Municipality of Tweed - Skootamatta Lane

COMPLAINT

As a result of the Hawkins Bay Bridge being closed local traffic has been rerouted using Skootamatta Lane. Local residents have raised a concern regarding the rate of speed vehicles are travelling.







INVESTIGATION

The matter was referred to the Central Hastings OPP for review. RM18170250 was generated for this incident. The speed spy data collection unit was deployed on August 24 to August 27, 2018 and then again on August 31 to September 2, 2018. Based on the complaints the speed spy was set up in the straight portion of the roadway where greater speeds could be achieved.

The municipality has assumed responsibility of Skootamatta Lane, erecting 40 km/h speed limits signs at the North and South end of the road.

Skootamatta Lane in this area travels in a north south orientation for 1.3 km and has a dirt and gravel road surface. The roadway has a rolling surface with several shape curves. The road is very narrow in most parts. The area is rural residential with open fields and several clustered residences. The posted speed limit of the road 40 km/h.

The data collected from the speed spy deployment on August 24 to August 27, 2018 is represented below:

Total Vehicles	281	
Number of Speeding	128	
Average Speed	39 km/h	
50th Percentile	40 km/h	
85th Percentile	49 km/h	
15-20 km/h above speed limit	8	
21 km/h or more above limit	9	
Highest Speed	73 km/h	

The data collected from the speed spy deployment on August 31 to September 2, 2018 is represented below:

Total Vehicles	179
Number of Speeding	55
Average Speed	35 km/h
50th Percentile	35 km/h
85th Percentile	45 km/h
15-20 km/h above speed limit	3
21 km/h or more above limit	3
Highest Speed	64 km/h
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ANALYSIS

The data collected during both time frame indicates that 460 motor vehicles travelled on Skootamatta Lane. The majority of traffic occurred between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm with the largest volume of traffic occurring between 11:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

During the August 24th to August 27th time period, 122 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds greater than 40 km/h. Of all the vehicles travelling in excess of the posted speed limit:

- 32 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 46 km/h and 50 km/h.
- 19 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 51 km/h and 55 km/h.
- 12 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 56 km/h and 65 km/h.
- 5 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 66 km/h and 75 km/h

During the **August 31st to September 2nd** time period 55 vehicles, were recorded travelling at speeds greater than 40 km/h. Of all the vehicles travelling in excess of the posted speed limit:

- 11 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 46 km/h and 50 km/h.
- 9 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 51 km/h and 55 km/h.
- 6 vehicles were recorded travelling at speeds between 56 km/h and 65 km/h.

Of the 460 motor vehicles recorded travelling on Skootamatta Lane during both time periods less than 5% were travelling at speeds that would cause concern. It is possible that due to the recent increase of motor vehicle traffic on this roadway citizens are perceiving speeds to be greater than what has been captured on the Speed Spy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is suspected based on the volume of traffic and time of use, the vehicles recorded are are local residents who would normally use the Hawkins Bay Bridge to travel to and from home.

A targeted response to this complaint over a short duration with follow-up random patrols should address the concerns raised by resident that reside on Skootamatta Lane.

The following recommendations are made related to this complaint:

The municipality should erect additional speed limit signs at intervals no more than every 600 meters along the length of Skootamatta Lane as outline in the Highway Traffic Act regulation 615 section 2(1) (a).

R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 615, s. 1; O. Reg. 339/09, s. 1.

2. (1) Subject to section 4, where a maximum rate of speed other than that prescribed by subsection 128 (1) of the Act is prescribed for a highway in a local municipality or built-up area, speed limit signs shall be erected on the highway, in each direction of travel,

(a) not more than 600 metres apart where the speed limit prescribed is 60 kilometres per hour or less

- The Traffic Management Officer (TMO) will conduct enforcement patrol during the identified times for a two week period.
- Detachment NCO's will assign zone officers to conduct direct patrol during the two week period;
 and
- The TMO will continue with random enforcement.

Staff Sergeant D. Ferguson 11071 Detachment Commander Central Hastings OPP

Attachments: 4 Speed Spy Graphs





