

Report To: Council

From: Diana Jiona, Director, Infrastructure

Meaghen Reid, Director, Legislative & Legal Services/Town Clerk

Date: March 17, 2025

Report No: COMS-001-25

Subject: Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Project Status Update

Recommendation: THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with the steps necessary to

implement a pilot Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) program, as

outlined in this report;

THAT Council authorize staff to enter into an agreement with the City of Toronto Joint Processing Center (JPC), for the processing of all ASE penalty orders (tickets) under the Administrative Penalty

System;

THAT Council authorize staff to enter into an agreement with the City of Toronto JPC Camera Vendor for the leasing, installation, and

operation of two ASE cameras;

THAT a budget increase in the amount of \$805,084 be approved within capital project C40013225, funded from the Project Variance

Account;

THAT staff be directed to bring forward any necessary by-law

amendments for consideration at a future Council meeting;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any necessary agreements with The City of Toronto JPC, the City of Toronto JPC Camera Vendor, the Ministry of Transportation (MTO), the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG), and any other government agency that may be required to implement an ASE

program;



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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- This report provides background information on ASE and an outline of next steps to achieve an anticipated go-live date of Q1/Q2 2026.
- Bill 65 authorizes municipalities to use ASE, also known as photo radar, to improve traffic safety in designated Community Safety Zones (CSZ) and School Zones.
- Implementing ASE is a road safety tool, with the goal of impacting driver behaviour in a positive way, to mitigate speeding and increase the safety of all road users.
- This is a follow up to report <u>COMS-006-24</u> where staff indicated that a "turnkey" solution would be explored and a Request For Information (RFI) would be released to the open market.
- Due to capacity restrictions at the only Joint Processing Centre (JPC) in operation at the time of the initial staff report, "turnkey" solutions were being explored, however the situation has changed, and the Toronto JPC now has capacity to manage ASE requirements in Milton.
- There are no "turnkey" solutions available at this time that meet the needs of Milton.
- To implement ASE, staff recommend a 4-year pilot program with the Toronto JPC.
  The Town of Milton will be required to enter into several agreements (processing
  center agreement, camera vendor, MTO, MAG) and will require traffic by-law updates,
  signage installation, and advance notice to the public.
- Implementation of ASE is expected to require a one-time cost of approximately \$70,000; ongoing annual costs of the program are anticipated to be in the range of \$2.0 million which are expected to be recovered through ticket revenue received.

### REPORT

### Background

Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) is a technology-based safety tool intended to address speeding and to supplement traditional speed enforcement. On May 30, 2017, the Province of Ontario passed Bill 65, the Safer School Zone Act. Bill 65 authorizes municipalities to use ASE, also known as photo radar, to improve traffic safety. The Bill allows municipalities to use ASE only in designated CSZs and School Zones. An ASE system captures and records images of vehicles travelling more than the posted speed limit in school zones and CSZs with tickets issued to the registered plate holder regardless of who was driving. As a result, this will result in a monetary fine, but no demerit points will be applied to the vehicle operator.

ASE is the third phase of the APS Program Expansion, as identified in Staff Report CORS-011-24.

Where Can ASE Be Utilized in Milton



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### Background

Under the Highway Traffic Act, Council may, via by-law, designate a part of a road under its jurisdiction as a CSZ. A CSZ is an area identified as a road segment of higher risk or concern. Certain Highway Traffic Act fines (including speeding) are doubled in CSZs. CSZs may only be implemented at the following locations:

- Elementary or secondary schools
- Senior centres and residences
- Community playgrounds
- High pedestrian traffic locations
- Community Centres
- Hospitals

There are currently 18 designated CSZs in Milton, as shown in Appendix I of this report. Currently the Town has reduced speed limits, during entrance, dismissal and nutrition break times, at schools across Milton. These reduced speed limit times are indicated using "School Zone Flashers" - i.e. speed limits are reduced when flashers are on. Several of the areas within these reduced speed zones are also CSZs, but not all.

Currently in Ontario, the following options exist to implement ASE:

- Partner with a Joint Processing Center (JPC)
- Engage with AMO/LAS for ASE implementation
- Engage a third-party vendor for a "turnkey" ASE solution
- Open a new processing center within the municipality

Within Halton Region, all other local municipalities have either entered into an agreement with the Toronto JPC already (Halton Hills and Oakville) or have council approval to enter into an agreement with the Toronto JPC (City of Burlington).

Fundamentally, implementing ASE is a road safety tool, with the goal of impacting driver behaviour in a positive way, to mitigate speeding and increase the safety of all road users.

#### Discussion

Further to Staff Report <u>COMS-006-24</u>, a request for information (RFI) was issued to the open market regarding a third party "turn key" solution to ASE. The following summarizes the key findings of this RFI:

• Six responses were received



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#### Discussion

- Solutions are not turnkey a third-party vendor cannot employ a Provincial Offenses Officer (POO), this must be an employee of a municipality
- There is ambiguity surrounding cost sharing agreements and revenue generation options exist for percentage share or daily fee pricing models; details were not available through the RFI process
- Of the six RFI responses, four vendors may be able to implement a "turnkey" solution, however there are a lot of unknowns regarding the feasibility of the implementation, technology requirements, and the cost sharing model
- It has been difficult to obtain feedback from municipalities who have engaged a thirdparty vendor for ASE implementation

In addition to the RFI, staff have had several discussions with the municipalities of Toronto, Brampton, and Ottawa, regarding their Processing Centers, and their ability to process ASE penalty orders for the Town of Milton. The following summarizes these findings:

- (a) City of Toronto
- Capacity to process up to 40,000 ASE tickets a year (with potential option to expand)
- Uses the Administrative Penalties System (APS)
- Shared a template JPC agreement with the Town of Milton
- Over 20 years experience running a JPC for red light camera tickets.
- Processing ASE tickets for almost 5 years
- Current agreement with camera vendor expires in July 2029
  - (b) City of Brampton
- Capacity to process more than 40,000 ASE tickets a year
- Uses the APS system
- Has not yet been able to share a template JPC agreement with the Town of Milton
- JPC has been in operation since September 2024, and has not yet processed tickets for other municipalities
- Current agreement with camera vendor is in the first year of a long-term contract
  - (c) City of Ottawa
- Capacity to process more than 40,000 ASE tickets a year
- Using the Provincial Offenses Act (POA) system with the goal of having APS in place at some point in Q4 2025
- Working towards being able to have other municipalities join their JPC in Q2 2025
- JPC in in operation since February 2024 and has not yet processed tickets for other municipalities
- Current agreement with camera vendor is in the first year of a 10-year long term contract



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#### Discussion

In addition, staff have reviewed the comprehensive report completed by the City of Brantford, on the options available for ASE implementation in Ontario, and their decision to move forward with the City of Brampton JPC (<u>City of Brantford Council Report</u>). Staff have also discussed ASE Implementation Plans with the other local municipalities in Halton Region; all local municipalities within Halton are either already engaged with the Toronto JPC, or plan to be within the next year.

As a result of both the RFI and the discussions with the cities of Toronto, Brampton, and Ottawa, staff recommend proceeding with a pilot ASE program with the Toronto JPC, for a four-year term that would align with the current term of Toronto's agreement with their camera vendor. This recommendation is supported by the following:

- JPC has been in operation for 20 years (for red light camera infractions), since 2020 for ASE processing, and is well established
- JPC is the only one in the province currently processing ASE tickets for other municipalities, using APS
- Capacity to process 40,000 penalties annually for Milton
- The existing camera vendor contract expires in 2029, aligning well with a proposed pilot term for ASE in Milton
- Template agreements have been shared with the Town
- The turnkey solution from third party vendors is relatively new in Ontario, and the RFI did not yield concrete details regarding cost sharing
- The Provincial Offences Officer (POO) (required to issue an ASE penalty) must be employed by a municipality - rendering the "turnkey" solutions not truly "turnkey"; with the JPC approach, the POO is employed by the municipality running the JPC (i.e. City of Toronto).

Staff would report to Council during the final year of the pilot, with a recommendation on how to proceed with ASE for the long term, as long-term operational needs should be fully understood at the end of the pilot program.

#### Next Steps:

To implement a pilot ASE program in Milton, there are several steps that need to be completed including but not limited to: data collection, review of agreements, privacy impact assessment, integration with existing software, communications plan, site selection, signage, etc.. Next steps and estimated timelines are included in Appendix II.

Based on workload associated with next steps, staff are anticipating a go-live date in Q1/Q2 2026 however timelines are subject to change based on status of agreement negotiations, third party vendor availability and testing of the different components.



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#### Discussion

It is recommended that two mobile cameras be installed for the pilot program. These mobile units would be in place for a period of no less than four months, before being rotated to another location. Staff will work to confirm the site rotations, in consultation with the camera vendor and based on speed data for the Community Safety Zones and School Zone areas in Milton.

As part of the first year tasks for the ASE pilot program, staff will work to confirm the best way forward in terms of establishing CSZs along the frontage of all schools in Milton, and what that will mean in terms of signage and speed limit modifications. At this time, it is not possible to operate ASE in areas where school zone flashers are in use/speed limits are reduced only during certain times of day. The work to confirm implementation sites will also need to consider those areas that have traffic calming implemented - based on a canvass of municipal partners and Ontario Traffic Council discussions, it is not generally recommended to implement ASE in areas where traffic calming (i.e. speed cushions) are in effect

It should be noted that there may be opportunity to expand the number of cameras during the pilot program, however staff are recommending starting with two (2) mobile cameras, for a minimum period of one year from the date of activation. Prior to expanding the number of cameras in operation, staff would confirm additional capacity with the Toronto JPC and seek Council approval regarding any associated budget amendments as required.

It must be noted that there are risks associated with almost every step of the implementation plan as not all factors are in the direct control of staff. Staff will provide an update to Council on the progress of the implementation plan in early Q4 2025.

### **Resource Requirements:**

Based on next steps, it is anticipated that additional staff resources will be required during the pilot program in Legal & Legislative Services (Screening Officers, Hearing Officer) and in Infrastructure (Traffic Technician). Funding for these contract positions are included in the capital program.

### **Program Costs:**

To enter into the ASE program, it is anticipated that the Town will incur a cost of approximately \$70,000 which represent a one-time fee to the Toronto JPC, legal support, updates to the Town's ticketing software, and initial set up of the two cameras.

The annual ongoing costs of the program include both a fixed cost component as well as costs that will vary depending on the number of violations and appeals. The fixed costs



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#### Discussion

include camera lease fees, software licensing, staffing, signage, advertising and postage. The variable costs include MTO licence plate look up fees, fees to the Toronto JPC, software ticket issuance costs and hearing officer costs. It is currently estimated that the ongoing annual costs of the program may be in the range of \$2.0 million which is expected to be recovered through ticket revenues.

### Financial Impact

The 2025 capital budget provides for funding in the amount of \$467,432 for the pilot implementation of ASE through capital project C40013225 - ASE Turnkey Solution. A further \$805,084 in funding is included in the 2026/27 capital forecast for a total project cost of \$1,272,516.

With the information known to date it is expected that there will be approximately \$630,000 in costs incurred in the ASE program in 2025. This includes both one-time costs as well as ongoing fixed and variable costs. While the ongoing costs are expected to be largely offset by ticket revenues once the program is established, in the first year of implementation the revenues will not yet be fully realized.

Staff recommend advancing the \$805,084 in ASE funding from the capital forecast into the 2025 capital project. This approach would result in no net impact on the overall 10 year capital forecast (as the forecast would be reduced in the development of the 2026 budget) but would ensure that sufficient funding is provided in 2025 for the initial implementation of the ASE program. The budget increase would be initially funded by the Project Variance Account but it is expected that a portion of this funding will be replaced by ticket revenues as the program becomes operational. Any changes in funding source will be reported to Council through the capital variance review process.

Throughout the pilot staff will monitor the costs and revenues of the ASE program within the capital project. This will inform the long-term operating impacts of the program that will be reported back to Council towards the end of the pilot.

Respectfully submitted,



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Doug Sampano Commissioner, Community Services

Kristene Scott Commissioner, Corporate Services

For questions, please contact: Diana Jiona, Director

Infrastructure

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### **Attachments**

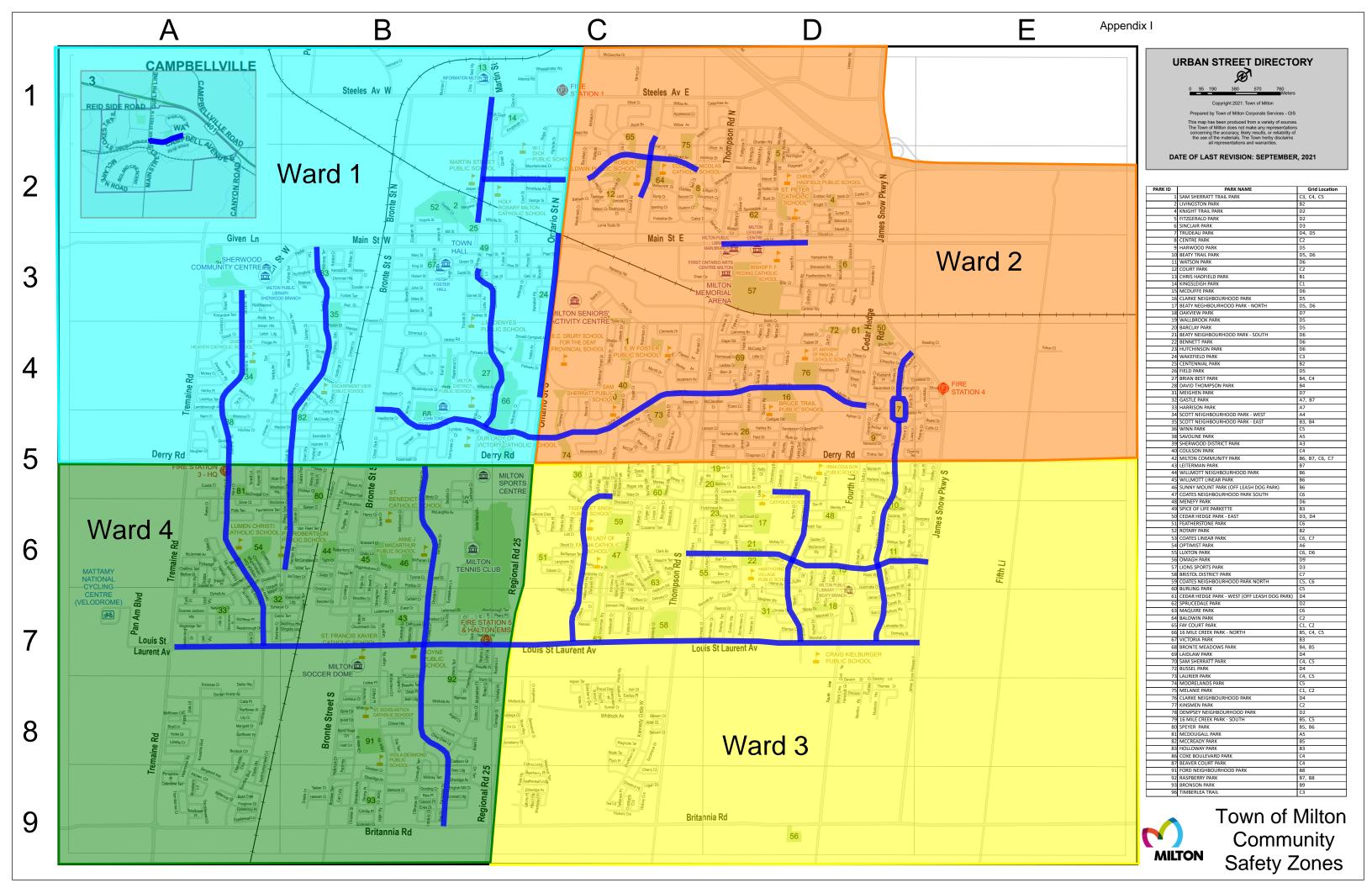
Appendix I - Community Safety Zone Map

Appendix II - Next Steps for ASE Implementation

Approved by CAO Andrew M. Siltala Chief Administrative Officer

### **Recognition of Traditional Lands**

The Town of Milton resides on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also recognize the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people. The Town of Milton shares this land and the responsibility for the water, food and resources. We stand as allies with the First Nations as stewards of these lands.



### Community Safety Zones by Ward

Ward	Roadway	From	То
1	Campbell Ave	Guelph Line	250m east of
	'	'	Wheelihan Way
	Commercial Street	Pine Street	Laurier Avenue
	Laurier Avenue	Bronte Street	Ontario Street
	Martin Street	Steeles Avenue	Millside Drive
	Ontario Street	50m north of Main	200m north of
		Street East	Laurier Avenue
	Savoline Boulevard	Main Street West	Derry Road
	Scott Boulevard	Main Street West	Derry Road
	Woodward Avenue	Martin Street West	Ontario Street
2	Laurier Avenue	Ontario Street	Cedar Hedge Road
	Main Street East	Thompson Road	100m east of
			Pearson
			Way/Harris
			Boulevard
	Ontario Street	50m north of Main	200m north of
		Street East	Laurier Avenue
	Trudeau Drive	James Snow Parkway	Derry Road
	Wilson Drive	250m north of	200m south of
		Woodward Avenue	Mackenzie Drive
	Woodward Avenue	Lorne Scots Drive	Maple Avenue
3	Clark Boulevard	Thompson Road	James Snow Parkway
	Ferguson Drive	Armstrong	Louis St. Laurent
		Boulevard	Avenue
	Louis St. Laurent	Regional Road 25	James Snow
	Avenue		Parkway
	Trudeau Drive	Derry Road	Louis St. Laurent
			Avenue
	Yates Drive	Holly Avenue	Louis St. Laurent
			Avenue
4		5 5	B ::
4	Farmstead Drive	Derry Road	Britannia Road
	Louis St. Laurent Avenue	Tremaine Road	Regional Road 25
	Savoline Boulevard	Derry Road	Louis St. Laurent
			Avenue
	Scott Boulevard	Derry Road	Dymott Avenue

Appendix II - Next Steps for ASE Implementation

Task	Description	Anticipated Timeline	Risks
Data Collection	Analyze existing speed data for CSZs and school zones, identify trends, to help inform ASE Site Selection	Q2 2025	Staff resources to update any outdated speed data
Agreements	Review Toronto JPC Agreement and Execute with City of Toronto	Q3 2025	Need MTO and MAG Agreements in place for this; MTO and MAG timelines are outside of the Town's control;
	Camera Vendor Agreement Executed	Q3 2025	
	MTO Agreement Executed (MTO agreement is required to allow for license plate look up to have penalty notices issued appropriately; and to address cost for this service);	Q3 2025	Need Privacy Impact Assessment completed prior to this; timelines of Information and Privacy Commission are outside of the Town's control;
	MAG Agreement Executed (MAG agreement is required to confirm Town's commitment to remit victim surcharge for each penalty notice, as required by legislation);	Q3 2025	Response time of Ministries post provincial election;
Privacy Impact Assessment	Prior to executing MTO agreement, MTO requires each municipality to complete a PIA for submission to Information and Privacy Commission of Ontario	Q2/early Q3 2025	Timelines of Information and Privacy Commission are outside of the Town's control; MTO has a checklist of requirements before they will enter into an agreement; some of these requirements depend on the camera vendor;
GTechna Integration	Meet with GTechna (current APS software provider) to confirm expansion capabilities and integration with JPC	Q3/Q4 2025	Reporting requirements for internal purposes (financial audit/tracking), and for MTO and MAG need to be confirmed; GTechna capacity, timelines and reporting tools to be confirmed;
Communication Campaign		Starting Q3 2025 and ongoing	
ASE Site Selection	Confirm initial two locations for cameras, and subsequent camera site plan for pilot	By end of Q2 2025 for initial locations; ongoing throughout pilot term for remainder.	Camera vendor needs to be involved/confirm sites; timeline of camera vendor is not entirely in Town's control; cost for signage modifications at existing school zones;
Coming Soon Signage	Required signage minimum of 90 days before ASE cameras are activated	By end of Q3 2025	Staff capacity to manage signage program, locates and subsequent installation;
Hire Required Resources	See Table 2 below - Screening Officers (3), Hearing Officer Contract, Traffic Technician	Q4 2025, Early 2026	
Activate ASE Cameras		Q1/Q2 2026	Camera testing with vendor; time of year/weather impacts for installation;

The above tasks outline the next steps required to have an ASE Pilot Program go live, with an activate timeline of Q1/Q2 2026. The timelines included above are estimated/target timelines, and are subject to change based on agreement negotiations, third party vendor availability and testing of the different components.