



To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** November 7, 2001
From: Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation **File:** 6450-09
Re: **Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Improvement -
Leonard Road (Williams Road to Ryan Road)**

Staff Recommendation

1. That Council endorse the proposed traffic and pedestrian safety improvement measures for Leonard Road from Williams Road to Ryan Road as described in the attached report.
2. That the source of funding for the above recommended traffic safety enhancement initiatives, at a cost of \$24,000, be the 2001 Minor Capital Program for Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Improvement.
3. That staff advise area residents of the City's intention to proceed with this work and ensure that public feedback is incorporated into the final design.

Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation

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ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Engineering	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	

Staff Report

Origin

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement for traffic and pedestrian safety improvement measures in the Leonard Road area. The proposed improvements, including minor road widening and retention of an existing walkway, are part of the City's ongoing traffic safety enhancement efforts. Specifically, the proposed measures will address concerns of area residents regarding the width of pavement and the pedestrian facility requirements on Leonard Road. Staff from both Engineering and Transportation carried out a site investigation and met with some of the area residents. This report presents the results of staff's review of the traffic conditions on Leonard Road and recommends a safety improvement measure to be implemented.

Analysis

1. Existing Conditions

Leonard Road is classified as a local road with a speed limit of 50 km/h. The section of Leonard Road, between Williams Road and Ryan Road, has a vehicular travel width of 5.2 metres and a 1.8 metre pedestrian walkway on the east side. The walkway is separated from the roadway by an extruded concrete curb and provides a pedestrian facility connecting Williams Road and William Bridge School as well as other residential destinations in the area. Traffic surveys conducted during the week of November 5 - 9, 2001 indicate that approximately 2400 vehicles use this route each day.

Leonard Road is the only access from the north to the neighbourhood for the quarter section bounded by Williams Road, No. 3 Road, Garden City Road Allowance (closed) and Steveston Highway. Vehicular access from the east is difficult due to Garden City Road being undeveloped. Access from No. 4 Road (the next arterial to the east) is limited to a single, very circuitous route (Mortfield Road / Ryan Road). Leonard Road therefore serves a very important local access function in the area. Single family homes front both sides of Leonard Road and William Bridge School is located on Leonard Road just south of the subject area. A photograph of the existing Leonard Road is presented in Attachment 1.

2. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Considerations

The following describes safety considerations related to the width of pavement on Leonard Road and the existing walkway on the east side. Suggestions are provided to enhance traffic and pedestrian safety.

Roadway Width

The overall width of the travelled portion of the Leonard Road is 5.2 metres. However, due to the presence of an extruded curb, the effective width is reduced as drivers tend to "shy away" from such fixed objects. To address concerns about safety and traffic operations, it is proposed that Leonard Road be widened by 0.8 metres on the west side to create a 6.0 metre wide roadway (Attachment 2). A width of 6.0 metres is considered to be acceptable to safely accommodate vehicular movements. Widening beyond 6.0 metres is not recommended, as it would preclude parking on the west side of the road given the amount of right-of-way available between the edge

of the road and the top of the ditch. As a result of the minimal widening, no increase in vehicle speeds is anticipated. Additionally, no loss of parking will result from this improvement. It is anticipated that the construction of the above recommended improvement will commence in December 2001 and be completed in approximately two weeks, pending suitable weather.

Pedestrian Walkway

An extruded concrete curb on the east side of Leonard Road separates the existing walkway from the travelled surface of the roadway providing pedestrians protection from vehicular traffic. Removal of the curb, instead of widening the road, to provide a wider driving surface is not considered a feasible option as it would result in pedestrians being fully exposed to the traffic. Area residents, particularly school children use the existing walkway on the east side of Leonard Road, and therefore staff recommend that this walkway, including the extruded curb be retained.

3. Consultation with Area Residents

Staff propose to advise the residents on Leonard Road of the planned improvement. Additional feedback received during this process will be used to modify the design and/or construction schedule where appropriate.

Financial Impact

The cost to widen Leonard Road by 0.8 metres on the west side is estimated at \$24,000. The proposed funding source for this improvement is the 2001 Minor Capital Program for Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Improvements (Project No. 40207).

Conclusion

Staff have reviewed the traffic conditions on Leonard Road between Williams Road and Ryan Road. Based on the result of this review, it is recommended that Leonard Road be widened by 0.8 metres on the west side at a cost of \$24,000 and that the existing pedestrian walkway be maintained. These improvements will enhance traffic and pedestrian safety in the area. Staff intend to advise area residents of the proposed improvement and respond to any comments related to the design and/or construction schedule prior to implementation.



Jim Hnatiuk, P. Eng.
Transportation Engineer

JH:lce



LEONARD RD LOOKING NORTH

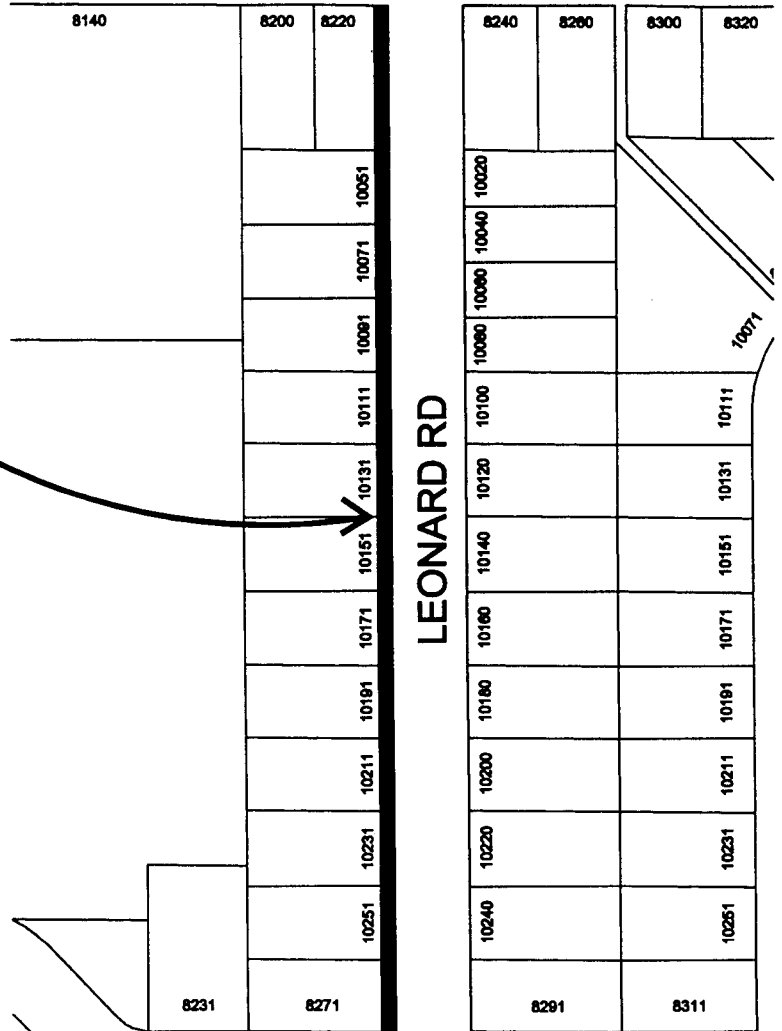


LEONARD RD LOOKING SOUTH



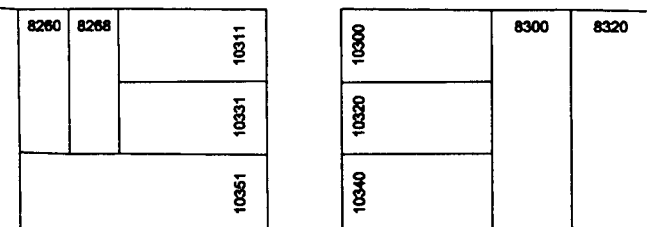
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WILLIAMS RD



Road Widening
by 0.8m on
West Side of
Leonard Road
from 5.2m to 6.0m

RYAN RD



Proposed Road Widening on Leonard Road