



311 George St. N. Suite 200  
Peterborough, ON K9J 3H3

T 705.876.8340 | F 705.742.8343

[www.ecovueconsulting.com](http://www.ecovueconsulting.com)

March 17, 2017

Jason and Traci Morrison  
563 The Ridge Road  
Coe Hill ON K0L 1P0

**Re: Bear Ridge Campground and Trailer Park  
Township of Wollaston, County of Hastings  
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ASSESSMENT  
EcoVue Reference 16-1647**

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Morrison:

The County of Hastings Planning & Development Department has identified additional requirements for the approval of the rezoning application which is related to traffic control and pedestrian crossings of the Township road (The Ridge Road) at the campground entrance. As a result, you been directed to provide recommendations for traffic control and pedestrian crossings from a qualified professional.

My qualifications to carry out this assessment are substantiated by my employment in the Public Works Department of the County of Halliburton. In my capacity as the Engineering Services Manager for 15 years, I was responsible for work related to traffic control and pedestrian safety on all of the County maintained roads. The roads were rural in nature with settlements (hamlets and villages) in cottage areas that consistently experienced interaction between pedestrians and motorized vehicles.

On March 7, 2017, I attended your campground to meet with you and inventory the measures currently in place to promote pedestrian safety in the vicinity of the campground.

It was observed there is ample sight distances on either side of the of the campground main entrance which is concurrent with the beach access on the opposite side of the road. The measured distance on either side of the campground entrance is in excess of 200 metres. This distance is more than sufficient for the posted speed limit based on the Ministry of Transportation Design Guidelines that recommend a minimum of 45 metres in a 40 kph zone.

It was observed there is a "Community Safety Zone" in place which is supported by Township By-law 15-15 and defined as "between Concession 7, Lot 12 and Concession 6, Lot 14". The safety zone is clearly demarcated by highly visible warning signage and a speed limit reduction from 70 kilometres per hour (kph) to 40 kph. The reduced speed limit zone is posted with advance warning signage and postings at approximately 500 metre intervals. In addition, there are several "Slow, Watch for Pedestrian" signs at intervals within the "Community Safety Zone".



No pavement markings for traffic calming or pedestrian crossing were observed; however, you stated (later confirmed by the Township Roads Superintendent) that the Township has had a pedestrian crosswalk, centreline and edge of pavement lines in place until the fall of 2016 when a new surface was applied.

The Township Roads Superintendent also confirmed that the pedestrian crosswalk will not be reinstated as part of the Township's 2017 pavement marking program since it seemed that the pavement markings were ineffective.

It appears the Township has been diligent and responsive to the need for warning motorists of the presence of pedestrians for a distance of approximately 2.5 kilometres in the vicinity of the campground.

The Ridge Road is a low volume road connecting Provincial Highway 620, at Apsley, and several cottage access roads to the south. A traffic count was conducted by the Ontario Provincial Police on June 10, 11 and 12, 2016. This exercise yielded a summer average daily traffic (SADT) count of 348 vehicles. This traffic count substantiates a relatively low volume road classification.

Pedestrian safety on any rural road is an issue. In this case, the signage in place should be adequate for the level of use of the local road. The speed of the vehicles using the road depends largely on the cooperation of the drivers.

You may encourage beach users to cross at the pedestrian crosswalk by producing, posting and distributing literature to them. Additionally, signage may be placed on the campground property directing users to the crosswalk.

Additionally, there are actions that will help alert drivers to the presence of a pedestrian crossing zone. These include reinstating the pedestrian crossing and approach bars previously in place, pavement markings to restrict the lane width and digital speed display signs.

The ultimate method of controlling the vehicular speed in the campground area is enforcement by the local policing agency (Ontario Provincial Police). The presence of the OPP from time to time is a deterrent to speeders; however, it is unrealistic to maintain this type of enforcement due to the time and financial commitment necessary. Policing in rural areas is difficult due to the distances involved and the shortage of officers. As a result, this type of enforcement puts a significant strain on the local police detachment.

The use of digital speed display signs have proven very effective in urban and semi-urban areas. Many times, motorists simply require a reminder they are travelling beyond the speed limit and will reduce their speed accordingly.

In summary, the following are recommendations to support traffic calming and pedestrian safety, in addition to the current designation of a "Community Safety Zone".



- a) Re-instate the pedestrian crossing pavement markings; although these were perceived as ineffective, they do show due diligence on the part of the municipality.
- b) Re-instate the traffic calming pavement markings in advance of the pedestrian crossing, on both sides of the crossing; again, the re-instatement of these markings support the municipality's efforts for due diligence.
- c) Re-instate the edge of pavement markings along the frontage of the campground but narrow the lane width to 2.5 metres (each direction); this gives the drivers the perception that they are have to be more careful.
- d) Install warning/directional signs in the campground to advice and route beach users to the pedestrian crosswalk; this will support due diligence on the part of the campground owners.
- e) Provide a notice (leaflet) to everyone using the campground to cross at the pedestrian crosswalk; again, this will support due diligence on the part of the campground owners.
- f) Install a digital display sign on either side of the pedestrian crosswalk, approximately 100 metres in advance of the crosswalk; this is an active reminder to motorists that they are speeding.
- g) Request enforcement of the speed limit by the Ontario Provincial Police if there is persistent disregard of the posted speed limit.

The above recommendations may be implemented in stages, contingent upon observations of driver and pedestrian habits.

I trust the foregoing provides guidance for the control of vehicular speeds and the safe crossing of pedestrians to the beach.

Yours sincerely,

**ECOVUE CONSULTING SERVICES INC.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roy L. Haig".

---

Roy L. Haig, C.E.T.  
Senior Engineering Technologist