



Council Report

Report Number:	RD2022-002
Meeting Date:	December 13, 2022
Title:	Regulate and Delegate Authority for Reduced Load Requirements for Municipal Highways
Description:	Consolidation, administrative and other updates to the By-laws related to load restrictions (weight limits) and associated delegated authority on municipal highways.
Author and Title:	Bryan Robinson, Director of Public Works

Recommendation(s):

That Report RD2022-002, **Regulate and Delegate Authority for Reduced Load Requirements for Municipal Highways**, be received; and

That implementing by-laws, as provided in Appendix A and B to Report RD2022-002, be forwarded to Council for adoption.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

The City of Kawartha Lakes has a vast and varying road network. Historically, prior Townships enacted By-laws to restrict weight of vehicles to protect the integrity of their roads where roads were not designed and constructed to support designated traffic types. Those By-laws currently exist in well over twenty (20) individual By-laws. This is confusing for the public who are required to adhere to those By-laws and in many cases the By-laws require alteration for clarity and enforcement purposes.

In addition to those restrictive By-laws, the City also has By-law 2016-062, being "A By-law to Regulate and Delegate Authority Relating to Reduced Load Periods Affecting Highways in The City of Kawartha Lakes". This By-law delegates authority to the Director of Public Works to impose seasonal restrictions to protect the integrity of the City's road network.

Having these By-laws is crucial to ensure the City's road network is protected and a key measure towards achieving its expected life cycle.

Rationale:

Staff are proposing to repeal all existing load restricting By-laws from previous municipalities (Townships and County) and consolidate those into one By-law, combined with the delegated authority for restrictions for ease and clarity.

In addition to the consolidation, Staff are recommending several administrative amendments to the delegation of authority for imposing restrictions. Those include:

- Updated definitions to align with Highway Traffic Act.
- Clarity on exemptions.
- Currently, By-law 2016-062 limits the time of year the Director of Public Works can impose restrictions. From time to time at any point through the year, environmental conditions or activity warrant restricting activity on roads to prevent damage. The proposed amendments to the By-law enable restrictions to be imposed at any time at the discretion of the Director.
- Updating details on obtaining an exemption permit.
- Clarity on enforcement.

Other Alternatives Considered:

No other alternatives were considered as part of this update and the process is being improved to ensure clarity and ease for the public. Council could opt to keep the existing Delegation of Authority the same, but Staff are recommending the modification to ensure timely and effective protection of the City's road network.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

For reference the four strategic priorities within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan are:

1. An Exceptional Quality of Life
 - a. This report aligns with this strategic goal by helping protect the road network used by City residents.
2. Good Government
 - a. This report aligns with this strategic goal by streamlining information, making it easier to find and updating the By-law to meet current needs and demands.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial impacts to this report.

Acceptance of this report and passing the By-laws attached will improve overall City operations.

Consultations:

Manager, Roads Operations (3)

Director of Engineering and Corporate Assets

Manager, Municipal Law Enforcement

Deputy Clerk

Attachments:

Appendix A – Draft By-Law 2022-xxx Being “A By-Law to Repeal By-laws for Heavy Traffic and Road Restrictions”.



2022-XXX A By-law
to Repeal By-laws fc

Appendix B – Draft By-law 2022-XXX being “A By-law to Repeal By-laws to Restrict Heavy Traffic and Load Restrictions on Roads in the City of Kawartha Lakes”.



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and Delegate Autho

Department Head email: brobinson@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Bryan Robinson

Department File: T03, Reduced Load Restrictions