



Committee of the Whole

Meeting Date: February 11, 2025
Submitted by: Chris Traini, County Engineer/Deputy CAO
Subject: New Traffic Signals on Middlesex County Roads

BACKGROUND:

Each fall several intersections are investigated to determine if the installation of new traffic signals is warranted.

ANALYSIS:

It has been the policy of the County of Middlesex to install traffic signals when traffic counts at intersections meet the minimum warrants as established by the Ministry of Transportation in the Ontario Traffic Manual. These warrants include minimum vehicle volumes, delays to cross traffic, accident hazards and minimum pedestrian volumes.

None of the intersections examined in the fall of 2024 came close to the warrants with regards to pedestrian volumes or collision hazards. Typically vehicle volumes and delays to cross traffic are the most significant factors when determining whether traffic signals are warranted on Middlesex County roads.

Many people have the misconception that the installation of traffic signals improve safety or help to eliminate vehicular collisions. In reality, installation of traffic signals where they are not warranted can actually lead to an increased number of collisions and with greater severity.

Please note that all previously approved traffic signals (in this case the intersections of Melbourne Road & Glendon Drive and Longwoods Road & Carriage Road) are already included in the capital program and will be installed in 2025.

The results of this year's intersection investigations are as follows:

County Road 2 (Longwoods Road) and County Road 3 (Gideon Drive)

Traffic volumes at this intersection fall below the thresholds for consideration for traffic signal installation at this time. It is likely that the ongoing construction of the roundabouts at Gideon Drive & Oxford Street West in London and at Glendon Drive & Vanneck Road & Jeffries

Drive may have had an impact on traffic in Delaware and staff will review this intersection again in the near future.

County Road 16 (Ilderton Road) and County Road 17 (Nairn Road)

County staff have been monitoring this intersection for a number of years and traffic has grown very slowly. This intersection was one of the first to have the enhanced rumble strips installed and traffic collisions due to driver inattention to the stop signs appear to have been eliminated. Traffic signals are not warranted at this intersection at this time.

County Road 16 (Plover Mills Road) and County Road 23 (Highbury Avenue North)

This intersection is in the settlement area of Bryanston but total traffic volumes here fall well below the levels where traffic signal installation would be recommended.

County Road 39 (Napperton Road) and County Road 45 (Pike Road)


The County is planning to undertake road reconstruction around this intersection in 2026 and a traffic count was undertaken to determine if traffic signals should be installed as part of this project. This location still falls well below the threshold where traffic signal installation would be recommended, and it is unlikely traffic will grow significantly in the short term and will not align with the planned road reconstruction works.

County Road 73 (Elgin Road) and County Road 25 (Gore Road)

Traffic volumes including a higher component of commercial traffic continue to grow in this area north of Dorchester. While traffic along Gore Road has increased volumes along Elgin Road remain relatively static and fall well below the recommended thresholds for traffic signal installation at this time.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

This report aligns with the following Strategic Focus, Goals, or Objectives:

Strategic Focus	Goals	Objectives
Connecting Through Infrastructure 	Ensure communities are built on a sustainable foundation that is connected and thriving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to a sound asset management strategy to maintain and fund critical infrastructure • Use County infrastructure in an innovative way to provide a seamless service experience for residents

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the New Traffic Signals on Middlesex County Roads report be received for information.