospital side), as there is more opportunity for parking on this side of the

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street considering there are no residential driveways. TAC agreed with removing parking on the East side of 48 Street (side with the homes) and adding no parking on the North side of 42 Avenue. Signage will be installed as soon as possible so residents have advance notice. Vermac signs will also be deployed.

Enforcement Services noted that there is a gate at the North end of the RCMP compound that can be left open, so the ambulances are welcome to cut through this area to return to the Fire Hall, avoiding the need to turn left. Engineering advised that they will review traffic flow as part of the construction project.

It was further noted that Hospital staff will need to utilize their dedicated Hospital parking lot during the construction project. Mayor Young offered to speak with Alberta Health Services regarding this, to request their cooperation by not charging their staff for parking during the construction period.

Decision **TAC recommend to Council** – Engineering will install no parking signage along the East side of 48 Street and North side of 42 Avenue. Vermac signs will also be deployed to communicate the parking restrictions to residents in advance.

Action **Kyle van Steenoven** will arrange for no parking signs and Vermac signs to be deployed as soon as possible, to advise residents of parking restrictions.

Mayor Young will consult with Alberta Health Services to request that they do not charge Hospital staff for parking for the duration of the construction project.

CARRIED. *Remove from the agenda.*

INFORMATION ITEMS

No further items were brought forward for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

June 9, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

City of Leduc Operations Building, Second Floor Boardroom