

The County of Peterborough

County Council

To: Warden and Members of Council

From: Peter Nielsen, Manager, Engineering and Design

Date: January 4, 2017

Subject: Amendment to Load Limits on Bridges By-law No. 2015-79

Recommendation:

Whereas inspections of County structures have demonstrated the need to maintain/establish load restrictions for vehicles passing over certain bridges to be regulated through the endorsement of a County By-law necessary to limit the gross vehicle weight of any vehicle passing over a bridge;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Clerk be directed to prepare a By-law to amend By-law 2015-79 to that effect and that the Clerk be directed to notify the Ontario Provincial Police, School Boards and affected agencies.

Financial Impact:

Cost to replace signage expensed to operating accounts.

Background:

Inspection Process for County Bridges

Municipalities across the Province of Ontario are required to inspect each bridge every two years as mandated under Ontario Regulation 104/97, "Standards for Bridges".

The MBADES (Municipal Bridge Appraisal Data Entry System) report for the Westwood Bridge identified the need to complete a detailed deck condition survey which was completed in 2015.

The deck condition survey report for the Westwood Bridge prepared by Jewell Engineering found that the bridge deck appeared to be in fairly good condition, however, replacement of the bridge should be considered due to its age (built in 1937) as part of life cycle analysis.

Jewell Engineering also recommended at that time that a structural evaluation of the bridge is completed to determine if a load restriction would be required.

The structural evaluation was completed in 2016 and the recommendation is that the County should consider closing the bridge and should schedule the bridge for replacement within the next 5 years

Until the bridge is replaced, Jewell Engineering recommends that a 5 tonne maximum load limit restriction be established for the Westwood Bridge which is located on Centre Line in Asphodel/Norwood and that the

Analysis

Under the current By-law, fourteen (14) bridges have load limit restrictions in effect.

This By-law amendment will reflect the addition of one (1) bridge to the list of bridges that are subject to load limit restrictions, as follows:

Bridge No.	Bridge Name	Action
099021	Westwood Bridge	New 5 tonne maximum load restriction

Similar to regulatory speed limits on County roads, this By-law regulates the gross weight of a vehicle that may pass over a designated bridge. It is the responsibility of vehicle operators to safely operate their vehicle in compliance with the posted load restriction (ie. it is the law).



This standard regulatory sign designates the maximum permitted gross vehicle weight for every vehicle type including single vehicle units (ie. snow plow), combination of two vehicles units (ie. a tractor and trailer) and a combination of three vehicle units (e.g. a tractor and two trailers).

Upon endorsement by Council, the new By-law will be circulated to interested agencies, municipalities and the Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (school bus company).

Recommendation:

The recommendation contained in this report is that Council direct the Clerk to prepare a by-law to maintain/establish restrictions for the weight of vehicles passing over certain County bridges as listed in Schedule to the By-law.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Nielsen, C.E.T.
Manager, Engineering & Design

