



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** February 15, 2002
From: Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation **File:** 6450-09
Re: **NEIGHBOURHOOD TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ENHANCEMENT
INITIATIVES – PACEMORE AVENUE**

Staff Recommendation

1. That Council endorse the proposed measures, as described in the attached report, to enhance traffic and pedestrian safety on Pacemore Avenue in the vicinity of Gilmore School.
2. That the proposed traffic and pedestrian safety enhancement measures be funded from the 2001 Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Program.
3. That staff advise area residents of the City's intention to proceed with this project and ensure that public feedback is incorporated into the final design.

Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation

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CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

Staff Report

Origin

A number of residents of Pacemore Avenue and Dalemore Road have contacted the City concerning on-street parking problems and the lack of pedestrian facilities in the area. Concerns have also been expressed recently regarding traffic volumes and excessive speeding, particularly along Pacemore Avenue. A traffic study including site observations and vehicular volume and speed surveys has been conducted to gain a better understanding of the various issues and to identify possible solutions. These efforts are consistent with the activities carried out by Transportation staff to enhance traffic safety in a local area.

This report identifies recent actions undertaken by the City with regard to improving traffic safety and presents staff's findings and recommendations for additional traffic and pedestrian safety enhancements.

Analysis

1. Existing Conditions

Pacemore Avenue is a local collector road linking No. 1 Road to the "Mores" subdivision and to the Seafair subdivision further to the west. Children attending Gilmore School living on and north of Pacemore Avenue walk along Pacemore Avenue to access the walkway to the school located on Royalmore Avenue.

Pacemore Avenue is a 6-m wide asphalt roadway with a gravel shoulder. The ditches on both sides of the road have been filled in. There is a marked crosswalk located at the intersection of Dalemore Road and Pacemore Avenue as well as No Stopping zones in the area of the walkway and the crosswalk. Traffic controls consist of a stop sign at Pacemore Avenue and No. 1 Road and yield signs located at Pacemore Avenue and Dalemore Road.

The traffic study found that the average speed on Pacemore Avenue over a survey period of seven days was 45 km/h with 20 percent of the vehicles travelling in excess of the posted speed. The majority of drivers (85 percent) were driving at a speed of 58 km/h or lower. Vehicle volumes were approximately 1,000 vehicles per day. Traffic volumes along Pacemore Avenue peak over a period of about 30 minutes before and after school, which can be partially attributed to parents picking up or dropping off students as well as rush hour periods. A review of the City's *Motor Vehicle Accidents Summary* found that there have been no accidents involving pedestrians or cyclists on Pacemore Avenue since 1998.

2. Actions Taken to Date

Over the last few years the City has taken a number of actions to address the concerns of parents regarding pedestrian and traffic safety that include:

- introduction of on-street parking restrictions adjacent to Gilmore School and the Royalmore Avenue walkway to provide better visibility of pedestrians and to minimise conflict between vehicular and pedestrian traffic;

- placement of a marked and signed crosswalk at Pacemore Avenue and Dalemore Road to better control and protect pedestrian movement;
- installation of yield signs at Dalemore Road and Pacemore Avenue; and
- parking and speed enforcement undertaken by RCMP and Bylaw Enforcement.

3. Proposed Measures

3.1 Pedestrian Walkway

To address the concerns of area residents regarding pedestrian safety in the 3000-block of Pacemore Avenue, staff propose the construction of a 1.75-m wide asphalt walkway with extruded curb on the south side of Pacemore Avenue. This walkway will be approximately 500 metres in length from No. 1 Road to Elsmore Road. To ensure that the walkway is not obstructed and that vehicles do not park on the travelled portion of the roadway, a “No Parking Any Time” zone will be established on the south side of Pacemore Road. Attachment 1 shows the location of the proposed walkway while Attachment 2 shows the existing conditions and a similar walkway on Saunders Road.

3.2 Continued Speed and Parking Enforcement

Staff will continue to work with the RCMP and Bylaw Enforcement to address traffic safety concerns regarding violations of speed and parking regulations.

3.3 Public Education

Staff will take an active role in the education of school zone safety through various initiatives including the distribution of the *Traffic Safety Around School Zones* brochure developed by the City, promotion of the “Way to Go!” program and Traffic Safety Awareness Week, and other initiatives identified by the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

4. Consultation with Area Residents

Staff have reviewed the pedestrian safety proposal with a number of residents in the area and the initial response to the suggested measures has been quite positive. Staff now recommend a broader public consultation process be initiated on the implementation of the proposed walkway and other related measures. A mail-back survey will be sent to residents of Pacemore Avenue to provide an avenue for residents to comment on and identify any concerns with the proposed action. Any feedback received from area residents will be incorporated in the final design of the proposed safety measures.

Financial Impact

The construction cost of the proposed walkway with extruded curbing on Pacemore Avenue is estimated at \$45,000. The funding source for the improvement is the 2001 Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Program.

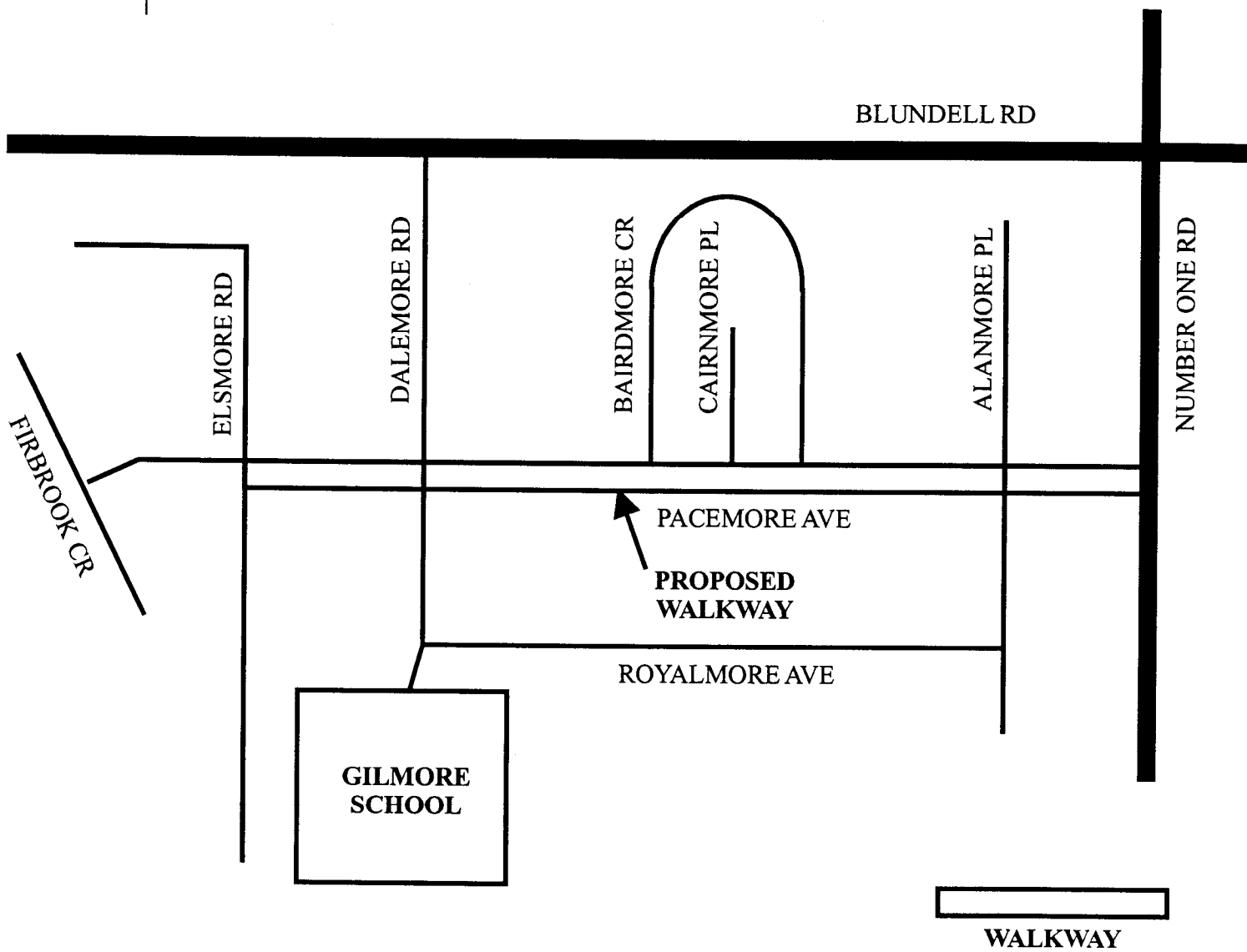
Conclusion

Staff have reviewed the pedestrian and traffic conditions along Pacemore Avenue in response to concerns of area residents regarding excessive speeding and the lack of pedestrian facilities, particularly for children attending Gilmour School. The installation of a 1.75-m wide walkway with extruded curb on the south side of Pacemore Avenue from No. 1 Road to Elsmore Road is proposed at a cost of \$45,000. In addition, enforcement and education will remain key components in the overall effort of enhancing traffic safety in the area. Staff further propose to undertake public consultation via a mail-back survey to gain feedback from area residents on the project.



Doug Newton
Traffic Technician I

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PROPOSED
PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
PACEMORE AVENUE



PACEMORE ROAD (EXISTING CONDITION)



EXAMPLE OF SIMILAR WALKWAY(SAUNDERS ROAD)

EXISTING CONDITIONS ON
PACEMORE AVENUE
AND A
SIMILAR WALKWAY ON
SAUNDERS ROAD