

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes
Council Report

Report Number ENG2017-011

Date: September 26, 2017
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Council Chambers

Ward Community Identifier: All

Subject: Electronic Speed Signs

Author Name and Title: Michael Farquhar, Supervisor Technical Services

Recommendation(s):

RESOLVED THAT Report ENG2017-011 Electronic Speed Signs be received;

THAT staff purchase a portable pole mounted electronic speed sign with remaining Funds in project 983161400

Department Head:_____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

At the Council Meeting of June 6th 2017 Council adopted the following resolution based on the memo from Councilor James on Electronic Speed signs (see appendix A). This report addresses that resolution.

CR2017-479

RESOLVED THAT the memo from Councillor James regarding **Electronic Speed Signs**, be received;

THAT staff be directed to investigate the benefits and costs for purchase on electronic speed signs and report back to Council by end of August, 2017; and

THAT the issue be identified for 2018 budget consideration.

CARRIED

In the past, as late as 2007 the Kawartha Lakes Police force jointly with the Ontario Provincial Police purchased a “tow behind” trailer radar speed display sign, based on the recommendation in Council report **FIN2007-067**.

The cost of this first initial speed display sign was \$20,472 split between the forces funded through the Kawartha Lakes Police Services contingency reserve and the O.P.P rate stabilization reserve. Since the time of purchase this display sign has been in use, under the responsibility of the O.P.P. Its use is mainly in the rural areas as locations for it in the urban setting are limited.

In 2012 the Kawartha Lakes Police Force had purchased a compact pole mounted speed display sign for approximately \$5,900, which was better suited for urban area locations. This unit has been used in partnership with Public Works since that time. It currently resides with the Kawartha Lakes Police force.

Rationale:

The current process for the request of installation by residents is through either Police force.

Electronic speed display signs can be an effective way to bring awareness to motorists of the speed limit and if they are speeding. This awareness to drivers is based on a “feedback loop” philosophy, where when presented with information about performance people tend to notice and improve. The use of electronic speed display signs are a more passive but effective way to deal with perceived and real issues of speeding within communities. It can also help relieve the pressures of requests for enforcement. Other benefits include data collection by the unit in the form of average daily traffic count and speed classification. This

information could then be used to make more informed decisions on any future traffic warrants.

Some models can also double as programmable information boards bringing awareness to motorists about hazards or construction that could be utilized by either Public Works or Engineering and Corporate Assets.

Electronic speed display signs are currently being included as a tool within the forthcoming presentation on traffic calming measures. It would be one of the first deployable measures to help deal with real and perceived speeding issues.

The cost of the portable sign units can range from \$6000 to \$13,000 based on the model and capabilities. "Tow behind trailer" units can be upward of \$25,000 based on model type



Other Alternatives Considered:

Council should give consideration if it wishes to purchase electronic speed display boards as to the management of them with regards to response to complaints, installation and monitoring, cost of maintenance and installation.

Option 1.

Stay with the current model and fund additional purchases of unit through either the Kawartha Lakes Police capital request or O.P.P rate stabilization reserve, and continue to have the forces manage the placement and monitoring with the assistance of Public Works for installation.

New Standard Operating Procedures would need to be created to ensure the upcoming Traffic Management Directive can be successful under this model. Cooperation from the enforcement agencies would be required to follow the priority ranking under the directive.

Option 2.

That Engineering and Corporate Assets purchase a unit under remaining funds in RD1614 (capital traffic lights) JDE project 983161400 and manage installations and monitoring of the unit with assistance from Public Works. All information collected would be shared with agencies. This option would relate well with the forthcoming Traffic calming presentation as it is one of the recommended measures being an effective alternative to less passive engineering interventions for perceived issues. With this option areas of concern for speed can be also jointly reviewed for the use of the unit with agencies.

Option 3

Would be to maximize the use of the current units with both Police forces by jointly developing a list of areas of concern for speeding based on tracked complaints and concentrating the use of the devices within those areas.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

Based on the option chosen would determine the impact to any separate budgets.

Option 1: \$6000 to \$13,000 for a pole mount unit, to be funded through the Kawartha Lakes Police Force capital reserve and the O.P.P rate stabilization reserve.

Option 2: \$6000 to \$13,000 for a pole mounted unit, to be funded through existing 2016 Capital Project RD1614, JDE project 983161400 – Traffic Improvements.

Approved Budget for RD1614	\$260,000	
Committed Funds	(\$214,588)	Award for Traffic Lights McLaughlin / Kent (PUR2017-053, Sep 12, 2017 Council meeting)
Funds Available	\$25,701	

Option 3: no funding increase for the purchase of additional units at this time

Recommendation: Option 2 - To purchase a portable pole mounted electronic speed sign utilizing the funds in Capital Project RD1614.

Relationship of Recommendation(s) To The 2016-2019 Strategic Plan:

The City's Strategic Plan outlines Council's Vision of a Vibrant and Growing Economy, Quality of Life and a Healthy Environment.

Providing life safety and protection is a priority objective of the City.

Consultations:

CKL Corporate Services

Kawartha Lakes Police Force

Attachments:



Appendix A
Electronic speed mem

Appendix B:



FIN2007-067.pdf

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Department Head: Juan Rojas, Director of Engineering & Corporate Assets

Department File: Engineering