

Halton Region looking to install more red light cameras

By Julia Le
Metroland Media Group

Halton residents could soon see more red light cameras in Oakville, Burlington, Milton and Halton Hills.

Halton Region's planning and public works committee members approved the installation of five additional red light cameras across Halton provided next year's budget allows for it.

If Halton Regional council gives it the green light on Wednesday (Sept. 14), the cameras will be installed sometime in 2017 on Upper Middle Rd. at Sixth Line in Oakville; Guelph Line at Harvester Rd. in Burlington; Derry Road at Savoline Blvd. and Derry Rd. at Commercial St. in Milton; and, 10 Side Road at Eighth Line in Halton Hills.

Halton Region currently operates 12 red light cameras across the Halton, which has seen a 30 to 60 per cent reduction of angle type collisions, Planning and Public Works Commissioner Jim Harnum said in his report presented to committee members Wednesday (Sept. 7).

The Red Light Camera Program has proven to be a valuable tool in increasing road safety at intersections within Halton region, he said.

Councillors couldn't agree more and ques-

tioned why more cameras weren't being installed across the region.

I could use them all, many more than that, just in Oakville, said Oakville Mayor Rob Burton.

Harnum explained the Region is balancing resources and prioritizing which intersections are in need of red light cameras.

There is a cost to operate these and we're just trying to manage that resource, he said.

We currently have \$800,000 budgeted per year to operate these 17 cameras and we're just being mindful of the balancing of resources with the outcomes.

A camera wouldn't be efficient at every regional intersection. There's diminishing return with respect to the number of intersections we put red light cameras at, he continued.

Regional Chair Gary Carr noted he believes having more red light cameras will keep Halton safe.

It has prevented property damage, it's prevented injuries, it's prevented deaths, he said, adding the cameras work and deliver great results.

We should start thinking about increasing the number because you can't put a price on saving lives, Carr said.



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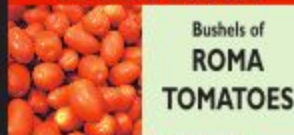
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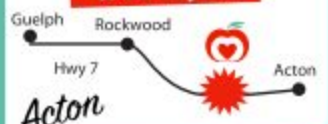
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