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Sawmill Valley Drive and Peter Hall Drive Sight Distance Review

Information Report

Report Number: INFO-2025-21

Department(s): Public Works Services

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In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any member of Council may make a request to the Town Clerk that this Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to outline the findings of the sight distance review at the intersection of Sawmill Valley Drive and Peter Hall Drive, and to recommend measures to enhance safety.

Background

At its Council meeting on September 15, 2025, Town Council requested that staff examine the sight lines at the intersection of Sawmill Valley Drive and Peter Hall Drive. The following recommendation was adopted:

That Staff be directed to review the sightlines of the existing stop sign at the intersection of Sawmill Valley Drive and Peter Hall Drive and report back to Council with any recommendations.

The intersection of Sawmill Valley Drive and Peter Hall Drive is a controlled intersection with all-way stop control.

Terry Fox Public School and Dr. Margaret Arkinstall Park are located north of the intersection, and a horizontal curve is located approximately 70 m west of the intersection.



Discussion

A review was conducted at the intersection to assess sight distance for all approaches. It was observed that eastbound drivers have limited sight distance when approaching the intersection due to the curve. No advance warning signs are currently installed to alert drivers of the upcoming stop condition.

To improve driver awareness and allow adequate time to prepare for a stop, a “Stop Ahead” (Wb-1) sign will be installed in advance of the intersection for eastbound traffic on the west leg.

The review also confirmed that other approaches at the intersection have adequate sight lines, and no additional measures are required at this time.

Furthermore, urban shoulders are planned to be added along Sawmill Valley Drive when resurfacing work is undertaken in 2026. The addition will encourage vehicles to travel closer to the centreline, contributing to traffic calming effects and improved overall sight lines, resulting in a safer street environment.

Consultation

The review was completed in accordance with the guidelines of the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM), including Book 6 – Warning Signs, and other applicable standards.

Conclusion

Sight distance is currently limited for eastbound drivers approaching the intersection. To address this, a Stop Ahead sign will be installed in advance of the intersection. No sight line issues were identified for other approaches.

The future addition of urban shoulders on Sawmill Valley Drive will further enhance safety by improving alignment, calming traffic, and providing better visibility for all road users.

Council Priority Association

This report aligns with the following Council Priority: Extraordinary Places and Spaces

Human Resource Considerations

None.

Budget Impact

Funds for the required signage would come from the Signs – Public Works line from the Operating Budget. The cost would be approximately \$300.00 for the required signage. There are sufficient funds in this account to cover the cost.

Attachments

None.

Approval for Distribution

Mark Agnoletto, Director, Public Works Services

Peter Noehammer, P. Eng, Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Report Contact

For more information on this report, contact info@newmarket.ca.