

**From:** [Mochrie, Paul](#)  
**To:** [Direct to Mayor and Council - DL](#)  
**Cc:** [LaClaire, Lon](#); [City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL](#)  
**Subject:** Council Memo - School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot Results - RTS# 14598  
**Date:** Monday, May 27, 2024 3:39:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [ENG - Council Memo - RTS 14598 - School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot Results.pdf](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached Council Memo from Lon LaClaire regarding **School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot Results**. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- This memo provides an update on the School Slow Zones on Arterials pilot
- In spring 2023, speeds were lowered at nine elementary schools to 40 km/h on non-MRN arterials and 30 km/h on collector roads.
- Speed data and parent feedback was collected to evaluate the pilot impacts. Overall, modest speed reductions were observed and parents expressed strong support for keeping the reduced speed limits.
- Based on the positive results, staff recommends expanding the speed reductions in school zones adjacent to non-MRN arterials and collector streets to all remaining schools.
- Using funds from the Growing Communities Fund, staff plans to implement 10 schools zone speed reductions per year for the next three years.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyám (Musqueam), Sḵwǝwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

## MEMORANDUM

May 23, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC  
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office  
Trevor Ford, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Lon LaClaire  
General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot Results

RTS #: 14598

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This memorandum is an update on the School Slow Zones on Arterials pilot and next steps.

### Background

In spring 2023, staff implemented a pilot to lower the speed limits next to nine elementary schools. Arterial streets changed to 40km/hr 8am-5pm school days and collector streets changed to 30km/hr 8am-5pm school days for all pilot locations. The pilot included signage and paint changes, an education campaign, and data collection.

### Pilot Results

Speed data was collected before and after the pilot to determine impacts on vehicle speeds. A complete list of pilot locations and their results can be found in Appendix A. A summary of the changes is below:

- Vehicle speeds at most locations reduced moderately. Average vehicle speeds decreased up to 13% and 85th percentile speeds decreased up to 14%
- Similar speed reductions were seen when the speed limit was reduced from 50 km/hr to 30 km/hr or to 40 km/hr

- Locations with higher initial speeds had greater speed reduction impacts
- Reductions in speeds were observed at all times of the day despite speed limits only being in effect during school hours.
- Speed reduction effects did not appear to reduce between the one month, six months, or one year mark of the pilot.
- Speed limit paint stencils six months into the pilot increased the speed reduction effects.

Surveys were also sent out to the parents of participating schools regarding their perceptions of safety. Over 380 families responded to the survey and the key findings are as follows:

- The majority of parents (92%) were in favour of keeping the reduced speed limits.
- About 70% expressed that the pilot had made the streets safer.
- About half of the parents felt more likely to use active modes when travelling to school.
- A key theme that emerged from the general feedback question was that there was a strong interest in more enforcement of speed limits around schools.

The total cost to implement the signage and paint changes was approximately \$10,000 per school. No major concerns regarding impacts to transit, goods movement or emergency services were raised by partner agencies after the pilot was implemented.

### **Next Steps**

Given the positive results identified in this pilot and as part of the Vision Zero goals, staff will:

- Make the new speed reductions at existing pilot locations permanent.
- Expand the practice of reducing speeds in school zones on non-MRN arterial and collector streets to all relevant schools, prioritizing locations with higher existing speeds.
- Continue to monitor existing locations to identify and implement further speed management measures where speeding remains a concern.
- Using funding allocated from the Growing Communities Fund, implement speed reductions at 10 school zones per year for the next three years.
- As part of next phases for an update Vision Zero Strategy, develop policy around speed reductions on other types of streets in the City.

A list of the planned 2024 School Slow Zone on Arterials locations can be found in Appendix B.

I trust this memo provides an update on the School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot and informs Council on the upcoming work to expand this pilot to other locations. Please contact me directly if you have any questions.



Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
General Manager, Engineering Services

604.873.7336 | [lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)

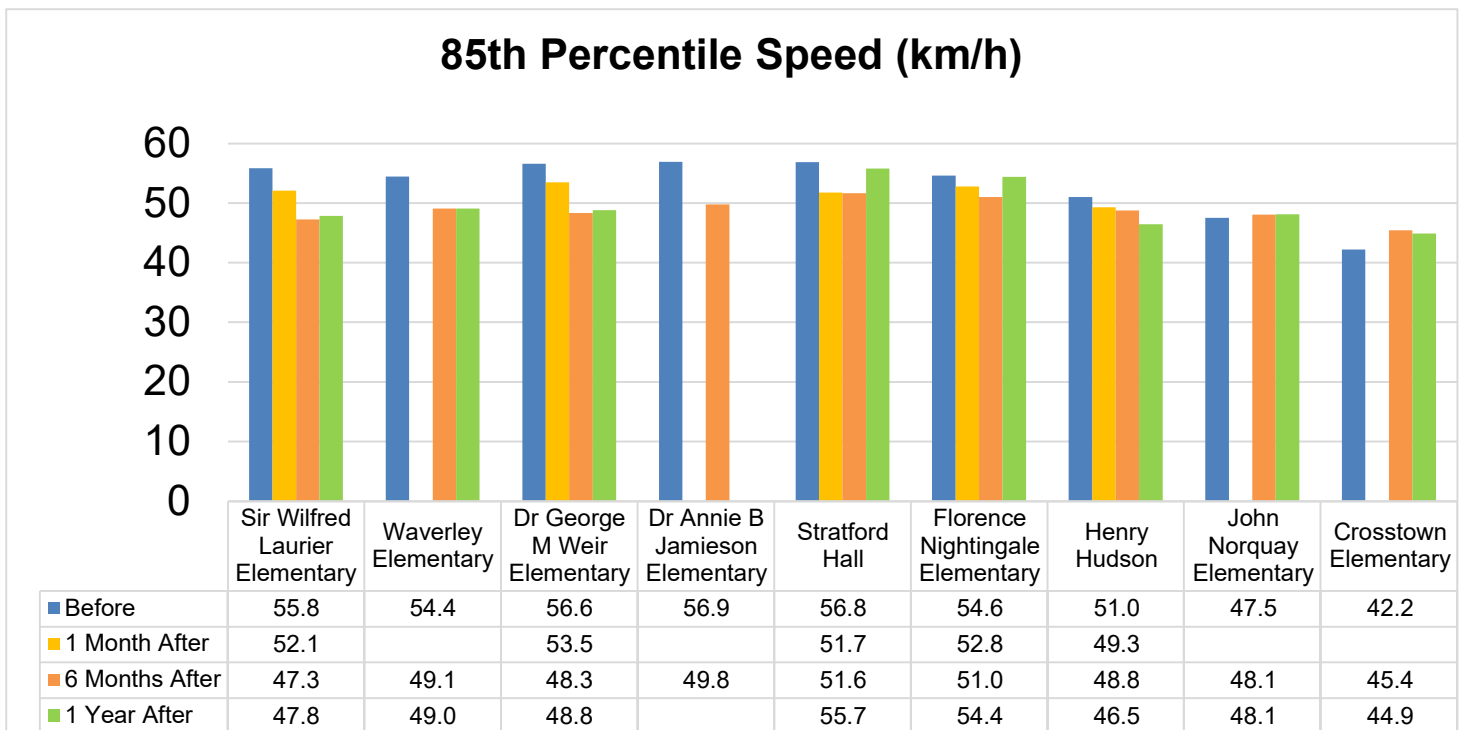
# Appendix A. School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot Locations and Results

Table 1. 2023 School Slow Zones on Arterials pilot locations

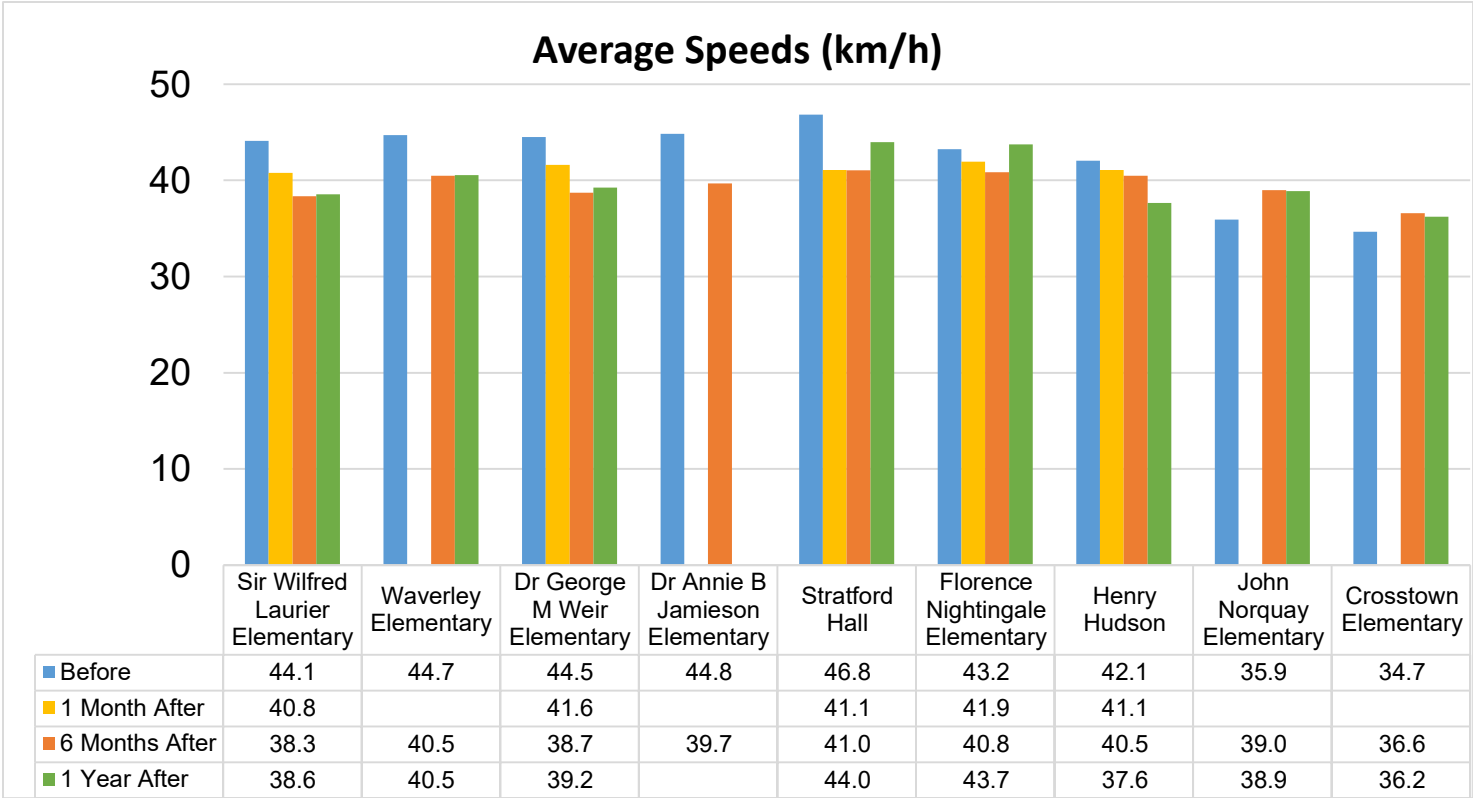
School	Location	Lanes per Direction	Street Classification	Bus or Truck Route
Sir Wilfred Laurier Elementary	800 W 57 <sup>th</sup> Ave	1	Collector	No
Waverley Elementary	6100 Elliot St	1	Collector	Bus Route
Renfrew Community Elementary	3300 E 22 <sup>nd</sup> Ave & 3800 Rupert St	1 & 2	Collector & Arterial	Bus & Truck Route
Dr. Annie B Jamieson Elementary	600 W 49 <sup>th</sup> Ave	1	Secondary Arterial	Bus Route
John Norquay Elementary	4600 Slocan St	1	Secondary Arterial	Bus Route
Florence Nightingale Elementary	400 E 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave	2	Secondary Arterial	No
Dr. George M Weir Elementary	5900 Rupert St	2	Secondary Arterial	Bus Route
Stratford Hall	3000 Commercial St	2	Arterial	Bus Route
Henry Hudson Elementary	1900 Cornwall St	2	Arterial	Bus Route
Crosstown Elementary	100 Expo Blvd	3 (one-way)	Arterial	Bus and Truck Route

Figure 1. Before and after overall speed results

(a) 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speeds



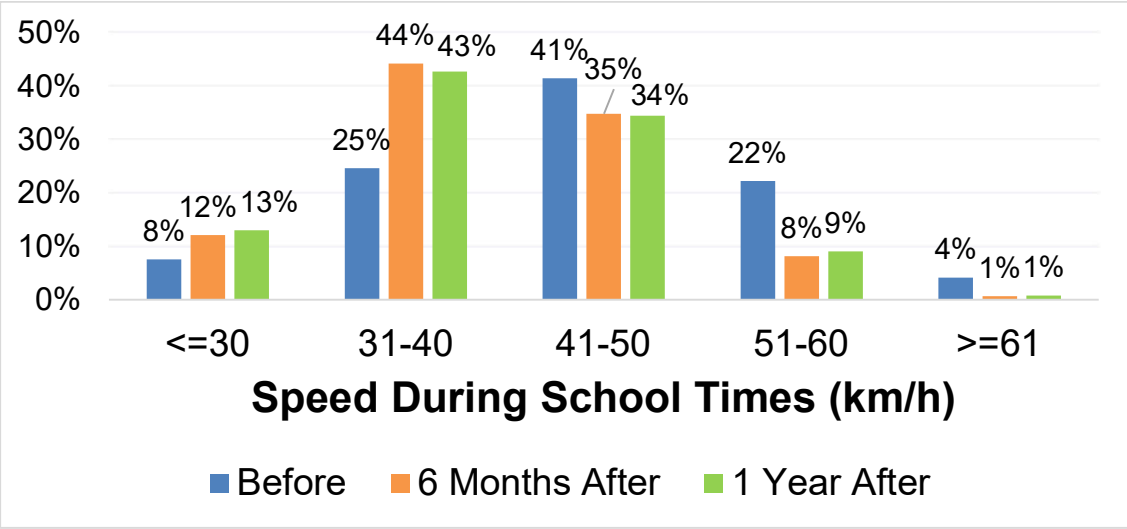
(b) Average Speeds



\* Only select pilot schools had speed data captured at the one-month mark.  
 \*\* One-year data for Annie B Jamieson Elementary will be collected after road works on 600 W 49th is completed.  
 \*\*\* Sir Wilfred Laurier Elementary and Waverly Elementary had 30km/hr speed limits reduction, the rest of the pilot locations had a 40km/h speed limit.

**Figure 2. Before & after speed limit compliance**

(a) Schools with 30 km/h speed reduction



(b) Schools with 40 km/h speed reduction

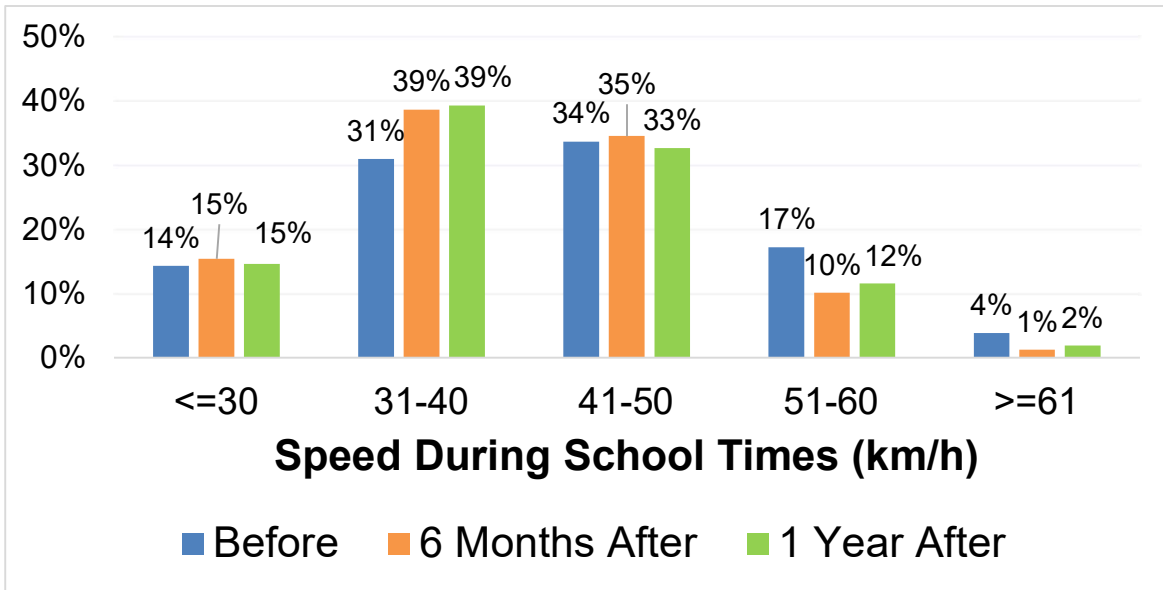
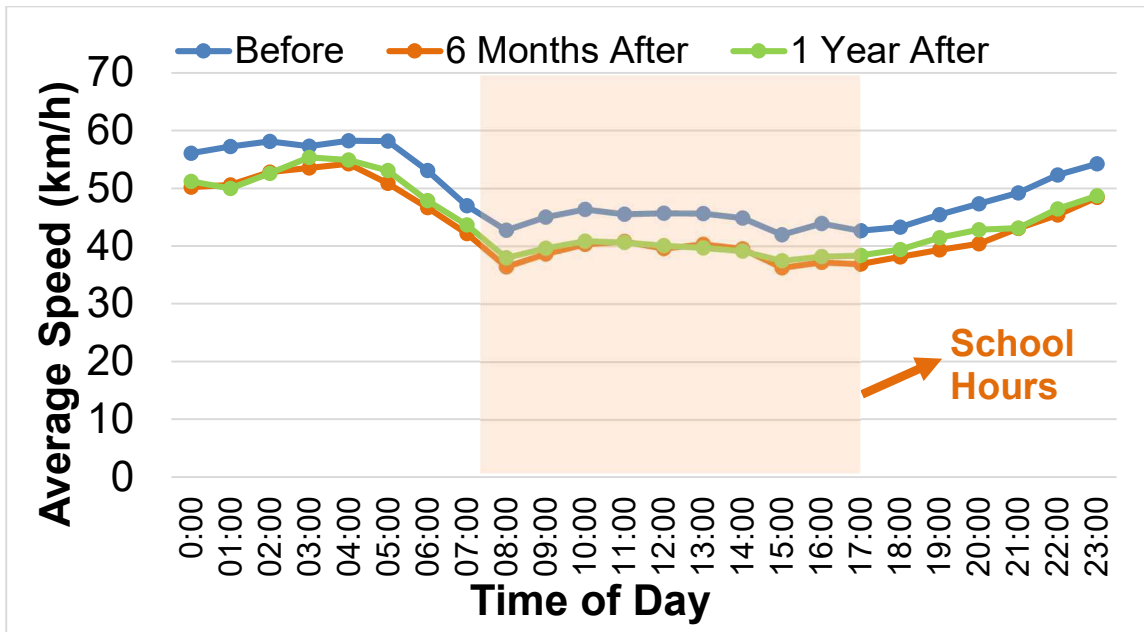


Figure 3. Speed results by time of day at Sir Wilfred Laurier Elementary



\*Similar results observed at all pilot schools

## Appendix B. 2024 School Slow Zones on Arterials Locations

*Table 2. 2024 School Slow Zones on Arterials locations*

School	Location	Lanes per Direction	Street Classification	Bus or Truck Route
Charles Kingsford Smith Elementary	6700-6900 Elliot St	1	Collector	Bus route
	2500 E 54 <sup>th</sup> Ave	1	Collector	No
Sir Jamie Douglas Annex Elementary	7600 Argyle St	1	Collector	No
Captain Cook Elementary	3300 E 54 <sup>th</sup> Ave	1	Arterial	No
Sir Wilfred Grenfell Elementary	4500- 4600 Rupert St	1	Arterial	Bus & Truck Route
Lord Byng Secondary Jules Quesnel Elementary Queen Elizabeth Elementary	3900-4200 W 16 <sup>th</sup> Ave	1-2	Arterial	Bus Route
Nootka Elementary	3300-3400 Renfrew St	1	Arterial	Bus Route
Queen Mary Elementary Pacific Spirit School	4200-4300 W 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave	1-2	Arterial	Bus & Truck Route
Renfrew Elementary	3700 Rupert St	1	Arterial	Bus & Truck Route
	3000 E 22nd	1	Collector	Bus Route
Shaughnessy Elementary Little Flower Academy York House School	1500- 1600 W King Edward Ave	1	Arterial	Bus Route
Lord Kitchener Elementary	3300-3400 W King Edward Ave	1	Arterial	Bus Route