

To: Community and Operations Services Committee

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

Report Number: CO-23-02

Date of Report: January 11, 2023

Date of Meeting: January 16, 2023

Subject: 40 km/h Area Pilot - Downtown Oshawa

Ward: Ward 4

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to respond to the following direction [CS-21-79](#) from City Council on June 21, 2021:

“Whereas downtown Oshawa is first and foremost a neighbourhood, with highly mixed uses and has the highest volumes of pedestrian traffic in the entire Region of Durham; and,

Whereas the streets that move traffic through the downtown are often viewed as thoroughfares by some drivers and this leads to speeds and behaviours that run contrary to creating an environment that feels welcoming, safe, pedestrian-friendly, age-inclusive-friendly, and accessibility-friendly, while having a detrimental impact on the vision of a vibrant, attractive downtown for mixed uses and transportation modalities; and,

Whereas traffic speed data may provide information on driver behaviours but does not provide information on the perceived and subconscious experience of the pedestrian and other users of the downtown neighbourhood; and,

Therefore, that staff report back to the Community Services Committee on options and considerations including consultation with the Region of Durham to make the entire downtown a 40km/h speed limit zone.”

2.0 Recommendation

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

1. That Report CO-23-02, dated January 11, 2023, be received for information.

3.0 Executive Summary

- On June 21, 2021 City Council directed [CS-21-79](#): “that staff report back to the Community Services Committee on options and considerations including consultation with the Region of Durham to make the entire downtown a 40km/h speed limit zone.”
- On May 12, 2022, City Council reviewed report [CNCL-22-37](#) - Neighbourhood Traffic Management Guide, and approved a 40 km/h Area Pilot Program to implement one (1) 40 km/h Maximum Rate of Speed Area in each ward.
- Staff consulted with the Ward 4 Councillors, and determined that downtown Oshawa should be the area selected for the Ward 4 - 40 km/h Area Pilot Location.
- City Staff investigated and proposed boundaries shown in Attachment 1 for a downtown Oshawa 40 km/h Area.
- The proposed boundaries were circulated to the Regional Municipality of Durham and were supported by Regional Staff.
- Staff provided the proposed boundaries to the Ward 4 Councillors and received positive feedback.
- As part of the 40 km/h Area Pilot Program, staff will proceed with the implementation of the proposed Ward 4 downtown 40 km/h Area, indicated in Attachment 1.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

Regional Municipality of Durham

Engineering Services

5.0 Analysis

5.1 40 km/h Area Pilot Program

On May 12, 2022, City Council reviewed report [CNCL-22-37](#) - Neighbourhood Traffic Management Guide, which included the approval of the new 40 km/h Area Pilot Program outlined in section 5.6 of the Report. The Report noted that as part of the pilot program one 40 km/h Maximum Rate of Speed Area would be installed in each ward, and that locations will be determined in consultation with staff and the area ward Councillors.

On September 26, 2022 City Council reviewed report [CS-22-83](#) recommending the approval of an amendment to the Traffic and Parking by-law for provisions required to implement 40 km/h Areas. This included delegated authority for the Commissioner of Community Services (now Commissioner of Community and Operations Services) to implement ‘Maximum Rate of Speed Areas’. This authority is intended to implement the five areas that will be included in the 40 km/h Area Pilot Program.

Following the pilot program, staff will report back to Council in 2023 with a summary of results regarding the implementation of the first five pilot locations, and to outline a program for future implementation of 40 km/h areas throughout the City.

5.2 Regional Municipality of Durham

On October 27, 2021, Durham Regional Council reviewed report [2021-W-33](#) and approved the recommendation: “That the Uniform Regional Traffic Policy (URTP) be updated to permit posted speed limits of 40km/h on Regional Roads where appropriate.”

The report identified downtown Oshawa as an area under consideration for a 40 km/h posted speed limit. More specifically the following roadways and boundaries were considered:

- Centre Street (Regional Road 2A) from William Street to Bagot Street
- Simcoe Street (Regional Road 2) from William Street to Bagot Street

Centre Street and Simcoe Street are the only roadways under Regional jurisdiction that are within what is typically considered the downtown Oshawa boundary (‘downtown Oshawa’ does not have a formal boundary in this context).

5.3 Boundary Considerations

A map of the proposed Ward 4 – 40 km/h Area Pilot location is provided in Attachment 1.

To determine the proposed 40 km/h Area boundary for downtown Oshawa staff considered the following:

- The former downtown BIA boundary. Appended as Attachment 2.
- Input received from the Ward 4 Councillors
- Input from Regional staff and report [2021-W-33](#)
- The layout of the downtown road network to determine practical installation of 40 km/h Area Maximum Rate of Speed signage.
- The classification of roadways within the downtown including roadway jurisdiction (Regional or Local)
- Land use, for example:
 - Locating the southern boundary limit at John Street to include Memorial Park and the John Street Senior Community Centre.
 - Locating the northern boundary limit at Adelaide Avenue to include downtown residential neighbourhoods south of Adelaide Avenue within the boundary.

The exact area limits as indicated in Attachment 1 are subject to change based on detailed field review and sign placement constraints.

6.0 Financial Implications

The estimated cost to implement the proposed Ward 4 downtown 40 km/h Area, indicated in Attachment 1 is \$6,000.

As indicated in Section 6 – Financial Implications of Report [CNCL-22-37](#), The 40 km/h area pilot program can be funded by the 2020 Capital Project 20-74-0089 (Neighbourhood Traffic Management Projects).

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



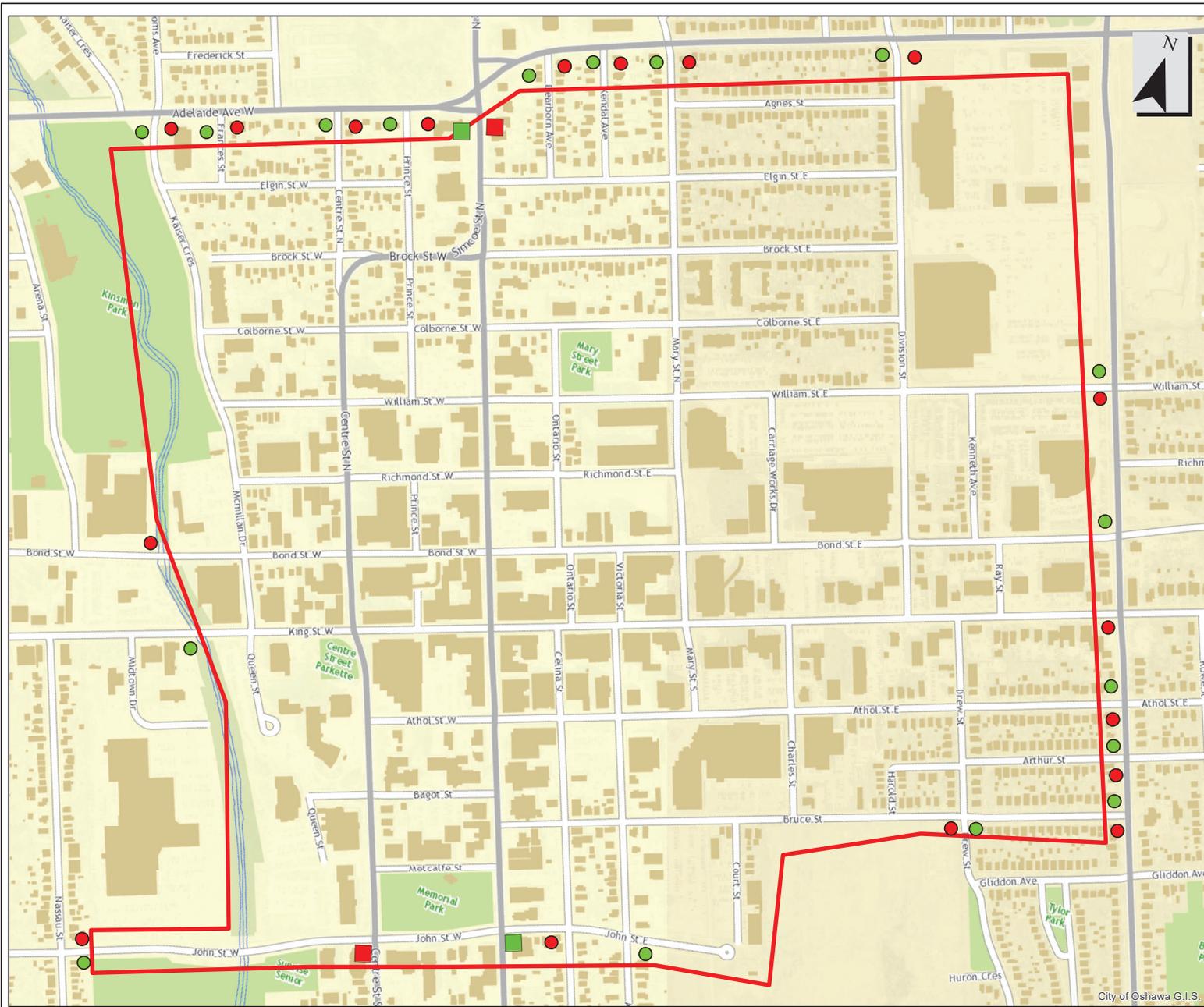
Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
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Downtown Oshawa Proposed 40 km/h Area

LEGEND

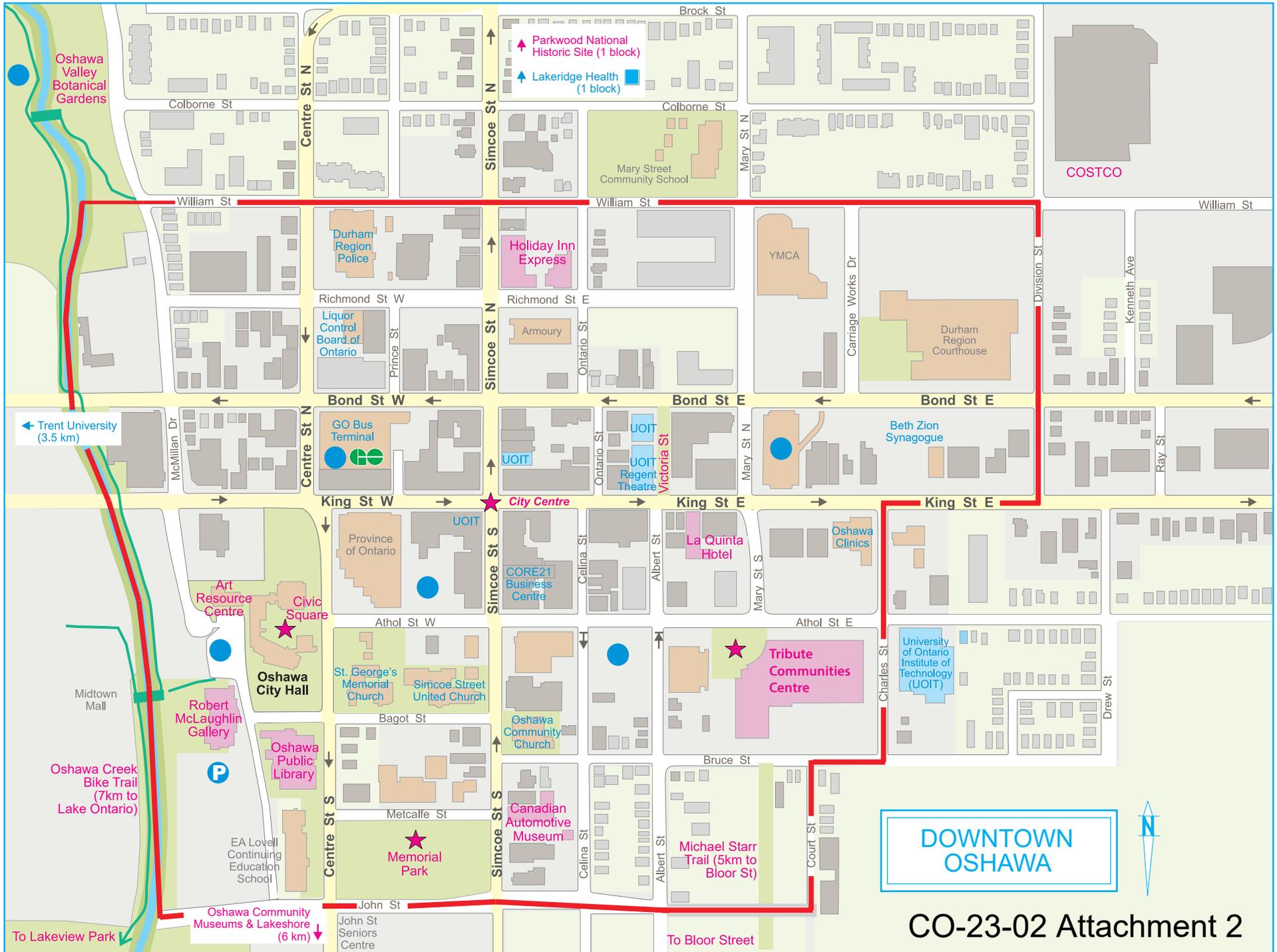


- City of Oshawa
- Region of Durham
- 40 km/h Area boundary



CO-23-02 Attachment 1

Note: Locations of boundary and signs are approximate



**DOWNTOWN
OSHAWA**

