

To: Community and Operations Services Committee

From: Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

Report Number: CO-22-01

Date of Report: November 30, 2022

Date of Meeting: December 5, 2022

Subject: Future Traffic Data on Britannia Avenue East, Bridle Road and Steeplechase Street

Ward: Ward 2

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to respond to the following direction CS-21-125 from City Council on November 22, 2021;

Whereas a Costco is being constructed along the north side of Windfields Farm Drive East; and,

Whereas additional commercial uses are anticipated to be built in this area as a result of the Costco development; and,

Whereas Costco and these additional commercial uses will generate a considerable amount of traffic from outside this area; and,

Whereas Britannia Avenue East, Bridle Road and Steeplechase Street are residential streets in this area; and,

Whereas there is a potential for traffic outside this area to use these residential streets as shortcuts to the Costco and other commercial developments along Windfields Farm Drive East and create safety issues; and,

Whereas it is appropriate for the City to review possible traffic calming and traffic control measures to mitigate any safety issues as a result of potential short cut traffic through this residential area;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Services staff be directed to review, and where currently lacking sufficient data, gather existing and future traffic data in this area and recommend any appropriate traffic calming and traffic control measures to mitigate any

safety issues and possible shortcut through traffic through the residential areas along Britannia Avenue East, Bridle Road and Steeplechase Street to the Costco development area and report back to the Community Services Committee.

2.0 Recommendation

That the Community and Operations Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That staff continue to monitor the traffic in the residential neighbourhoods surrounding the new Costco site, and collect updated traffic data and report back when construction is completed along Steeplechase Street.

3.0 Executive Summary

Not applicable.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

Not applicable.

5.0 Analysis

5.1 Road Characteristics

Currently the lands surrounding the new Costco site (100 Windfields Farm Drive East) is still under development. There is still considerable construction occurring on the lands along Windfields Farm Drive East, and along the section of Steeplechase Street between Windfields Farm Drive East and Symington Avenue. The roadway connection between Steeplechase Street and Windfields Farm Drive East was just recently opened to traffic in Spring 2022.

The section of Steeplechase Street, south of Windfields Farm Drive East is classified as a collector road, and provides access into the residential neighbourhood south of Windfields Farm Drive East, and a connection to Britannia Avenue East. Currently the section of Steeplechase Street between Windfields Farm Drive East and Symington Avenue is open to the public, however, the area is under construction. Sidewalks have not been installed yet, and there are heavy machinery parked along the road and boulevards. This section of Steeplechase Street still has the appearance of a construction zone, and is not currently an attractive road for motorists to use as a potential shortcut between Britannia Avenue East and Windfields Farm Drive East.

There is currently an all-way stop control installed at the intersection of Windfields Farm Drive East and Steeplechase Street. The north leg of this intersection also functions as an entrance to the new Costco site at 100 Windfields Farm Drive East.

5.2 Future Traffic Control Signals

It was recently determined that traffic control signals are warranted at the intersection of Windfields Farm Drive East and Steeplechase Street/Costco Entrance. The estimated cost

to install the traffic control signals is \$255,000, which will be fully funded by the Costco site developer (Riocan). All future maintenance costs of the traffic control signals will be the responsibility of the City. Staff will be making arrangements with the Region of Durham to proceed with the traffic control signal design and installation. Installation is expected to be completed in late 2023 at the earliest.

5.3 Traffic Data

In anticipation of the opening of the new Costco site (100 Windfields Farm Drive East), staff collected traffic volume and speed data along various residential streets in the surrounding area to assess the traffic levels prior to the Costco opening. Following the opening of Costco in Spring 2022, staff collected follow up traffic data at the same locations to determine if the traffic patterns had changed. A map showing the data collection locations is appended as Attachment 1, and a table summarizing the data is appended as Attachment 2.

Based on the traffic data collected, there does not appear to be any traffic infiltration or shortcut traffic using the surrounding residential streets following the opening of the new Costco. The traffic volumes collected at each location were acceptable for their road classification types. The before and after data were very similar at each data collection location, with exception of Steeplechase Street between Nearco Gate and Symington Avenue, and Bridle Road between Windfields Farm Drive East and Gulfstream Avenue which showed an increase in traffic volumes after the Costco opening. However, these traffic volumes are acceptable, and can be attributed to local residents using the new roadway connections at Windfields Farm Drive East that opened recently.

It should be noted that motorists from outside the neighbourhood may be avoiding using Steeplechase Street and Windfields Farm Drive East due to the heavy construction in the area. It is possible that traffic may increase when the construction in the area is completed. Therefore, staff recommend that data be recollected when construction is completed, and reassess the need for traffic calming, and control measures at this time.

6.0 Financial Implications

Not applicable.

7.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This report addresses the Oshawa Strategic Plan by responding to the goal of “Social Equity” with the theme of “An Active, Healthy and Safe Community” by continuing to support safe, shared use of roadways, trails and other transportation systems and effectively focusing on accessibility, safety and speed reduction.

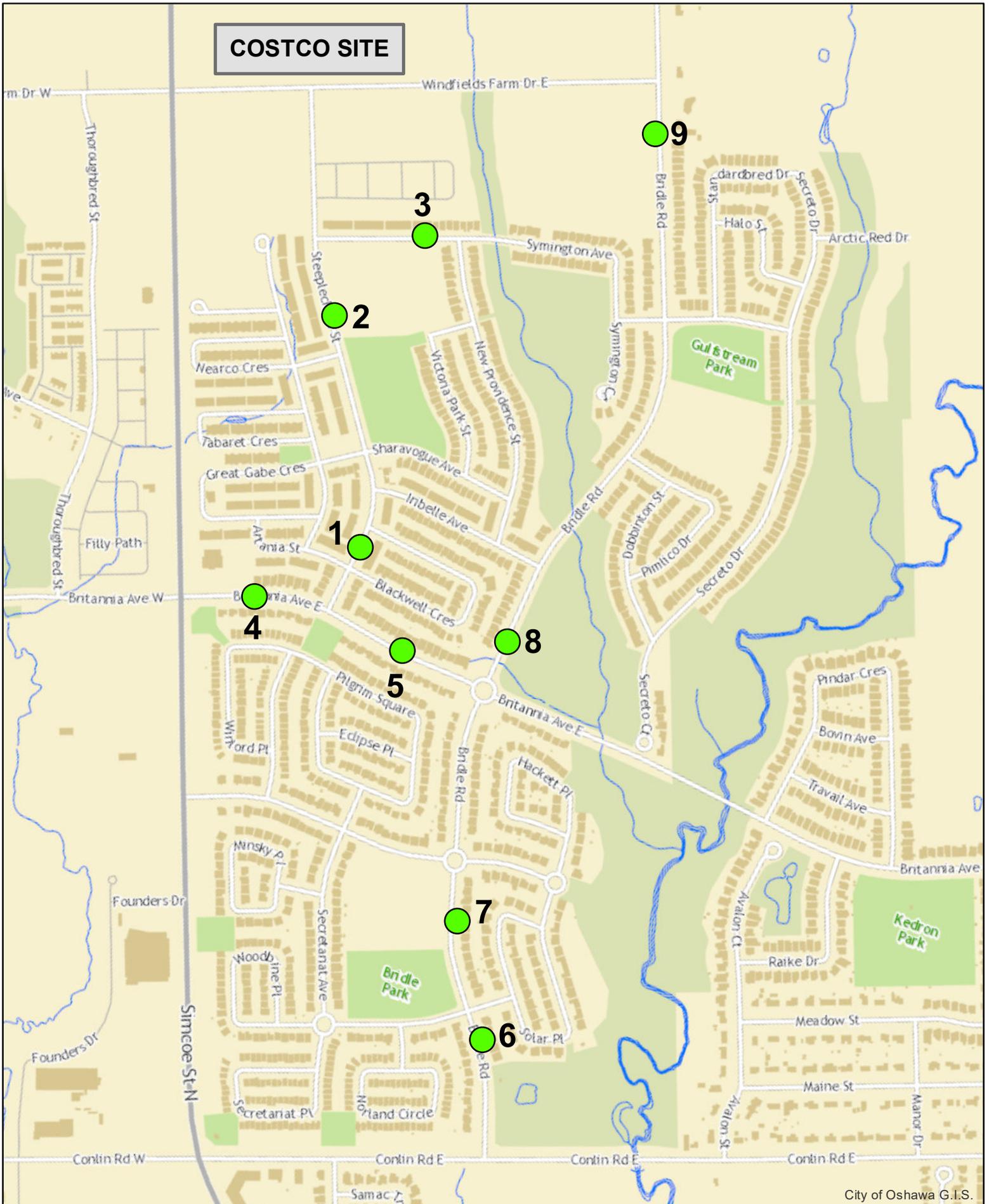


Beth Mullen, Director,
Community Support Services



Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

TRAFFIC COUNT LOCATIONS



● - Traffic Count Location (Map ID)

CO-22-01 Attachment 1

Traffic Data Summary - Before and After Costco Opening												
Map ID	Location	Data Collected Before or After Costco Opening	Traffic Count Date	Posted Speed Limit	EB - Speed (85th Percentile - km/h)	EB - Volume (24 hr)	WB - Speed (85th Percentile - km/h)	WB - Volume (24 hr)	SB - Speed (85th Percentile - km/h)	SB - Volume (24 hr)	NB - Speed (85th Percentile - km/h)	NB - Volume (24 hr)
1	Steeplechase St between Blackwell Cres & Blackwell Cres	Before	01/13/2022	50 km/h					46 km/h	1143	47 km/h	1087
	Steeplechase St between Blackwell Cres & Blackwell Cres	After	07/14/2022	50 km/h					45 km/h	1094	46 km/h	896
2	Steeplechase St between Nearco Gate & Symington Ave	Before	12/15/2021	50 km/h					48 km/h	242	47 km/h	227
	Steeplechase St between Nearco Gate & Symington Ave	After	07/27/2022	50 km/h					52 km/h	924	47 km/h	801
3	Symington Ave between Steeplechase St & New Providence St	Before	12/08/2021	50 km/h	46 km/h	144	48 km/h	159				
	Symington Ave between Steeplechase St & New Providence St	After	07/14/2022	50 km/h	50 km/h	184	46 km/h	273				
4	Britannia Ave E btw Simcoe St N & Steeplechase St	Before	06/02/2021	50 km/h	48 km/h	1836	42 km/h	1940				
	Britannia Ave E btw Simcoe St N & Steeplechase St	After	07/14/2022	50 km/h	47 km/h	1398	48 km/h	1635				
5	Britannia Ave E btw Steeplechase St & Bridle Rd	Before	06/02/2021	50 km/h	57 km/h	1022	51 km/h	1026				
	Britannia Ave E btw Steeplechase St & Bridle Rd	After	07/25/2022	50 km/h	53 km/h	1098	49 km/h	1053				
6	Bridle Rd between Conlin Rd E and Woodbine Ave	Before	12/15/2021	50 km/h					50 km/h	2126	48 km/h	2052
	Bridle Rd between Conlin Rd E and Woodbine Ave	After	07/27/2022	50 km/h					47 km/h	1725	46 km/h	1567
7	Bridle Rd btw Woodbine Ave & Northern Dancer Dr	Before	11/25/2021	40 km/h					52 km/h	1634	51 km/h	1557
	Bridle Rd btw Woodbine Ave & Northern Dancer Dr	After	07/25/2022	40 km/h					47 km/h	1289	48 km/h	1137
8	Bridle Rd between Britannia Ave E & Iribelle Ave	Before	12/15/2021	50 km/h					56 km/h	1222	53 km/h	1588
	Bridle Rd between Britannia Ave E & Iribelle Ave	After	07/27/2022	50 km/h					52 km/h	1074	55 km/h	999
9	Bridle Rd between Windfields Farm Dr E & Gulfstream Ave	Before	12/15/2021	50 km/h					48 km/h	635	48 km/h	678
	Bridle Rd between Windfields Farm Dr E & Gulfstream Ave	After	07/27/2022	50 km/h					55 km/h	1280	52 km/h	1288

Note: 85th percentile speed is the speed at which 85% of traffic is travelling at or below, also sometimes referred to as the roadway operating speed.