

Committee of the Whole Report



Date: July 18, 2003
To: Mayor and Council
From: Brad Dellebuur, Transportation Planner
Department: Engineering
Subject: Jubilee Road Closures – Trial Evaluation

Executive Summary:

This report provides an evaluation of the Jubilee trial road closures and includes recommendations on a future direction. In conjunction with a technical review, we also took into account valued input from the public throughout the trial period.

The evaluation confirms the closures met the technical objective of eliminating cut-through traffic. The closures also contributed to an increased “sense of community”, created an improved environment for pedestrians and cyclists, and reduced collisions in the neighbourhood. However, the closures also re-directed some cut-through traffic to other local streets, increased peak hour congestion on Bay Street, increased travel times across the neighbourhood, and resulted in internal circulation concerns for many neighbourhood residents, including some living on the closed streets.

To address the concerns and negative impacts identified, yet maintain the benefits derived from the closures, staff propose managing cut-through traffic rather than eliminating cut-through traffic. To achieve this we recommend converting the closures to a combination of central medians and diverters, to physically restrict turning movements to right in and right-out only. This will result in easier access within and through the neighbourhood and relieve pressures on adjacent local streets as well as Bay Street, while still preventing the typical commuter (left-right) cut-through patterns. This plan should provide effective traffic management within the neighbourhood, and avoid significantly eroding the benefits derived from the closures.

This plan is described in the attached drawings and is estimated to cost \$65,000. Primary funding will come from the 2004 Capital Budget, however up to \$20,000 will be re-directed from this years budget, to begin implementation immediately.

Staff also recommend installing these measures prior to removing the road closure barriers, to prevent a return to pre-closure volumes and speeds on the closed streets.

Recommendations:

1. That the Jubilee road closures be replaced with traffic management measures that allow limited access to the local streets, as described in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

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Transportation Section

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