

Frequently Asked Questions

Downtown Posted Speed Limit Changes

Why is the City reducing the speed Downtown?

Recent public and local business engagement, in conjunction with the current Municipal Development Plan review, identified a desire for the Downtown area to have a pedestrian-friendly environment. With this in mind, the City has recently completed a posted speed limit review of roads in the area.

Based on the review results, the speed limit on roads in the downtown core will be posted at **40 km/h**.

The City is lowering the speed in downtown area to maintain a walkable, safe environment as described in the Municipal Development Plan.

Why is lowering the speed a priority?

Pedestrian, cycling and vehicle safety is a priority. Speed limits are an important aspect of traffic safety because speed is a factor in the frequency and outcome of every collision. Slowing down while driving gives the driver more time to react to the unexpected and helps avoid collisions.

Reducing speeds can make our streets calmer, quieter, and safer for people walking, biking and driving.

How much time will the lower speed limit add to my commute?

The travel time will not increase significantly. An additional 10 seconds travel time may be required to travel across the downtown area.

Of note, traffic monitoring data suggests that a majority of drivers already are travelling in the 40 km/h range through the Downtown.

What public engagement has been done for this?

Previous public engagement related to posted speed reviews identified the Downtown as an area where the public desired as lower speed.

The City also met with area businesses in 2019 who shared their concern with speeds in the Downtown area. The feedback received indicated that the businesses Downtown would support lowering the posted speed limit.

Where are some of the other location where the speed limit has changed?

The posted speed limit review is an on-going City program which started in 2017. To date, the City has reviewed and changed posted speed limits at several locations, including South Boundary Road, Box Springs Road, Broadway Avenue, and Parkview Drive.

The City plans to evaluate our next steps for posted speeds later this year.