

August 13, 2020

Letter to Transportation Committee

My name is Bruce Taylor and I live at [REDACTED] Bay Street East in Thornbury. This has been my home since 2004. Our front deck overlooks the road and Bayview Park.

Purpose of my letter is to address excessive vehicle speeds along Bay Street East from Mill Street to Elgin Street.

Background

The speed limit has been posted at 25kph since before my move to Bay Street East. It serves as an east west link providing access to local cottages, homes, tennis courts, Bayview Park, children's playground and beach areas for both vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians.



There are a number of senior residents which use a walker and one gentlemen with dementia, all use the cottage road for exercise.

The speed limit is well marked in both directions. Out of town visitors to the area abide by posted speed taking their time to view the bay and park. Local residents, couriers, Canada Post are the drivers which do not abide by posted speed limits.

Drivers moving at 10 or 15 kph above the speed limit are not the problem, it is drivers who are in excess of 50 kph and at times greater speeds who pose the greatest risk to other road users.

On a daily basis excessive vehicular speed increases the legal risk to the Municipality who have not enforced the posted speed limits.

Request(s)

I offer the following suggestions to alleviate the problem:

- Summer only, removable speed bumps be installed along this section of Bay Street East.
- Presence of a police cruiser staffed with radar, initially a routine presence, then an occasional presence
- Placing a police cruiser on the street without an officer on duty
- Public reminders of exercising caution around Bayview Park areas with parents and children on the cottage road in town communications
- Make the street a one way road, Mill to Elgin which would deter Highway 26 traffic from detouring down to Bay Street, rejoining at Mill and King Street (Highway 26) at extreme busy times such as long weekends where long lines are created by both fish ladder lights and Bruce Street lights.

The danger of speed on this cottage road has been compounded this summer with very high use by locals and visitors to the Bayview Park, both by pedestrians and vehicles in these Covid times.

I would appreciate a response to what actions may be implemented to maintain vehicle speed to posted limits of 25kph.

Regards,

Bruce Taylor

■ Bay Street East

Thornbury