



# Corporate Report

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General Committee

JUN 26 2013

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**DATE:** June 7, 2013

**TO:** Chair and Members of General Committee  
Meeting Date: June 26, 2013

**FROM:** Martin Powell, P. Eng.  
Commissioner of Transportation and Works

**SUBJECT:** **Speed Limits**  
**Orchard Heights Neighbourhood (Ward 1)**

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That a 40 km/h speed limit on all roadways within the Orchard Heights Neighbourhood not be implemented due to absence of operational concerns and the financial and negative visual impact of required signage on the neighbourhood.

**REPORT  
HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The Orchard Heights neighbourhood includes fifteen (15) residential roadways which are primarily less than 7 metres (23 feet) in width with no sidewalks and curbs.
- The statutory speed limit of 50 km/h is in effect on all roadways within the neighbourhood and most of the roadways currently have no speed limit signs.
- Speed studies completed within the neighbourhood revealed an average 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 36 km/h.

**BACKGROUND:** The residents of the Orchard Heights neighbourhood submitted a petition to City Council on April 10, 2013 to reduce the posted speed limit on all roadways within the neighbourhood from 50 km/h to 40 km/h in order to address alleged speeding concerns.

The Orchard Heights neighbourhood is located south of Queen Elizabeth Way and east of Dixie Road and includes fifteen (15) residential roadways: Boxwood Way, Clearwater Drive, Glenwatson Drive, Kenneth Drive, Larchview Trail, Lincolnshire Boulevard, Liveoak Drive, Londonderry Boulevard, Marionville Drive, Orchard Haven Ridge, Park Royal Drive, Parkridge Road, Rometown Drive, Skyline Drive and Winterhaven Road.

The access to the Orchard Heights neighbourhood is provided through Larchview Trail, Londonderry Boulevard and Rometown Drive from Dixie Road, and through Liveoak Drive and Park Royal Drive from South Service Road.

All roadways within this neighbourhood are classified as local residential roads. The roadways are primarily less than 7 metres (23 feet) in width with no sidewalks and curbs. Ditches are present on both sides of all roadways within the Orchard Heights neighbourhood with the exception of Larchview Trail and Londonderry Boulevard, which have a curb and gutter.

The statutory speed limit of 50 km/h is currently in effect within the neighbourhood and 3-hour parking is also permitted on both sides of the roadways.

**COMMENTS:**

The current City of Mississauga Corporate Policy 10-03-01 'Traffic Safety in School Zones' limits the use of 40 km/h to school zones on local and collector roadways and on roadways which because of geometry cannot safely support higher posted speed limits. This Policy is presently under review and a revised "40 km/h Speed Limit" Policy utilizing an evaluation process is proposed.

Transportation and Works Department staff completed a comprehensive review of the Orchard Heights neighbourhood to determine the appropriate speed limit under the prevailing conditions. The review took into account physical roadway characteristics, type of surrounding development and speed data, which was collected on all roadways within the neighbourhood at twenty-four (24) locations. The speed study revealed that the 85th percentile speed varies at different locations within the neighbourhood from 24 km/h to 46 km/h

and the average 85<sup>th</sup> percentile at all locations is 36 km/h. The results indicate that the majority of motorists travelling within and through the neighbourhood are travelling well below the regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h.

Based on the speed study results and in accordance with the proposed "40 km/h Speed Limits" Policy, the Transportation and Works Department could support the implementation of a 40 km/h speed limit on the roadways within the Orchard Heights Neighbourhood. A reduction of the regulatory speed limit to 40 km/h would not negatively impact the traffic operation of these roadways and would more closely represent current operating speeds.

The implementation of 40 km/h speed limit on all roadways within the Orchard Heights Neighbourhood would require the installation of seventy-four (74) speed limit signs in order for the speed limit to be legally enforceable. Speed signs must be located a maximum of 300 metres (985 feet) apart and signs are required to be posted in both directions of travel immediately following an intersection. In order to accommodate the signage installation, new posts would need to be installed at the majority of corners of all intersections and at some mid-block locations within the neighbourhood. Only a limited number of the existing hydro poles and light standards could be utilized for the speed signs since the majority of hydro poles and light standards are too set back from the edge of the roadway compromising the visibility of the signage. A significant visual impact would occur within the neighbourhood in conjunction with the resulting financial impact of installing the signage.

A review by staff of the most current collision history information received for the past three years indicated that there has been one (1) collision within the neighbourhood. The motorist involved lost control, slid into the ditch and came to rest in a residential driveway. The motorist was charged for careless driving.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The cost to install signing for a 40 km/h speed limit on all roadways within the Orchard Heights neighbourhood is estimated to be \$12,000 and could be accommodated in the 2013 Current Budget.

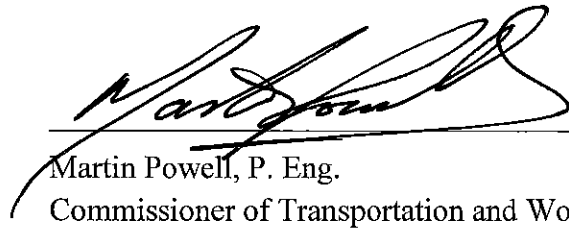
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**CONCLUSION:**

Although the reduction of the existing 50 km/h speed limit to 40 km/h could be supported by the Transportation and Works Department, the absence of any operational concerns and the significant financial and negative visual impact on the neighbourhood, the Transportation and Works Department recommends against implementation of a 40 km/h speed limit on all roadways within the Orchard Heights neighbourhood.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

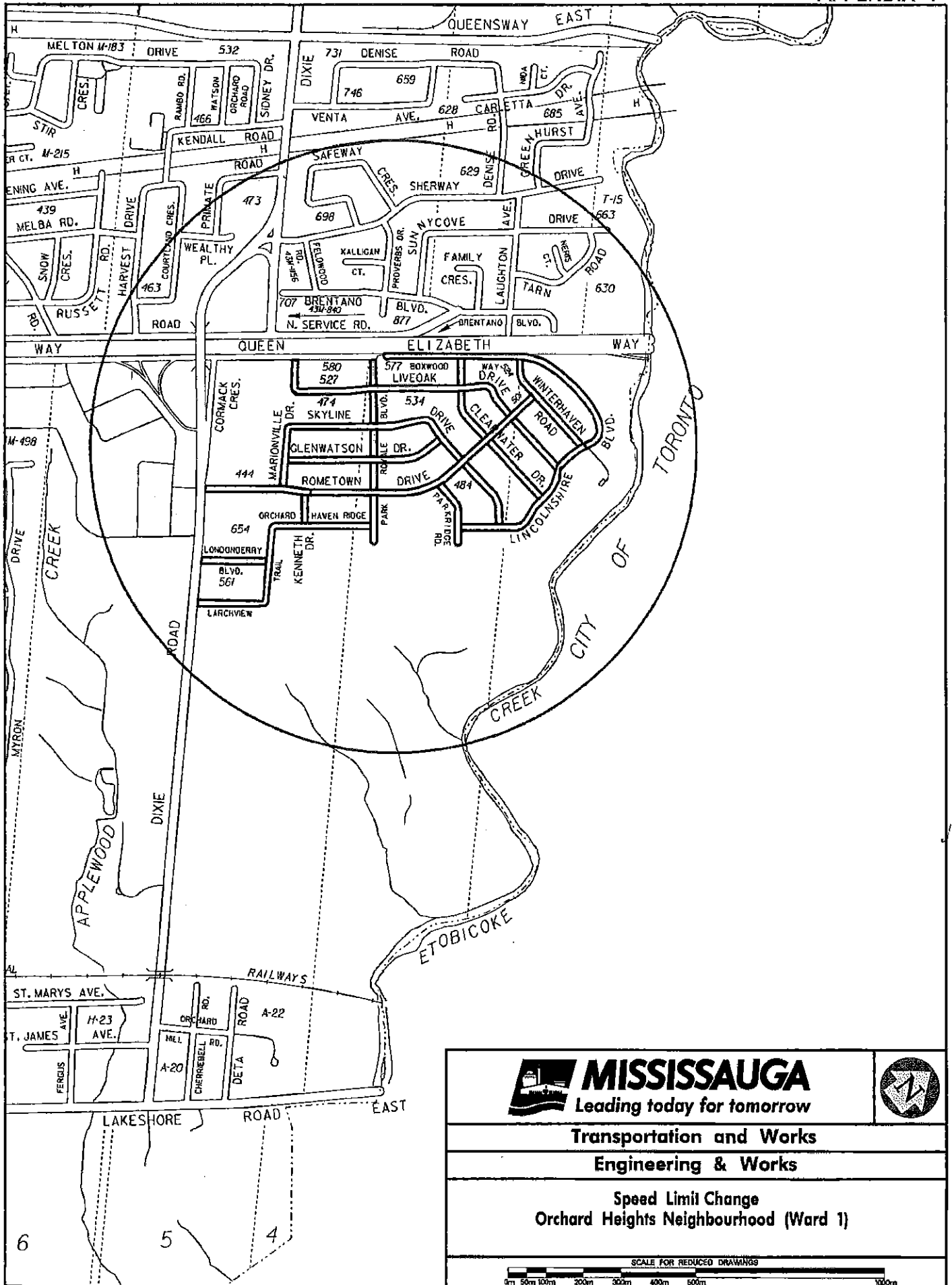
Appendix 1: Location Map: Speed Limit Change  
Orchard Heights Neighbourhood (Ward 1)



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Martin Powell, P. Eng.  
Commissioner of Transportation and Works

*Prepared By: Ouliana Drobychevskaya, Traffic Technologist*



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<b>Speed Limit Change Orchard Heights Neighbourhood (Ward 1)</b>		
SCALE FOR REDUCED DRAWINGS		
0m 50m 100m 200m 300m 400m 500m 1000m		