



February 23, 2022

107-2022-328

His Worship Allan Thompson
Mayor
Town of Caledon
allan.thompson@caledon.ca

Dear Mayor Thompson:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and Councillors Kiernan, Early, Innis, Downey and CAO Labrecque at ROMA. I appreciate the ongoing concerns that you, your council and the residents you represent have expressed regarding the speed and operation of Highway 10 near Olde Base Line Road.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) have been working with your council and Town of Caledon staff to discuss how to address your concerns about speeding and red light running along Highway 10 at Olde Base Line Road, as well as your desire to install a red light camera at the intersection. I appreciate the issues raised and welcome the opportunity to respond.

Road safety is of utmost importance to the ministry and we consider safety issues very seriously. The ministry appreciates the town sharing concerns and observations regarding traffic operations along Highway 10 as well as the suggestions to address those concerns.

As you may recall, MTO undertook an Operational Performance Review (OPR) of the intersection of Highway 10 at Olde Base Line Road to investigate respective design criteria, collision history and experience, signing and potential influence of adjacent rural land uses on driver behaviour that was completed last spring. The ministry also reviewed the option of installing 'be prepared to stop when flashing' signs in advance of the intersection, as well as two separate assessments of operating speeds in response to the concerns regarding speeding on Highway 10 in the vicinity of Olde Base Line Road. As discussed at ROMA, the initial observations indicated that the posted regulatory speed limit of 80 km/h was appropriate for the highway given the nature of the existing roadside environments.

MTO will move forward with the adjustments to the traffic signal timing at the intersection, which was one of the recommendations highlighted in the OPR. The traffic signal timing will be changed to extend the duration of the amber phase. This work requires relocating the detection loops on the approaches to the intersection. The new equipment required to complete this work is currently in short supply. However, we plan to make the improvements this year when conditions are suitable. Once implemented, the traffic signal phasing will be adjusted to increase the length of the yellow phase of the signals. The yellow/amber extension allows additional time for vehicles to clear the intersection.

The ministry appreciates the Town of Caledon's recent suggestion to install transverse pavement markings approaching the intersection to try to reduce vehicle speeds. The ministry will move ahead to install the pavement markings this spring when weather permits. Similar pavement markings currently exist along the Highway 10 approaching King Street and Charleston Sideroad.

Additional sign enhancements will also be reviewed and developed by the ministry. An additional warning tab, which will notify drivers to prepare to stop when approaching the intersection is currently under development. The temporary installation of a vehicle activated traffic calming sign approaching the intersection will be considered. This temporary sign displays the speed of approaching vehicles.

The ministry will continue to work with Caledon staff to monitor this location and look to other provincial and municipal signs as per the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM), where it meets the warrants outlined in the OTM.

The ministry has installed 13 public education signs along the Highway 10 corridor that remind drivers to observe the posted speed limit and provide the *Highway Traffic Act* fines for speeding. We are also investigating the opportunity to provide targeted communication for direct safety messages to commuters and the trucking industry using Facebook ads or postal code mailouts. Discussions with Caledon to identify similar opportunities will be arranged.

The ministry is supportive of the Town of Caledon working with the Region of Peel to install a red light camera at the intersection of Highway 10 and Olde Baseline Road. The ministry shares the town's concern with aggressive driving and will work with the town to explore and discuss the opportunity of a red light camera at the intersection further. Education, enforcement, strict fines and demerit points all assist in reducing this potential behaviour as well. To make fines an even greater deterrent, the government increased the penalties for aggressive driving acts, including running red lights.

Traffic volumes across the province continue to be impacted by the pandemic and while steps have been taken toward economic recovery in the province, traffic volumes fluctuate daily. MTO will continue to monitor traffic volumes on Highway 10 including at the intersection with Olde Baseline Road and if the need for additional changes are identified, we will reach out to Caledon to explore opportunities.

Thank you once again for bringing these issues to our attention. I look forward to speaking with you again.

Sincerely,



Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transportation

- c. The Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP, Dufferin-Caledon
Lynn Kiernan, Town of Caledon Ward 1 Councillor
Christina Early, Town of Caledon Ward 2 Councillor
Jennifer Innis, Town of Caledon Ward 3 and 4 Councillor
Johanna Downey, Town of Caledon Ward 2 Councillor
Dan Labrecque, Town of Caledon CAO