

REPORT

Engineering Services

To: Mayor Johnstone and Members of Council
Date: February 13, 2023

From: Lisa Leblanc
Director of Engineering Services
File: 05.1035.10
(Doc#2218497)

Item #: 2023-69

Subject: **Mitigation Measures to Address Motorists Jumping the Curb between the two Sides of Front Street**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive this report for information.

PURPOSE

To report back to Council on mitigation measures to address motorists driving over the curb between the two sides of Front Street.

SUMMARY

As requested by Council through open delegation on January 9, 2023, staff have investigated mitigation measures to address pedestrian safety concerns by restricting the ability for motorists to drive over the curb between the two sides of Front Street (i.e. Front Street proper where through-movements occur, and the Front Street frontage road that includes the section east of the Mews).

In investigating mitigation methods, staff have determined that the most cost-effective and quickest implementation would be the installation of concrete barriers placed on top of the existing concrete curbs. Concrete barriers are rigid, relatively easy to maintain and very effective at containing vehicles. These products are typically used to divide the highway while preventing people from drifting across the centerline into oncoming traffic or drifting off the side of the highway.

A high-level safety assessment of the concrete barrier installation was conducted prior to implementation with no concern being identified; the generally low vehicle speeds in this corridor allow for concrete barriers to be placed without significant concern of a serious consequence should collision with the barrier occur (noting that these barriers will be placed between existing parkade structural columns). White reflectors will be affixed to the barriers to give them more visibility in darker conditions.

Emergency access between the two corridors was assessed by NWFD where continued requirement for emergency access over segments of curb was expressed. Further to existing access points controlled by removable bollards, installation of flexible delineators in select spans will be undertaken, to accommodate both emergency access and traffic mitigation.

The additional load on the concrete curb and structural column bases also received a high-level assessment and was deemed as low concern with no significant impact to structures.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Materials highlighted were sourced through two avenues:

- 20 concrete barrier units and 10 flexible delineators were repurposed from the Agnes Street temporary bike lane installation,
- 12 additional concrete barrier units along with white reflectors were purchased using Capital funds in BU11035 at a total cost of \$4,795.

Placement of the barriers and delineators is intended to occur prior to February 10, 2023. Engineering Operations staff will complete this task at no increase to the operating budget.

For safety purposes, staff contracted traffic control personnel during placement at cost of \$2,480, charged to BU5210 (Operating Budget).

Total new expenditure for this installation was \$7,275.

OPTIONS

The following options are presented for Council's consideration:

1. Receive this report for information;
2. Provide other direction to staff.

Staff recommends Option 1.

CONCLUSION

Staff have reviewed concerns raised at open delegation on January 9, 2023 and responded with implementation of measures to prevent motorists from jumping the curb between the two sides of Front St. It is expected that this intervention will effectively address the concerns brought to Council's attention.

APPROVALS

This report was prepared by:
Gabriel Beliveau, Manager of Engineering Operations

This report was reviewed by:
Mike Anderson, Manager of Transportation

This report was approved by:
Lisa Leblanc, Director of Engineering
Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer