



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Municipal Hall
1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, B.C. V9A 3P1

Legislation Text

File #: 18-080, Version: 1

REQUEST FOR DECISION

DATE: February 26, 2018

Report No. EPW-18-014

TO: Laurie Hurst, Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Jeff Miller, Director of Engineering and Public Works

SUBJECT:

Implementation of Traffic Control Review Project Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve Traffic Order 1285 that the existing "Yield" sign on Elrick Place at Rockheights Avenue be replaced with a "Stop" sign and road markings at the same location, and that Traffic Order 398 be rescinded.

RELEVANT POLICY:

Streets and Traffic Regulation Bylaw, 2017, No. 2898

STRATEGIC RELEVANCE:

Healthy and Liveable Community - ensure multi-modal traffic strategies consider and reflect business and residential growth and development.

Well Managed and Maintained Infrastructure - identify infrastructure repair and proactively plan for replacement needs.

BACKGROUND:

In early 2016, the Township received a Traffic Control Review report (EPW-16-001). This report was sponsored by ICBC and the Township with the work being completed by a professional engineer/traffic engineer with an external consultant. The objective of the Project was to undertake a comprehensive review of traffic signs and road markings within the Township of Esquimalt.

The location in question is the intersection of Elrick Place and Rockheights Avenue. This is a three legged intersection with no traffic controls on the Rockheights Avenue legs and a yield sign on Elrick Place. It was identified to have a medium priority for action in the ICBC report. The recommendation is that the existing yield sign located on Elrick Place be changed to a stop sign. See Attachment A for location map and Traffic Order.

ISSUES:

1. Rationale for Selected Option

The use of yield signs at an intersection is to allow drivers to coast through an intersection unless there is another vehicle. If there is another vehicle, the driver with the yield sign is required to stop. The design guidelines from the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC), specifies the use of yield signs are most appropriate at intersections with low traffic volumes, low frequency of collisions and adequate sight lines.

The Report's recommendation and Staff's opinion is that the yield sign located on Elrick Place be changed to a stop sign.

Rockheights Avenue is designated a local road, but during the morning and evening rush hours it experiences heavy traffic volumes and acts like a residential collector road. Elrick Place is considered to be the minor leg of the intersection and the use of stop sign instead of a yield sign provides direction to drivers of their responsibilities for the intersection with respect to entering the intersection.

While the sightlines are adequate in all directions there is concern with the grades of the three legs. All legs arrive at the intersection with some degree of grade. The grade on the Rockheights Avenue leg is not significant but there is a sharp change in grade on the north leg which reduces visibility for vehicles approaching. Elrick Place also has a higher grade than the Rockheights Avenue leg. Due to the grades, drivers on the Elrick Place leg would benefit from coming to a full stop before entering the intersection as this would allow them to better assess the state of the intersection before entering it.

2. Organizational Implications

The proposed Traffic Order has been prepared and is attached. Should Council approve the Order, it would then be signed by the Corporate Officer and the Director of Engineering and Public Works. Public Works would then install the stop sign and road markings on Elrick Place. The Traffic Order would also be forwarded to Victoria Police Department (Vic PD). These activities will not impose any significant organizational implications.

3. Financial Implications

The Traffic Order and implementation can be accommodated within the current operational budgets for the various departments that will be involved in the issuing of the Traffic Order.

4. Sustainability & Environmental Implications

There are no sustainability or environmental implications to the Traffic Order. An increased level of safety will be achieved due to the traffic control.

5. Communication & Engagement

Once the traffic order has been approved, this information will be posted to the Township's website and other social media forums. At the locations, "new" tabs will be installed on the traffic control devices where it is appropriate. These tabs will remain for approximately 6 months to assist residents to adjust to the new traffic control devices. The change in traffic control would also be forwarded to Vic PD.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That Council approve Traffic Order 1285 that the existing "Yield" sign on Elrick Place at Rockheights Avenue be replaced with a "Stop" sign and road markings at the same location, and that Traffic Order 398 be rescinded.
2. That Council not approve Traffic Order 1285 that the existing "Yield" sign on Elrick Place at Rockheights Avenue be replaced with a "Stop" sign and road markings at the same location, and that Traffic Order 398 be rescinded.