

Speed Bumps

There was a great deal of written conversation between myself and Mayor Inglis which you can retrieve from your archives

Speed bumps were a necessity I thought on this street due to a large increase of traffic most of which was speeding and the many near misses of pedestrians being hit.

I am not so sure the ones erected are doing the job I anticipated.

The road itself was poorly engineered and has a number of bottle necks with hydro poles and curves as well as no sidewalks.

A study was undertaken by placing a detector on the hydro posts to confirm speeds - refer to archives

The first one was stolen and later retrieved from a ditch - reputedly, a number of the younger generation thought it recorded license plate numbers and didn't wish to be charged with stunt driving.

I am told the second didn't produce the required conclusion wished for.

The third one again showed excessive speeds.

The radar trap only lasted a few weeks and are non existent in this area at present.

The police set up radar to confirm what they already knew and had a steady stream of clients

This was all necessitated by the absence of a permanent police force within Walkerton as the O.P.P. while good are not a permanent force and cannot be everywhere at once.

I am told this same situation has evolved in other areas of Town as well and may be the result of no permanent force being available.

At the same time the traffic from the newer subdivisions started using this once quiet street as their way out of town.

As well large trucks from Reich's use this as a by pass around the main street.

Reich's using this as a by pass has deteriorated the road to a point that it needed replacement a few years ago and is fast deteriorating again.

Due to this and also their increased speed and due to various young families located on this street there were issues of a kid possibly getting hit.

To this end one mother started a petition to have something done, a tactic I was aware of but never signed.

A number of residents also threatened suit if anything arose due to the inactivity of the Town not addressing the solution

I immediately advised the Mayor and I believe at his insistence the speed bump materialized.

I might add that since it was installed I have not had a vehicle end up backwards on my front lawn in the summertime. (Yes, I said summertime)

I do regularly hear the squealing of tires, and the thump of stanchions flying through the air, usually in the middle of the night!

The actual location of the speed bump in my opinion is in the wrong place.

As such, each year the stanchions etc go up, then after a complaint regarding traffic by passing the bump, more stanchions go up.

This just happened again yesterday after my call into your office

Not only is it an eye sore it necessitates moving them consistently to cut grass in my attempt to keep Brockton beautiful.

I cut the Towns grass on either side of the road.

I also must retrieve the stanchions and reinstall them as some people with larger vehicles just run over them sending them flying into the ditch.

Not the safest way but certainly less of an aggravation for them as they usually have oversize bumpers that do little damage to their vehicles.

I wonder if you would like this every year at your home or cottage!

It also portrays a very poor image for the Town by anyone using this road - "Mickey Mouse" fixes by erecting stanchions and barricades each year!

This whole scenario could be avoided if the bump were placed one hydro pole south of its position where ditches, terrain and guard rails exist - a point continually overheard made by your workers each year regarding this placement.

I might add that Hanover incorporated their speed bump into the pavement, this can be viewed by traveling the streets south of the main intersection in Hanover.

This bump by no means affects snowplowing operations for them in the wintertime contrary to what is said here.

It seems that it is only an issue in Walkerton.

By incorporating this into the pavement, in the correct place, it will rectify not only this issue but will negate the necessity of continually erecting and dismantling the road bump thus reducing the costs associated for it by the Town.

I believe this is why Hanover and other Municipalities have got rid of this style of road bump - to save themselves money!

This is probably why Walkerton purchased same - to save money on a used bump, or so I am told.

I attempt to always have solution for issues raised some of which are -

1. reduce speed limit in Town to a lower level
2. have more police radar set up in areas that are an issue
3. relocate bump to have existing guard rails act as stanchions **(my choice)**
4. place permanent bumps in pavement similar to Hanover **(my choice)**
5. If all else fails take the thing out completely and let the chips fall where they may as to speeding and possible fatalities **(this will do nothing for the speed but everything for the quieter solitude of the neighborhood albeit nothing for anything else)**