



Staff Report

Operations – Roads & Drainage

Report To: COW - Operations, Planning and Building Services
Meeting Date: March 18, 2025
Report Number: OPS.25.013
Title: Gibraltar Stop Signs
Prepared by: Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads & Drainage

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report OPS.25.013, entitled “Gibraltar Stop Signs”;

AND THAT Council directs staff to install painted stop bars on the 4th line;

AND THAT Council directs staff to investigate video monitoring of the intersection to assist OPP with enforcement.

B. Overview

A resident in the Gibraltar community is requesting Staff to review the safety control devices (stop signs) with the school bus company to determine if improvements are required. The concern stems from reports of drivers not stopping for the stop signs at the intersection along the 4th Line at the 6th Sideroad.

C. Background

Staff received correspondence from a resident in Gibraltar related to traffic safety during the winter of 2023. On May 9, 2023, the former Director of Operations and the Manager of Roads and Drainage met with the resident to review their concerns. Following the May 9th meeting staff have:

1. Installed oversized stop signs
2. Installed “stop ahead” signs
3. Removed brush the along the roadside near the 4th line stop signs.
4. Installed a temporary traffic counter to record traffic volumes, vehicle size and speed during the fall of 2023. See attachment #2
5. Requested additional OPP presence in the area.
6. Staff reviewed the condition of the 50km/hr signs and found they were in good condition.

In response to additional correspondence received on Sept 17, 2024, Council provided the following resolution to Staff on October 21, 2024.

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the correspondence of Lynsi McCutcheon, Resident Re: Request for Bus Stop Signage on the 4th Sideroad and 6th Concession;

AND THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains directs staff to provide a staff report in response to the September 17, 2024 correspondence of Lynsi McCutcheon and to work with pertinent municipal staff, the school bus company and the Blue Water District School Board transportation department to help address the safety concerns raised

D. Analysis

In response to the Oct 21 resolution staff did connect with First Student Inc of Owen sound and spoke with the Senior Manager. Student First Inc provides transportation services to the Blue Water District School Board in the Town. The Senior Manager did follow up with the drivers of the school bus in Gibraltar. Both drivers reported they have no concerns with the location or the sizes of the stop signs in Gibraltar. They did not report that any improvements were necessary at this time.

In addition, Staff commissioned a traffic engineer to review the intersection and the traffic control devices at the intersection. See attachment #1. It was identified that the traffic volumes in Gibraltar did not meet the warrants for a 4-way stop at this intersection however the geography of the 4th Line did support the installation of the 4-way stop.

The engineer's report recommended the installation of painted stop bars to assist in identifying the stop location along the 4th line. The painted stop bars will establish where the drivers are expected to stop to view the intersection before proceeding. The cost of painting the stop bars can be absorbed by the proposed 2025 Operating budget for line painting.

The report also suggest the Town investigate installing a video monitoring system. This would help capture evidence of driver's actions near the stop signs. Information collected would provide validation of the driver's behavior. The use of the video monitoring will record driver's actions without the influence of the OPP being on site. Staff will need to determine where there is power, a suitable mounting location and cellular service. The anticipated cost to purchase a video system and have it installed is \$3,000 to \$4,000. These costs and the monthly cellular cost could be funded from the Roads and Drainage budget.

The location of the of the stop sign on the east side of the 6th Sideroad has been relocated back further from the intersection, as identified in the engineer's report. This is to accommodate the larger turning radius need by the gravel trucks. The stop sign has been damaged many times resulting in call out by staff after hours to replace the sign. The current location provides notice to drivers while allowing enough room for trucks to turn onto the 4th line. Staff is recommending to not relocate this sign.

Recommendation:

In efforts of addressing the findings in the Engineering Report, staff recommend the following:

- The installation of painted stop bars to assist in identifying the stop location along the 4th line.
- The installation of a video monitoring system to monitor and capture driver behaviour at the intersection.

E. Strategic Priorities

1. Communication and Engagement

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

3. Community

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

4. Quality of Life

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

F. Environmental Impacts

The will to use oil-based paint to ensure adhesion to the surface treated road. (Tar and chip)

G. Financial Impacts

The cost of the line painting is anticipated to be \$100 to \$200.

The video monitoring is anticipated to be \$3,000 to \$4,000 for purchase and installation with a monthly cellular cost of \$30 or \$360 annually.

H. In Consultation With

None.

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads & Drainage managerroadsdrainage@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

1. Attachment 1; Intersection Signage at Gibraltar – Engineering Opinion Letter
2. Attachment 2; Traffic Data Analysis from October 2023 to November 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McCannell
Manager of Roads & Drainage

Alan Pacheco
Director of Operations

For more information, please contact:
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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	OPS.25.013 Gibraltar Stop Signs.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 Intersection Signage at Gibraltar Engineering Opinion Letter.pdf - Attachment 2 Traffic Data Analysis from October 2023 to November 2023.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Feb 28, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jim McCannell - Feb 20, 2025 - 4:44 PM

Alan Pacheco - Feb 28, 2025 - 10:43 AM