

Rural Milton roads are still haven for speeders: report

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

It appears that rural Milton continues to be a haven for speeders.

According to the 2005 State of the Regional Road System Report presented to the Region's planning and public works committee Wednesday, at least half a dozen segments of local rural road made Halton's top 20 list of high-speed locations.

They include:

- No. 20 Sideroad, west of Guelph Line.
- Guelph Line, north of Steeles Avenue.
- Derry Road, east of Milborough Line.
- Tremaine Road, north of Britannia Road.

Region staff has explained before that speeding is predominant in the rural area because

there are no indicators on rural roads for drivers to slow down, like parked cars or curbs.

The report also reveals that the majority of drivers in Halton are traveling between five and 20 km/h over the posted limits and the number of motorists who break the speed limit by more than 35 km/h has increased from zero per cent in 2004 to .5 per cent in 2005.

The document goes on to point out that traffic congestion, particularly along the east-west corridors in south Halton, continues to be problematic.

"Regional roads in south Halton such as Dundas Street and Upper Middle Road are experiencing levels of severe congestion during the peak periods," the report says.

"In north Halton, parts of Derry Road, Steeles Avenue, Ninth Line, Winston Churchill Boulevard and Regional Road 25

are experiencing moderate levels of congestion."

On a more positive note, it indicates that about 71 per cent of the regional road system pavement is considered to be in satisfactory or good condition.

The report also analyzes Community Safety Zones, which have increased fines for speeding, that've been set up on Guelph Line in Brookville and Maple Avenue in Georgetown. It concludes that the measure has "little or no effect when it comes to dictating an appropriate speed within these zones."

Despite the finding, the committee went on to support maintaining the zones on Guelph Line and Maple Avenue.

The matter will go before regional council Wednesday.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@milton-canadianchampion.com.

Driver charged in crash that killed cyclist

A 30-year-old Grimsby man has been charged in connection with the death of an OPP officer who was sideswiped by a truck while cycling on Tremaine Road.

Sgt. Gregory Stobbart, a 45-year-old Burlington resident, was killed June 6 when a five-ton pick-up truck approaching from behind attempted to

pass him on Tremaine, near Derry Road.

Stobbart was struck by the right side mirror of the truck, which caused him to hit his head on the vehicle. He died later that day of head injuries.

Stobbart was an 18-year veteran of the OPP.

The 30-year-old driver of the truck has been charged with careless driving.

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