



NEWS RELEASE

Niagara-on-the-Lake Implements 40km/h Speed Limit on All Town-Owned Local Roads

For Immediate Release

January 13, 2026

Niagara-on-the-Lake is moving forward with the implementation of its Urban Speed Limit Policy, following Council approval at the November Council meeting (Report OPS-25-022).

The policy establishes 40 km/h as the default speed limit on all Town-owned urban local roads, while maintaining the 30 km/h speed limit in the Chautauqua neighbourhood as a permanent measure. The speed limit reduction reflects the Town's continued commitment to Vision Zero, a road safety approach aimed at eliminating serious injuries and fatalities.

Urban local roads in Niagara-on-the-Lake are shared by pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, transit vehicles, delivery traffic, and other road users. Lower speeds help reduce the severity of collisions and create safer conditions for everyone who uses these roads.

The changes are being introduced through a phased rollout from January through March as follows:

- **January:** St. Davids and Queenston
- **February:** Old Town
- **March:** Glendale and Virgil

A one-year pilot project in the Chautauqua neighbourhood, where speed limits were reduced from 50 km/h to 30 km/h, was well received by residents. Community feedback and traffic data indicated increased safety and comfort, particularly on narrow roadways without sidewalks, prompting Council to approve the 30 km/h limit as a permanent measure.

Speed limit signage is currently being finalized and will be installed in alignment with each phase. To increase driver awareness, "NEW" tabs will be displayed on signage for the first 90 days, and enforcement will begin in coordination with the Niagara Regional Police Service. The cost of signage installation is fully funded through Vision Zero funds received from the Niagara Region, resulting in no additional cost to taxpayers.

Quotes:

"Lower speeds give drivers more time to react and significantly reduce the severity of collisions. This change is about protecting our road users and creating safer, more livable neighbourhoods in our community." — **Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa**

"Research shows that even a 10% reduction in speed can reduce fatal collisions by as much as 40%. This initiative aligns Niagara-on-the-Lake with neighbouring municipalities that have already implemented similar speed reductions and supports consistent driver expectations across jurisdictions." — **CAO Nick Ruller**

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Media Contact:

Marah Minor, Corporate Communications Lead
905-468-3266 | communications@notl.com

