

BYLAW 19-18 – AMENDMENT TO TRAFFIC BYLAW 10-10

Purpose

The purpose of Bylaw 19-18 is to ensure Council's decision to establish a speed limit of 40 km/hr unless otherwise posted is legislatively supported.

Readings

This bylaw is ready for three readings

Public Hearing and/or Public Engagement/Communication Strategy

n/a

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

At the October 13, 2015 Regular Council meeting, Council resolved to implement a 40 km/hr speed limit throughout Okotoks unless otherwise posted. An amendment to Traffic Bylaw 10-10 is required to ensure the speed reduction change meets provincial legislation.

Recent inquiries with the Provincial Crown Prosecutor confirm that a public facing bylaw and informational speed signage at all entries to our community would be the minimum standard accepted by the courts for successful prosecution of a speeding charge. These actions would also bring Okotoks in line with standard practices deployed by most municipalities in western Canada.

Section 108 of the *Traffic Safety Act 2000* provides Council the authority to create a bylaw prescribing speed limits and in so doing, provide authority to our Police and Peace Officers to enforce speed limits on roadways not currently displaying speed limit signs.

The Town has erected 40 km/hr speed signs on approximately 40% of public streets. With the proposed amendment to Traffic Bylaw 10-10, the only requirement for additional signage would be the posting of notification signs at all entrances or boundaries to Town advising the speed limit in Okotoks is 40 km/hr unless otherwise posted (see attached example). This process is already well underway and 11 entrances or boundaries have been identified for signage installation in the coming weeks.

As the Town of Okotoks continues to grow, this amendment to Traffic Bylaw 10-10 will support defensible speed enforcement activities without the additional costs associated with purchasing and installing signage on every street in town.

Please note that the proposed amendment would simply be phase 1 of a forthcoming comprehensive review of the traffic bylaw. The Speed Zones Map provided is included for reference and does not include newly annexed roads. Bylaw 19-18 would not affect any of these roadways, which are all appropriately otherwise posted.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input type="checkbox"/>	Manage Community Growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide Quality Community Infrastructure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintain Organizational Excellence

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide Strong Governance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Economic Vitality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote Environmental Stewardship

Alternatives for Consideration

Alternatively, section 109 of the *Traffic Safety Act* establishes the requirement to properly post a speed limit on every street within the municipality should a bylaw not be in place. This option is not reasonable or recommended, as signing every street within Town would be unsightly and cost prohibitive.

CAO Comments

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Attachment(s)

1. Draft Bylaw 19-18
2. Government of Alberta Recommended Practices
3. Speed Zones Map

Prepared by:
Kelly Stienwand
Municipal Enforcement Manager
January 25, 2018