



Town of Gibsons

Community Dialogue Session Glassford Road Improvements

OVERVIEW

Date: February 28, 2023

Location: Gibsons Public Market

Attendance: Approximately 60 people, 4 members of Council (Mayor White, Councillors De Andrade, Croal, Thompson, and Lumley), and 2 staff members who were there to answer questions and take notes.

Overview:

- Robbie Lew and Fugiou Lu from Urban Systems presented a PowerPoint presentation on the history of Glassford Road and two proposed designs, followed by a questions and answers period.
- Attendees were given a survey to fill out at the event, take home, or fill out online.
- Mayor White expressed his regret for the long drawn-out process and apologized that a resolution had still not been found.

THE FOLLOWING DESIGN OPTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

Design Option A: proposes closing Glassford Road north of Blain Lane. The design includes breakaway posts that would not impede emergency vehicle access and two (2) speed humps at the north end of Glassford Road near Gower Point Road.

Design Option B: proposes leaving Glassford Road open. The design includes five (5) speed humps and reduces the speed limit to 30 km/h along Glassford Road.

NOTES ABOUT THE DESIGNS

Four-way stop signs

Stops signs are not recommended for this area because they are used for higher volume traffic areas where people are coming from all directions. In this case, a four-way stop sign may result in non-compliance where people may ignore the signs, speed up after slowing down, etc.

Sidewalks

Sidewalks and curbs have a higher price point, so they weren't considered for this project. The Town is looking for an immediate and cost-conscious solution.

*It was suggested that a gravel sidewalk should be considered, using Franklin Road as an example.

Speed humps

Speed humps are an economical solution that when combined with speed limits, result in improved speed reduction.

No through signs need to be moved.

This will be addressed.

Other items that need to be considered

- Coordination with Fire Department
- Bylaw Compliance

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS EXPRESSED FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTS:

**Please note that this is just a highlight of the discussion and is not a complete list.*

- Don't pave Blain because it will increase traffic.
- Let's look at putting a Franklin Road style sidewalk along Glassford.
- Streetlights should be added to the road for better visibility at night.
- Since there is no shoulder or sidewalk, people don't feel safe walking along the road.
- The snow has led to a pile-up since plows can't get to it, resulting in seniors and people with mobility issues not being able to get through.
- Closing Glassford Road has increased traffic on surrounding roads, such as Gower Point and Dogwood.
- People speed down Glassford and then turn around when they realize they can't get through.
- Glassford is used as a commuter route for people coming from the ferry trying to get across town.
- Speed humps could be dangerous at night because of poor visibility.
- Staff reports are not accurate and don't reflect the whole neighbourhood.
- Blocking off Glassford Road has led to a better sense of community.
- Franklin Road sidewalks are not good because cars stick out into the path, cars park on the road and buses can't get by, and snowplows can't plow the path.
- This issue has not been treated as a community problem and doesn't look at the area as a whole.
- Stop signs should be added.
- The road must work for all users.

- Redirecting the traffic is just making it someone else's problem.
- There will be generational changes on the road so those kids will grow up and become the people speeding down the road.
- Beachcomber road is now worse off and needs to be made safe.
- No through signs at barricades need to be moved.
- People come speeding through the road like it's a highway and it's not safe.
- It's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt.
- Stops signs need to be enforced.