



**The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa  
Community Safety Zones**

**Office of Infrastructure Services**

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|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Prepared For:</b> Committee of the Whole | <b>Report No.:</b> DB-RW 2023 - 06 |
| <b>Agenda Date:</b> May 16, 2023            | <b>File No.:</b> C11               |

### **Report Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to address safety concerns as they relate to public and high school aged youth walking to and from the three (3) school areas within the Municipality, and the introduction of designated Community Safety Zones. This report aims to provide Municipal Council with the background information required to determine whether designating the roads immediately adjacent to the three (3) school areas as Community Safety Zones is required.

### **Background**

Community Safety Zones (CSZ) 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.

The Municipality of Wawa has received complaints from residents regarding the speed of vehicles within the immediate vicinity of the three school areas of Town. The ability to effectively enforce offences must be taken into consideration when establishing a CSZ. Therefore, the number and location of CSZs within the policing area is critical to successful enforcement. Municipal Staff, in consultation with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), have come to acknowledge that the thoroughway appearing streets adjacent to the three (3) school sites is susceptible to commuters travelling at speeds faster than the posted limit. The three school areas have been identified as:

- Churchill School Area;
- Mackey School Area; and
- Winston School Area.

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| <b>Respectfully<br/>Submitted By:</b><br> | <b>Prepared By:</b><br><b>Dan Beach / Rebecca Weatherall<br/>Infrastructure Services</b> |
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The Churchill School Area encompasses three (3) of the Town's larger schools: E'cole St. Joseph, Michipicoten High School, and St. Augustine. The sections of roadway identified as being of special concern in this school area are summarized in Table 1 below:

**Table 1 - Churchill School Area Proposed Community Safety Zone Roadway Sections**

| <b>Roadway Name</b> | <b>From</b>      | <b>To</b>        | <b>Adjacent Schools</b>  |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Churchill Avenue    | Grace Street     | Maple Street     | E'cole St. Joseph        |
| Magpie Road         | George Street    | Churchill Avenue | Michipicoten High School |
| Boyer Street        | Churchill Avenue | Magpie Road      | St. Augustine            |
| Arnott Avenue       | Darwin Street    | Boyer Street     | E'cole St. Joseph        |
|                     |                  |                  | St. Augustine            |
| Darwin Street       | Churchill Avenue | Arnott Avenue    | E'cole St. Joseph        |
| Parkhill Street     | Churchill Avenue | Arnott Avenue    |                          |
| Grace Street        | Churchill Avenue | Parkhill Street  |                          |

The Mackey School Area surrounds the Sir James Dunn Public School. Due to school's immediate proximity to the downtown core and the use of McKinley Avenue as a main throughway for vehicular traffic, the sections of roadway identified as being of special concern in this school area are summarized in Table 2 below:

**Table 2 - Mackey School Area Proposed Community Safety Zone Roadway Sections**

| <b>Roadway Name</b> | <b>From</b>     | <b>To</b>                                | <b>Adjacent Schools</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------|
| Mackey Street       | Broadway Avenue | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue/<br>Ganley Street | Sir James Dunn          |
| McKinley Avenue     | Mackey Street   | Ganley Street                            |                         |

The Winston School Area surrounds E'cole Publique L'Escalade. Winston Road is accessed directly from Mission Road and has no traffic calming measures as vehicular traffic approaches the school, the sections of roadway identified as being of special concern in this school area are summarized in Table 3 below:

**Table 3 - Winston School Area Proposed Community Safety Zone Roadway Sections**

| <b>Roadway Name</b> | <b>From</b>                                 | <b>To</b>                                  | <b>Adjacent Schools</b>       |
|---------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Winston Road        | Winston Road –<br>165m from<br>Mission Road | Winston Road –<br>50m from Queen<br>Street | E'cole Publique<br>L'Escalade |

Maps illustrating the proposed CSZs have been attached to this report.

The OPP noted that under the Highway Traffic Act, 10km/hr over the speed limit is a fine of \$40 with no demerit points; implementing CSZs would allow for these fines to be doubled. Based on the culture shift to increase traffic violation penalties in areas where vulnerable populations are present, the OPP agrees that establishing CSZs would assist with enforcement while protecting vulnerable populations such as school aged youth.

MTO Book 5 – Regulatory Signs, indicates that CSZ signs are meant to inform drivers that they are entering a zone that the community has designated an area where safety of its children/citizens is paramount. Ideally, there should be evidence that public safety is of special concern in the area that is being considered for the CSZ.

### **Staff Recommendation**

Municipal Staff, in consultation with the OPP, recommends implementing the CSZs as described in the previous section of this report and illustrated in the attached maps. It should be acknowledged that due to few traffic calming measures, and the nature of the road orientation, streets such as Churchill Avenue, Mackey Street and Winston Road are susceptible to high-speed vehicular traffic. Establishing CSZs would protect vulnerable pedestrians and active transportation users by alerting drivers in advance of approaching the schools in each respective zone.

### **Recommended Next Steps**

If Council finds it agreeable to move towards changing the speed limit to 40km/hr on the residential streets indicated on Figures 1 and 2, Municipal Staff will take the following next steps:

- 1) Host Public Consultation Opportunities (open houses and/or surveys)
- 2) Amend Traffic By-Laws and/or Develop New Municipal Policies
- 3) Order Signage
- 4) Provide Public Education Opportunities
- 5) Implement Signage for Fall 2023

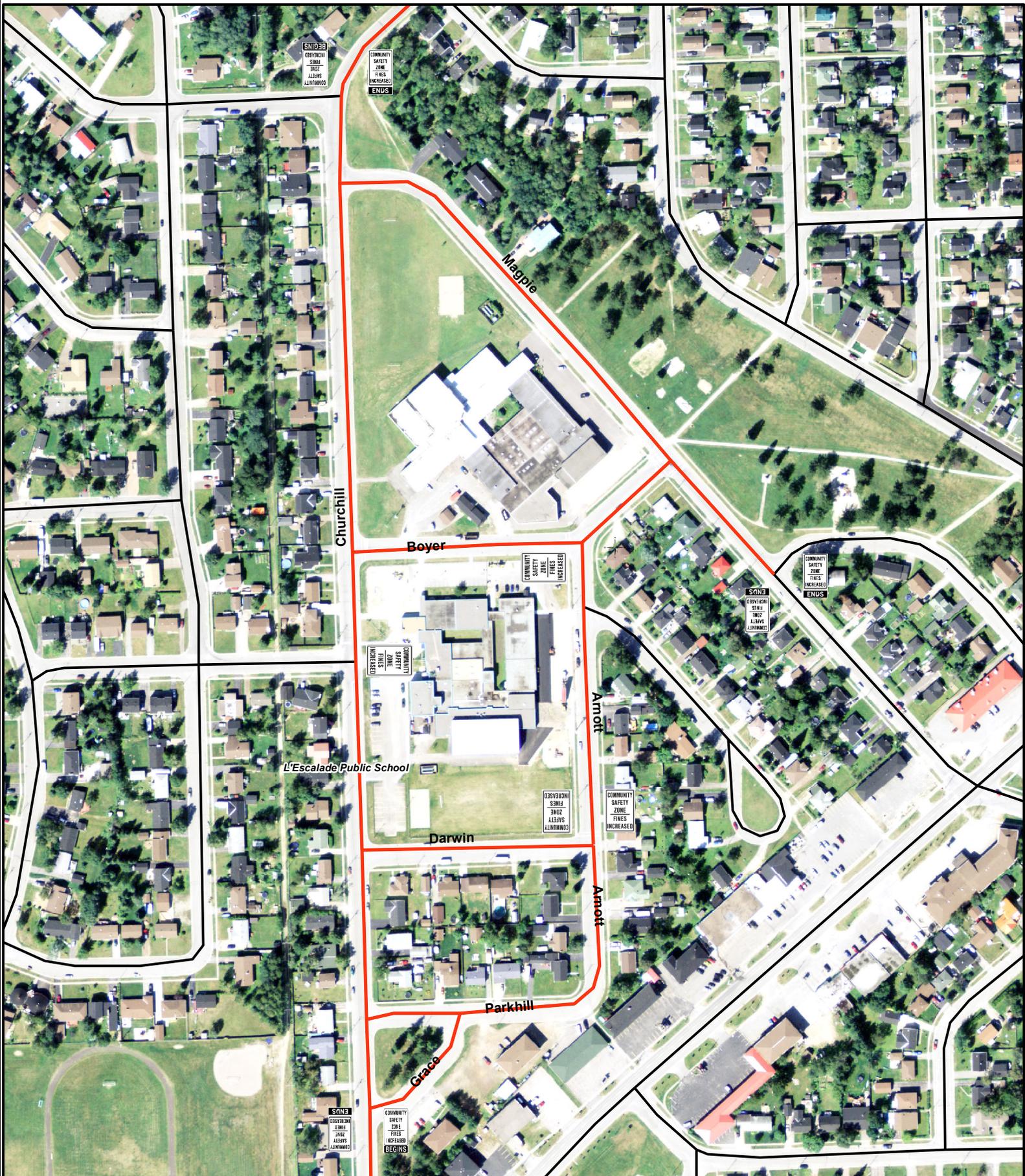
Council should note that Municipal Staff have increased the Operational Budget for signage in anticipation of implementing the three (3) CSZs.

### **Attachments**

Attachment 1: Churchill Community Safety Zone

Attachment 2: Mackey Community Safety Zone

Attachment 2: Winston Community Safety Zone



**Legend**

- Churchill Community Safety Zone Roads
- Wawa Roads

# *Churchill Community Safety Zone Signs*



Maps are provided as a courtesy only and the Municipality of Wawa makes no warranties as to the accuracy of this information. This map is not intended to be used for conveyance, authoritative definition of the legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey product.



COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
ENDS

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
BEGINS

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
BEGINS

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
ENDS

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
ENDS

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
ENDS

COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE FINES INCREASED  
BEGINS

**Legend**

- Mackey Community Safety Zone Roads
- Wawa Roads

# *Mackey Community Safety Zone Signs*



**Wawa** <sup>CA</sup>

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