

## Introduction

- Setting Speed Limits at the appropriate level improves safety and efficiency while also reducing driver frustration. The last provincial speed limit review was undertaken in 2003. Since that time billions of dollars have been invested to upgrade most of the major corridors in British Columbia. As well, newer vehicles have more safety features. Because of these changes, a fresh review of speed limits is necessary.
- Input from the public will be sought through a series of community forums around the Province as well as through social media.
- The review will take into account the latest research from around the world, as well as the specific characteristics of B.C. highways, such as the highway geometry, local land use (the driving environment) and the volume and mix of traffic.
- In addition, the review must address other critical issues such as Keep Right Except to Pass, the use of Slow Vehicle Pullouts and reducing Wildlife collisions.
- The review will bring forward a series of practical recommendations for implementation in Spring 2014.

### **Part A: Speed Limit Review**

- For highway corridors, outside of municipalities, where it is identified through public and government input that speed limits should be examined, a technical review will be undertaken and recommendations will be made.
- The review will consider the feasibility of seasonal speed limits, speed limits by vehicle type and nighttime advisory speeds for wildlife.

### **Part B: Review of Keep Right Except to Pass and Slow Vehicle Pullouts**

- Vehicles impeding other vehicles, (e.g. in the left lane, recreational vehicles, when towing, etc.) reduce efficiency and cause driver frustration. The reviews will examine various means of getting slow drivers to move out of the way. Best practices in legislation, signing, public education enforcement and availability of pull out facilities will be reviewed with a view to discourage slow moving vehicles impeding others. Highway corridors will be identified to implement the revised practices.

### **Part C: Wildlife Collision Review**

- Wildlife on the highway can pose a serious hazard to motorists in British Columbia. The review will identify what practices could be implemented to reduce wildlife collisions and on which highway segments. Examples of key areas for examination are better advisory signs, wildlife advisory speeds and the use of advanced technologies to detect wildlife

The outcome of the review will be recommendations for speed limit adjustments to specific highway sections as well as recommendations related to improving vehicle flow and preventing wildlife collisions.

## Work Plan Overview

The project consists of separate but related work plans for each of the three components. The reviews will proceed concurrently; the recommendations will be finalized March 2014 with implementation of accepted recommendations commencing in the Spring of 2014.

## Methodology

The work plan further divides each component of the overall project into 3 overarching activities:

1. Identify specific corridors for review
  - The results of public and government consultation will form the basis for moving forward with the technical review components of the project.
  - Feedback from public, stakeholder, and internal Ministry staff consultation and a review of existing technical data will determine which corridors are investigated further
2. Technical review of the selected corridors
  - The technical review components of the project will involve items such as speed surveys, geometric design review, collision data analysis, and review of other jurisdictions' practices
3. Development of recommendations

## Deliverables

For key milestones throughout the project, a brief technical memo will provide an update and summary of results at that stage of the project. These technical memorandums provide an opportunity for discussion and allow alteration to the project, if necessary. The technical memorandums will form the basis for the final report to be delivered in March 2014.

## Resources

The project will be delivered by internal Ministry staff with assistance of a communications consultant as required for public consultation. The broad and wide-reaching nature of the assignment will require staff involvement throughout the province, particularly with regards to identification of corridors for review and technical components such as conducting speed surveys. The public consultation components of the project will be carried out in community forums and social media .

## Work Plan Layout

The basic structure of the work plan is outlined in bullet format below. Tables beginning on Page 4 outline the structure of the work plan in more detail in combination with timelines, including deliverable dates.

### **Part A: Speed Limit Review**

1. Identify Rural Highway Corridors for Review
  - a. Public Consultation
    - General Public Engagement via Community Forums and Social Media
    - Stakeholder Consultation – BCTA, BCAA, ICBC, RCMP etc
  - b. Ministry Staff Consultation
2. Technical Review of Selected Corridors
  - a. Speed Surveys (85<sup>th</sup> % Speeds)
  - b. Geometric Design Review
  - c. Safety Performance Analysis
  - d. Use of Seasonal, Night-time or Vehicle-specific speed limits
3. Recommendations
  - a. Identification of corridors for potential speed limit adjustment

### **Part B: Keep Right Except to Pass/Slow Vehicle Pullouts**

1. Identify Rural Highway Corridors for Review
  - a. Public Consultation
    - General Public Engagement via Community Forums and Social Media
    - Stakeholder Consultation– BCTA, BCAA, ICBC, RCMP
  - b. Ministry Staff Consultation
2. Technical Review
  - a. Review of Current Legislation
  - b. Review of Best Practices from Other Jurisdictions
3. Recommendations

### **Part C: Wildlife Collision Review**

1. Identify Rural Corridors for Review
  - a. Public Consultation
    - General Public Engagement via Community Forums and Social Media
    - Stakeholder Consultation– BCTA, BCAA, ICBC, RCMP, UNBC, etc.
  - b. Ministry Staff Consultation
2. Technical Review
  - a. Review of Wildlife Collision Data
  - b. Review of Wildlife Collision Mitigation Strategies from Other Jurisdictions
3. Recommendations

### **Part D: Final Report Preparation**

1. Final report will:
  - a. Summarize public input, technical reviews and recommendations from each review
  - b. Present a proposed implementation strategy that will highlight specific, practical improvements for select corridors such as speed limit adjustments, signing changes, new wildlife crash mitigation measures to pilot, etc.

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Task	
<b>Part A: Speed Limit Review</b>	
<b>A-1</b>	<b>Identify Rural Highway Corridors for Speed Limit Review</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Public Consultation via Social Media and Community Forums</li> <li>b) Stakeholder Consultation</li> <li>c) Ministry Staff Consultation</li> <li>d) Compile and analyse results of consultation process</li> </ul>
★	List of Corridors for Technical Review
<b>A-2</b>	<b>Technical Review of Speeds on Selected Corridors</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Speed Surveys (Determine 85<sup>th</sup> % Speeds)</li> <li>b) Geometric Design Review</li> <li>c) Safety Performance Analysis</li> <li>d) Review of the applicability of seasonal speed limits, speed limits by vehicle type and night-time speed limits on the selected corridors</li> </ul>
★	Summarize Technical Results for Each Corridor
<b>A-3</b>	<b>Speed Limit Recommendations</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Develop recommendations for corridors for speed adjustment based on results of consultation and technical review</li> </ul>
★	Summary of Speed Limit Review Recommendations

★ = Key Milestone and Technical Memorandum Deliverable

Task	
<b>Part B: Keep Right Except to Pass / Slow Vehicle Pullouts</b>	
<b>B-1</b>	<b>Identify Rural Highway Corridors for Further Review</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Public Consultation via Social Media and Community Forums</li> <li>b) Stakeholder Consultation</li> <li>c) Ministry Staff Consultation</li> <li>d) Compile and analyse results of consultation process</li> </ul>
★	List of Corridors for Technical Review
<b>B-2</b>	<b>Technical Review</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Review of current legislation</li> <li>b) Review of best practices from other jurisdictions including signing, public education, enforcement and use of pullout facilities</li> <li>c) Identify highway corridors to implement revised practices</li> </ul>
★	Summarize technical findings and possible matches to corridors identified in Part B-1
<b>B-3</b>	<b>Keep Right Except to Pass / Slow Vehicle Pullout Recommendations</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Develop recommendations for revised practices to discourage slow moving vehicles from impeding others</li> <li>b) Develop recommendations for improvements to existing and future pull outs</li> <li>c) Recommend corridors to implement technical recommendations (e.g. signing changes or pullout construction or modification)</li> </ul>
★	Summary of Keep Right Except to Pass / Slow Vehicle Pullout Recommendations
★ = Key Milestone and Technical Memorandum Deliverable	

Task	
<b>Part C: Wildlife Collision Review</b>	
<b>C-1</b>	<b>Identify Rural Highway Corridors for Further Review</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Public Consultation via Social Media and Community Forums</li> <li>b) Stakeholder Consultation</li> <li>c) Ministry Staff Consultation</li> <li>d) Compile and analyse results of consultation process</li> </ul>
★	List of Corridors for Technical Review
<b>C-2</b>	<b>Technical Review of Wildlife Collisions</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Review of wildlife collision data (provincial overview as well as more in-depth look at corridors identified in Part C-1)</li> <li>b) Review of wildlife collision mitigation strategies from other jurisdictions including night-time speed limits, improved advisory signage, emerging technologies</li> </ul>
★	Summarize Technical Findings – Collision Analysis and Possible Mitigation Measures
<b>C-3</b>	<b>Wildlife Collision Recommendations</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Recommend corridors to implement mitigation measures</li> </ul>
★	Summary of Wildlife Collision Review Recommendations

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<b>Part D: Final Report Preparation</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Compile feedback from technical memorandums throughout project</li> <li>b) Conduct any further analysis required resulting from feedback</li> </ul>
★	Prepare Draft Report for Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Final report will summarize the findings from public consultation, technical reviews and recommendations</li> <li>b) Present proposed implementation plan with specific, practical improvements for select corridors</li> </ul>
★	Final Report Completion

★ = Key Milestone and Technical Memorandum Deliverable