



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: July 8, 2025

From: Ron Bowles, CAO

File No: 5460-02-03-2025

Subject: **Gellatly Road Corridor Speeds**

Prepared by: Dana R. Graves, Senior Design & Inspection Technologist

Reviewed by: Brent Magnan, General Manager of Community Development

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h along the Gellatly Road corridor from Boucherie Road to Gellatly Road South, be reduced to a Regulatory speed limit of 40 km/h.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Invest in Infrastructure – We will invest in building, improving and maintaining infrastructure to meet the needs of, and to provide a high quality of life for, current and future generations.

Foster Safety and Well-Being – We will pursue through direct action, advocacy, and collaboration with local and regional service providers, investments in community health, needs-based housing, emergency preparedness, policing, and other services that foster safety and well-being in West Kelowna.

BACKGROUND

Gellatly Road is a transportation corridor providing residents of West Kelowna with access to a variety of amenities including public waterfront beach, trail network, several parks, a boat launch, playgrounds, bicycle routes, CNR Wharf and multiple parking locations. Seasonal changes present multiple constraints along the corridor due to the number of users present during peak use, however these constraints remain year-round. The 50km/hr. speed limit for this roadway does not align with the function of the corridor.

The Gellatly Road Corridor is classified as an arterial road that typically would not provide on-street parking. In this case, on-street parking is essential to provide public access to the waterfront and the many amenities adjacent to Okanagan Lake. Currently, the road has an assigned speed limit of 50 km/h. Playground area signs with yellow Advisory Signage (unenforceable by the RCMP) indicating 30 km/h are installed on the southbound approach to the angled parking area and northbound along Gellatly Road South.

The Gellatly Road corridor was reviewed by a third-party traffic consultant and observations were made identifying that speeds along playground zones are currently not enforceable per the guidelines described within the *Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) School and Playground Areas and Zones: Guidelines for Application and Implementation*. The guidelines discourage playground zones situated along arterial roadways. Playground zone speed limits are also only in effect from dawn to dusk according to the *BC Motor Vehicle Act*.

With the TAC guidelines discouraging playground zones along arterial roadways, reduction in speeds along Gellatly Road should be managed and enforced with standard regulatory posted speed limit signs. Traffic calming measures are limited on arterial roadways, and enforcement remains an important measure for speed compliance. The third-party review recommended reducing the speed limit for the corridor to 40km/hr. for the entirety of the corridor and removing the advisory speed signage. This would provide safer passage for all transportation modes along the corridor. If authorized to proceed, the new regulatory changes would be installed and in effect for the remainder of 2025.

The City of West Kelowna has traditionally used Advisory Speed tab signs for playground zones. It is recommended that the advisory signage be amended to regulatory tab signs (black on white) to be enforceable for additional parks in West Kelowna. Staff will be reviewing the parks with advisory signage and recommending enforceable signage in the future. These changes will be brought to Council for approval at a future meeting, as per the Traffic Bylaw's requirement of speed limit changes needing Council direction.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

To update the current signage, approximately \$10,000 will be allocated from the City of West Kelowna's current signage budget.

Powerpoint: Yes ☒ No ☐

Attachments:

Attachment A - Gellatly Road Corridor Speeds Memorandum March 11, 2025