

# KITCHENER NEIGHBOURHOOD SPEED LIMIT PROJECT

The City of Kitchener has begun reducing speed limits to **40 km/h in all residential neighbourhoods**, including near your school.

Within these areas, **school zones will be reduced to 30 km/h**.

Signs indicating the new 40 km/h limit are being installed at the entrances to each neighbourhood, designating a network of local roadways within the entrance points that are all 40 km/h; an approach known as “gateway” signage.

**All neighbourhoods within the city will be converted to the lower speed limit by end of 2023.** Major city roads and all regional roads will remain at their current speed limit.

The City evaluated the effectiveness of lowering speed limits by running a pilot project in three residential neighbourhoods. The pilot showed that reducing speed limits, coupled with education and engagement efforts, reduced the average operating speeds by 3km/h (7%). Data collected in school zones showed a 4.8km/h (12%) reduction in average operating speeds.

After speeding was identified as a top concern among residents, the City conducted a study of all collisions in Kitchener over the past five years. Although 95 per cent of collisions were between vehicles, **collisions between a vehicle and a pedestrian or cyclist were the cause of 70 per cent of collision-related serious and fatal injuries**. In a collision between a vehicle travelling at 50 km/h and a pedestrian, the likelihood of survival of the pedestrian is only 15%. This survival rate increases to 70% if the vehicle speed is reduced to 40 km/h. The survival rate increases to 90% if the vehicle speed is reduced to 30 km/h.

More information about this project can be found at [kitchener.ca/speedlimit](https://kitchener.ca/speedlimit).

**For more information, please contact:**

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