

Meeting 2005 Sep 12

COUNCIL REPORT

# TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

SUBJECT: CASCADE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRAFFIC CONCERNS

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT Council send a copy of this report to Mr. Brian Nasu, Mr. Alan Low, PAC members of Cascade Heights Elementary School and Marilyn Kwok, Principal of Cascade Heights Elementary.

## **REPORT**

The Traffic Safety Committee, at its meeting held on 2005 September 06, received and adopted the <u>attached</u> report reviewing traffic concerns in area of Cascade Elementary School that were raised by a delegation to the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Doug Evans Chair

Councillor Nick Volkow Vice Chair

Councillor Lee Rankin Member

Copied to: City Manager

Director Engineering



38000-20

DATE:

FILE:

2005 August 30



TO:

FROM:

**CHAIR AND MEMBERS** 

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS

ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,

CASCADE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRAFFIC CONCERNS **SUBJECT:** 

To review traffic concerns in area of Cascade Elementary School that were raised **PURPOSE:** 

by a delegation to the Committee.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Brian Nasu, Mr. Alan Low, PAC 1. members of Cascade Heights Elementary School and Marilyn Kwok, Principal of Cascade Heights Elementary.

### REPORT

#### 1.0 **BACKGROUND**

At the Traffic Safety Committee meeting held on May 3, 2004 heard a delegation regarding the drop off and pick up of children attending Cascade Heights Elementary. There were also concerns regarding speeding vehicles and traffic violations around the school. The speakers also discussed the difficulty of crossing Moscrop St to access Wesburn Park, particularly with young children. Two crosswalks were requested at the east side of the park at Patterson or Carleton Ave and on the west side of the park at Barker Ave. Staff were asked to review the concerns and proposals for improvement.

#### REVIEW AT CASCADE SCHOOL 2.0

In April of 2005, staff met with Brian Nasu, parent and traffic safety member and Marilyn Kwok, principal of Cascade Heights Elementary School. Our meeting was held to discuss present traffic issues and possible future concerns, as the school's population was proposed to increase due to plans that Cascade Heights School was becoming a French Immersion School in the 2006-2007 school year. The change is significant because the extra enrollment would be out of the catchments area and most of the students would be driven to school. Therefore an increase in pick-up/drop off traffic would be inevitable. The following measures were discussed:

To: Traffic Safety Committee

From: Asst. Director Engineering, Traffic & Eng. Systems
Re: Cascade Heights Elementary School Traffic

Concerns

1. Traffic calming on Smith Ave / possible installation of bump outs and bulges at the crosswalk on Smith Ave and Pine St.

- 2. Possibility of a second crosswalk on the south side of school at Smith Ave and Fir St.
- 3. Changes in parking regulations in a resident parking only area and possible pick up and drop off areas on School Board property.

## 3.0 ACTION TAKEN

Smith Ave was scheduled for repaving, commencing in the summer of 2005. After completion the City will install bump outs and corner bulges on the existing (re-marked) crosswalk at Smith Ave and Pine St all in preparation for the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year. This will help control the speed issue on Smith Ave and will narrow the crossing for pedestrians at the crosswalk.

The second request for a crosswalk on Smith Ave and Fir St is a concern. It is our recommendation that the school encourage students to use the updated existing crosswalk on Smith Ave and Pine St. By using this as a primary crosswalk there will be one focal point where pedestrians cross. We feel that having two crosswalks in close proximity may dilute driver regard and attention.

In consideration of the proposed changes in parking adjacent to the school the City sent a letter and questionnaire to the affected residents, who now enjoy a Resident Parking Only zone. The letter explained the proposal for designation of a 15 minute pick-up and drop off area during the peak hours of 8:30-9:30 am and 2:30-3:30 pm. The returned questionnaires were narrowly opposed to the proposed changes.

City staff also recommended that the school contact the School Board and ask if they could propose a pick up and drop off area on school grounds. Ms. Kwok indicated to us that the School Board is looking at these proposals. This request is in review and will be looked at when the school changes over from English to French in the 2006-2007 school year.

Traffic Safety Committee To:

Asst. Director Engineering, Traffic & Eng. Systems From:

Cascade Heights Elementary School Traffic Re:

### REVIEW OF MOSCROP ST AND ACCESS TO WESBURN PARK 4.0

It was also suggested that two crosswalks be installed on Moscrop St bracketing the park:

It is noted that a pedestrian / bus activated signal is proposed to be installed under TRIP (Transit Roadway Improvement Program) at Patterson Ave and Moscrop St. This will provide a safe location for pedestrians using the park to cross, and obviate the concerns regarding the difficulty of crossing Moscrop St to access Wesburn Park.

#### **CONCLUSION** 5.0

Staff will continue working with the parents and staff of Cascade School to encourage that safety concerns are met.

P. Liivamagi, P. Eng.

ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS

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Copied to: City Manager



