

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

December 9, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANTIGONISH COUNTY CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION BY PROVINCE AT TRUNK 4 AND BEECH HILL ROAD INTERSECTION

Following an emergency meeting on December 9, 2019, Antigonish County Municipal Council has issued an immediate call to action to the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to modify the intersection at Trunk 4 and Beech Hill Road.

“This has become a major safety concern for the travelling public and something has to be done immediately” said Warden Owen McCarron. “Our Council has been advocating to the Province for two years for improvements at the intersection. Given recent serious accidents, Municipal Council feels immediate action is necessary.”

Municipal Council is calling on the Province to immediate measures including:

- Making this intersection a four-way stop using portable signals for the interim;
- Reduce the speed approaching the intersection with warning signage; and,
- Install rumble strips in all directions approaching the intersection.

Municipal Council is further calling on the Province of Nova Scotia to accelerate plans to complete the permanent redesign of the intersection in the of Spring 2020. The resolution of Council is attached.

This intersection is a serious threat to the safety of the travelling public and it is time that the Province steps in to protect the safety of residents and travelers.

On December 8th following the most recent accident, the Municipality called for an emergency meeting of Municipal Council for December 9th at 5:30pm. During the emergency Council Meeting, presentations were given by Sergeant Warren McBeath of the Antigonish RCMP Detachment, Allan Kennedy, Chief of the Antigonish County Volunteer Fire Department and Basil Pitts, TIR Area Manager.

During the meeting, multiple members of the public provided emotional recounts and demonstrated the trauma being felt by the community caused by this dangerous intersection.

Municipal Council wishes to express deepest condolences to the family of the gentleman who lost his life and everyone who has been affected by accidents at this intersection. A sincere thank you to all first responders who have been responding to the accidents in this area.

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MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
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Resolution

WHEREAS the Trunk 4 and Beech Hill Road intersection is under the jurisdiction of the Province of Nova Scotia;

AND WHEREAS there have been approximately 18 accidents at the intersection of Trunk 4 and Beech Hill Road since January 1, 2017, including a fatality, numerous other serious injuries, and many more near-misses;

AND WHEREAS Municipal Council has requested, on numerous occasions and in a variety of mediums, for action to be taken by the Province to improve the safety of this intersection;

AND WHEREAS the Province has indicated that Trunk 4 and this intersection have been studied and are scheduled to be redesigned starting in 2021/2022;

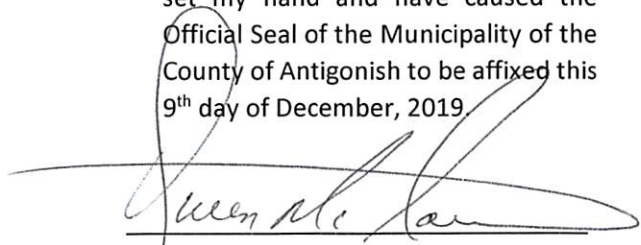
AND WHEREAS this intersection is an ongoing and serious threat to the safety of the travelling public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish calls on the Province of Nova Scotia to take immediate action to modify this intersection by:

- Making it a four-way stop using portable signals;
- Reduce the speed along Trunk 4 approaching the intersection and adding warning signage; and,
- Install rumble strips in all directions approaching the intersection.

AND BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipality of the County of Antigonish calls on the Province of Nova Scotia move the planned rebuild of this intersection ahead to Spring 2020.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish to be affixed this 9th day of December, 2019.



Owen McCarron
Warden of the Municipality of the
County of Antigonish