

MEMO

To: Transportation Advisory Committee
From: Kathleen Gallagher, Senior Transportation Planner
Date: June 26, 2025
Subject: Traffic Calming Policy Update Summer 2025



Reason for the Memo

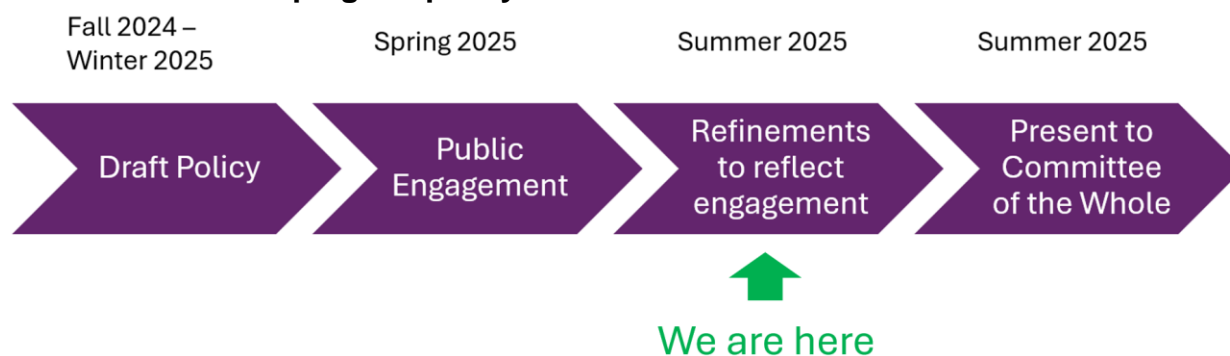
Engineering has concluded the engagement phase of developing a Traffic Calming Policy and is looking to update the Transportation Advisory Committee. As a result of engagement, there are a few changes proposed to the draft Traffic Calming Policy. Engineering is seeking support for the policy and for the associated funding request.

Background

In 2022, Saanich Council directed staff to develop a Traffic Calming policy. The Active Transportation and Road Safety Action Plan both include an action item to develop a traffic calming policy and program.

The Active Transportation Plan is a guide for investment in active transportation over the next thirty years. The Road Safety Action Plan is a 10-year plan to achieve Vision Zero, which is a philosophy that road fatalities and serious injuries can and should be eliminated while providing safe, healthy and equitable mobility for all road users. District policy prioritizes a multi-modal transportation network that is equitable and environmentally sustainable, and services increasingly compact and complete communities.

Process for developing the policy




The policy was drafted during Fall 2024 and Winter 2025. Public engagement took place from March to May 2025. Engineering has reviewed the comments received and made adjustments to reflect the feedback. Engineering plans to present the policy to the Committee of the Whole in August of 2025.

Engagement Summary

A What We Heard Report is attached as Attachment and some high-level information is provided below.

The engagement was comprised of the following activities:

Activity	Overview / Objectives	Timing
Website	To provide clear and up-to-date information about the Policy	Website launched April 17, 2025
Presentation to Transportation Advisory Committee	To inform the committee about the Policy and consult on the contents of the draft Policy and engagement strategy	March 27, 2025
Internal Consultation	To inform stakeholders about the Policy and to consult on the contents of the draft Policy	April 2025
External Workshops	To inform stakeholders about the Policy and to consult on the contents of the draft Policy	May 2025
Online Survey	To gather input on the draft Policy and to consult on the contents of the draft Policy	April 17 to May 31, 2025
Pop Up Public Engagement	Four events took place to inform the public about the Policy and consult on the contents. The following locations were used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gordon Head Recreation Centre - Uptown shopping area - Lochside Trail by McKenzie Avenue - G. R. Pearkes Recreation Centre 	April 29 to May 20, 2025
Presentation to Accessibility and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee	To inform the committee about the Policy and consult on the contents of the draft Policy	May 7, 2025
Final Check In with Transportation Advisory Committee	To advise the committee as to the feedback received through engagement activities and how the comments are being used. To advise the committee as to the contents of the version that will be before Council.	June 26, 2025  We are here

Internal Consultation

Internal feedback was received from Water Resources, Parks, Public Works, Current Planning and the Saanich Police Department. The Fire Department, Community Services and Recreation Services were also circulated.

External Workshops

Thirty-three representatives attended the workshops for external stakeholders, which included Community Associations; provincial agencies such as BC Transit, Road Safety BC and Insurance Corporation of British Columbia; the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; advocacy groups such as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Livable Roads for Rural Saanich, and Capital Bike; and post-secondary institutions such as the University of Victoria and Camosun College.

Pop Up Public Engagement

About 153 interactions were experienced at the Pop Up Public Engagement.

Hello Saanich Survey

338 surveys were completed.

More information on the above activities can be found in the What We Heard Report attached.

Adjustments to the Policy

Proposed adjustments to the policy are shown in the red line version attached as Attachment 2. The most impactful changes made are summarized as follows:

- Inserted more references to Section 9.0 *Defined Terms*, as feedback indicated many readers were unaware of this section
- Removed reference to previous Neighbourhood Traffic Calming documents, as they aren't critical to the policy
- Simplified Section 3.0 *Purpose* instead of including definitions of Project Types within the purpose
- Added the goal of "Plan and implement fiscally prudent infrastructure" to Section 4.0 *Goals*
- Added a Project Types section (Section 5.0) and elaborated on explanations of the project types to address comments about lack of clarity
- Added a note that projects could be identified in coordination with other jurisdictions or external funding agencies, based on suggestions from stakeholders
- Clarified some of the prioritization criteria to address feedback
- Added "non-standard road geometry causing unsafe visibility conditions" to the prioritization criteria as this is a safety issue that warrants consideration and was suggested by stakeholders
- Shifted the equity deserving area criteria to be a tie-break where multiple projects have equal merit, so that safety is the first consideration for prioritization criteria, while still acknowledging the need to serve equity-deserving populations, based on the feedback received
- Added description of how success will be measured to Section 6.5 *Implement, monitor, and evaluate performance* to address questions submitted
- Added process flow charts as an appendix in response to stakeholder suggestions
- Added a list of Reference Documents in response to stakeholder suggestions
- Added more clarity around Equity Deserving Areas

Proposed funding

Engineering is planning to present a recommendation to Council to forward a request for \$250,000 per year to fund a traffic calming program to the 2026 budget process. The survey results, summarized in the What We Heard Report, demonstrate strong support for a tax increase associated with funding the program.

Response Options

The Transportation Advisory Committee may consider passing one of the following motions:

"That the Transportation Advisory Committee supports the Traffic Calming Policy developed by administration as presented"; and/or

"That the Transportation Advisory Committee supports the recommendation that Council forward a request for \$250,000 per year to fund a traffic calming program to the 2026 budget process."

Conclusion

Thank you for your time and efforts in reviewing the Traffic Calming Policy. Your feedback and support are appreciated.

Prepared by

Kathleen Gallagher

Senior Transportation Planner

Attachments

- Attachment 1 – Proposed Traffic Calming Policy
- Attachment 2 – Proposed Traffic Calming Policy red-line version
- Attachment 3 – What We Heard Report
- Attachment 4 – Minutes of the March 27, 2025 meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee