



Municipality of Wawa

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE UPDATE – JULY 2023

Department of Infrastructure Services

Prepared By: Rebecca Weatherall	Report No: RW 2023-10
Agenda Date: July 11, 2023	File No: C11

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the results of the Community Safety Zone (CSZ) Survey and Open House as they relate to school-aged pedestrian safety within the vicinity of the Municipality's three (3) school areas. This report aims to provide Mayor and Council with community stakeholder feedback on designating streets adjacent to the three (3) school areas as CSZs.

Background

As stated in the previous Community Safety Zone report to Council, CSZs are sections of roadway that are identified as being of special concern for public safety. Generally, CSZs include roadways near schools, parks and playgrounds, day care centres, hospitals, senior citizen residences, and are also used in areas that are prone to traffic violations. CSZs are designated sections of roadway, recognized under provincial legislation, which when marked with community safety zone signs allow for the doubling of fines associated with speeding as applicable through section of Bill 65, Safer School Zones Act, 2017. The signs that include "BEGINS" and "ENDS" tabs define the legal limits of the CSZ. The rules of the road do not change within the zone (ie. speed); only the penalties for the violations are increased.

At the May 16th, 2023, Council Meeting, Mayor and Council were in agreeance that identifying community need for the CSZs was an important next step to determine the validity of designating the streets within the three (3) school areas as CSZs. The May 16th report identifying street sections considered for the CSZs and maps are attached to this report for reference. The results of the survey and open house are summarized in the following section.

Community Safety Zone Survey and Open House Results

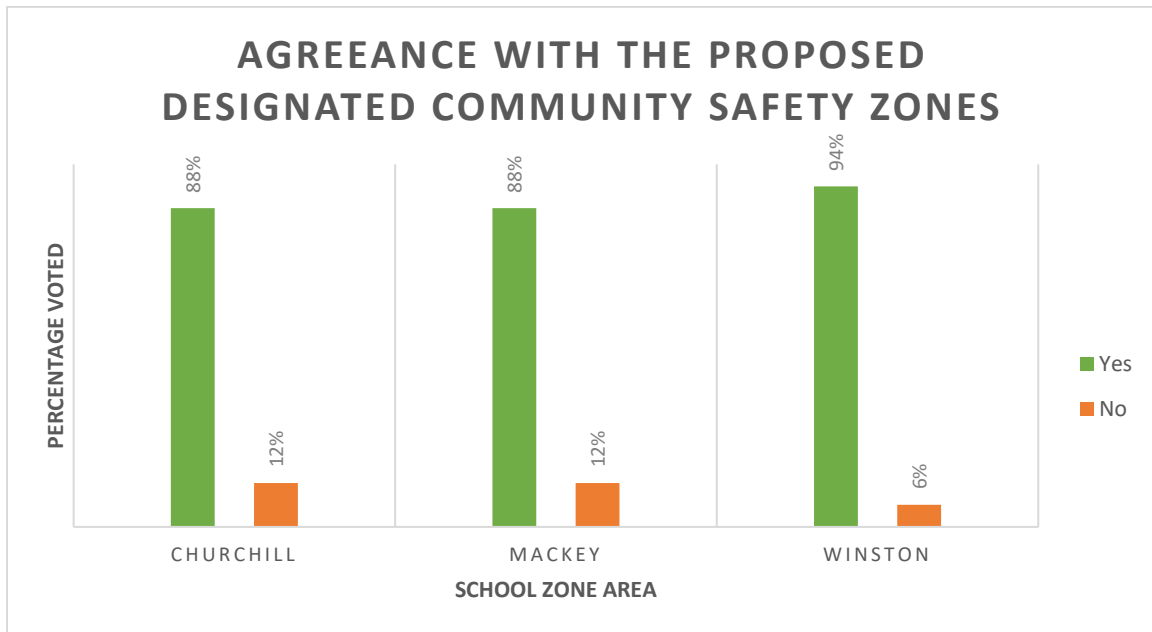
To collect stakeholder feedback, an advertisement including a link to an online survey was included as a maildrop with tax bills and an Open House was held on June 12th, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office.

Online Survey Results

There was a total of 33 respondents to the online survey. The online survey asked residents the following three (3) questions:

1. Do you agree with designating the roads highlighted in red around the Churchill Ave. school area as a Community Safety Zone? (Schools located in this area include Ecole St. Joseph, St. Augustine and Michipicoten High School);
2. Do you agree with designating the roads highlighted in red around the Mackey school area as a Community Safety Zone? (Schools located in this zone include Sir James Dunn);
3. Do you agree with designating the roads highlighted in red around the Winston school area as a Community Safety Zone? (Schools located in this zone include Ecole Publique de l'Escalade); and
4. Please provide additional comments.

The following graph demonstrates the respondents' agreement with the proposed CSZ as illustrated by the maps provided to Mayor and Council on the May 16th, 2023 Council Meeting. For each proposed CSZ, a majority of the respondents agreed with the proposed CSZ. For the minority that indicated they did not agree with the proposed CSZ, explanations such as expanding the zone to include other streets are cited as the reason for disagreeing with the proposed zone.



A summary of the reasons behind the disagreement with the proposed CSZs and additional comments is attached. It should be noted that most of the additional comments provided support the implementation of CSZs and included opinions on how to further improve road safety for pedestrians within the Municipality.

Open House Results

There was a total of 12 attendees at the Community Safety Zone Open House that was held on June 12th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office Boardroom (former OPP Station). Generally, the attendees agreed with the implementation of the CSZs and had specific CSZ feedback such as:

- Public agrees with increased fines and wants the CSZs to be enforced by police as signs are not enough; and
- Why are the speed limits for these zones not decreased? Consider reducing the speed in CSZs to 40km/hr.

Comments and concerns regarding safety that were not directly related to the implementation of the CSZs are summarized with the results from the online survey.

CSZ Comments to Note

Out of the 45 total participants in the study, a few key points regarding expanding or modifying the CSZs were noted:

- To extend the CSZ in the Mackey school area to include Ganley Avenue, from McKinley Avenue to Mackey Street (would require approximately 6 additional signs);
- To extend the CSZ on Winston Street to the crosswalk on Mission Road (no additional signage required); and
- To extend CSZ in the Churchill school area to include more of Magpie Road towards Mission Road, include George Street, and include 3rd Avenue at the top of Queen's park (would require approximately 8 additional signs).

In prior consultation with the OPP, Staff Sargent and Community Officer, it was agreed that the (3) three points identified above are not necessary, and therefore are not recommended at this time. It should be noted however, that the Community Safety Zone by-law can be amended at any time to include and/or remove streets (or sections of) from the by-law.

Staff Recommendation

To approve of the proposed Community Safety Zones, as illustrated in the maps provided at the May 16 Council Meeting.

Recommended Next Steps

The recommended next steps include:

- That Council acknowledges receipt of the Community Safety Zone Update Report, submitted by Rebecca Weatherall, dated July 11, 2023 for information;
- That Council acknowledges receipt of Community Safety Zone By-Law submitted by Maury O'Neill dated July 11, 2023 for implementing Community Safety Zones in the Churchill, Mackey and Winston school areas as agreed upon at this Council Meeting; and
- That Municipal Staff proceed with purchasing Community Safety Zone signage to be installed for September.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Community Safety Zone Recommendation Report and Maps for May 16th, 2023 Council Meeting
- Attachment 2: Community Safety Zone Survey and Open House Response Summary

Respectfully submitted by:

Rebecca Weatherall, P.Eng, Assistant Director of Infrastructure Services

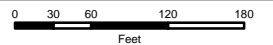


L'Escalade Public School

Legend

- Winston Community Safety Zone Roads
- Wawa Roads

Winston Community Safety Zone Signs



Maps are provided as a courtesy only and the Municipality of Wawa makes no guarantee as to the accuracy of the information. This map is not intended to be used for correspondence, neither define definition of the legal boundary, or property size. This is not a survey product.