

From: ["van Dyk, Donny"](#)

To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)

Date: 1/21/2026 9:07:24 AM

Subject: Memo - School Zone Speed Limits

Attachments: Memo - School Zone Speed Limits.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Acting GM Jimmy Zammar regarding School Zone Speed Limits. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- The City has updated school zone 30 km/h speed limits on local residential streets from school hours to 24/7, and has introduced reduced speed limits on arterial and collector streets adjacent to schools through the [School Slow Zones on Arterials Program](#).
- Signage installation on local street school zones is substantially complete (approximately 90%) and is expected to be finalized by March 2026.
- Since 2023, the School Slow Zones on Arterials Program has delivered 33 school zones covering 40 schools, with eight additional zones planned in 2026 and implementation at all remaining eligible locations targeted by the end of 2027.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jimmy Zammar at 604-871-6880 or jimmy.zammar@vancouver.ca.

Thanks,
Donny

Donny van Dyk (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱m̱ ḵ y̱ m̱ (Musqueam), S̱ w̱ w̱ ú̱ 7̱ mesh (Squamish), and s̱ ḻ ḻ w̱ ṯ a̱ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

January 20, 2026

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Donny van Dyk, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief of External Relations
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: Jimmy Zammar
Deputy General Manager, Engineering Services

SUBJECT: School Zone Speed Limits

RTS #: N/A

This memo provides an update on the current status of school zone speed limits across the City of Vancouver.

Background

The City has progressively expanded the use of reduced speed limits in school zones as part of its ongoing commitment to improving road safety.

In 2020, Council amended the Street and Traffic By-law to remove time-of-day and day-of-week restrictions in school and playground zones on local residential streets, making them 30 km/h at all times, subject to updated signage. <https://council.vancouver.ca/20200707/documents/r2.pdf>

In parallel, recognizing ongoing interest for lower speeds on higher-volume streets adjacent to schools, the City initiated the [School Slow Zones on Arterials Pilot](#) in March 2023 at nine school locations. The pilot reduced speed limits on arterial and collector streets adjacent schools during school hours. The pilot demonstrated positive results, including modest reductions in operating speeds and strong support from school communities. Based on these outcomes, staff proceeded to make School Slow Zones on Arterials an ongoing program, with phased expansion to remaining school locations.

Current Speed Limits on School Zones

School zone speed limits are implemented using a consistent, system-wide approach based on street context and function.

On local residential streets designated as school or playground zones, a 30 km/h speed limit is in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in accordance with the amended Street and Traffic By-law. Installation of updated regulatory signage is substantially complete, with the majority of locations now signed to reflect the 24/7 limit. A small number of school locations (approximately 10%) remain to be completed due to the large number of sites citywide.

On arterial and collector streets adjacent to schools, reduced speed limits are implemented through the [School Slow Zones on Arterials Program](#) and are in effect during school hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. school days). Under this program:

- Speed limits on arterial streets are reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h; and
- Speed limits on collector streets are reduced from 50 km/h to 30 km/h.

The program continues to expand annually, prioritizing remaining school locations on non-Major Road Network (non-MRN) arterial and collector streets. Since 2023, a total of 33 School Slow Zones covering 40 schools have been implemented. Eight additional School Slow Zones are planned for 2026, and implementation at all remaining eligible school locations is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2027.

Next Steps

Staff will continue work to complete the rollout of updated regulatory signage on residential streets to reflect the 24/7 school and playground zone speed limits established through the 2020 by-law amendment, with completion targeted by March 2026. In parallel, staff will continue implementation of the School Slow Zones on Arterials Program, with remaining eligible locations planned for installation in 2026 and 2027.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions with respect to this information.



Jimmy Zammar, M.A.Sc., M.Sc., PMP
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