

NEWS RELEASE

Speed Reduction on Rural Roads Coming Soon in Niagara-on-the-Lake

For Immediate Release

August 21, 2025

As approved by Council in July, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is lowering the maximum speed limit on all Town-owned rural roads from 80 km/h to 70 km/h beginning the week of August 25, 2025.

This change is part of the Vision Zero initiative, which aims to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities on local roads by creating safer conditions for residents, cyclists, tourists, and farm vehicles.

New signage will be installed by Town Staff, with Niagara Regional Police Services beginning enforcement once the change is in effect.

"Niagara-on-the-Lake is a unique community, with rural roads that are used year-round by residents, cyclists, farm vehicles, and those coming to experience our Town," said Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. "I extend thanks to my fellow Council members for approving this meaningful step to enhance safety for all who travel throughout Town."

"I want to thank Staff for their thorough work in researching and recommending this change," said CAO Nick Ruller. "Research shows there's a strong link between speed and the severity of crashes, with even a 10% drop in speed can cut fatal collisions by as much as 40%. Bringing forward opportunities like this helps Council make informed decisions that strengthen safety and quality of life for everyone in Niagara-on-the-Lake."

Read the <u>Rural Road Speed Limit Reduction and Traffic By-Law Amendment</u> Recommendation Report.

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