



April 7, 2021

Regarding Report Number TS-04-21

Hello Folks,

We are pleased to present to you our thoughts on this report as it pertains to Lowville Park and Lowville Park Road.

- We are all in agreement of the gates and the reservation system to be in place as soon as possible. During the winter months and presently the park easily meets 75% capacity on weekends which indicates that as the summer approaches there will be increased traffic and parking problems
- For the past year there has been no parking on Lowville Park Road. We would recommend that this continues permanently. This decision is based on a new parking lot with clearly defined parking, a gate and reservation system as well as a turn around area that in combination will eliminate the need for parking on Lowville Park Road. The “No Parking” signage should be adjusted so that all signage is at the same height and evenly spaced as needed to avoid any confusion.
- Speeding on Lowville Park Road continues to be a problem. The current speed limit is 30 KPH. Perhaps consideration could be given to have this reduced.
- Under the assumption that there will be no parking on Lowville Park Road it would be interesting to consider a lane reduction just past the new turn around. This could be created with seasonal planters along with signage indicating no parking beyond this point and Local Traffic only. The results might be that speeding is reduced as the road appears to be shorter as well as the reduction in people driving to the end of the road only to turn around as they find there is no parking. (This last action is usually where the speeding takes place.)
- It is our understanding that the second layer of paving will be installed this season and as such it may be necessary to add funding to the annual costs for signage and advertising outlined on page 10. We are assuming the parking lot will be closed during the paving operations and will require similar actions to last year’s paving closure.



The following are our thoughts and questions that relate to the operational components of the recommendations:

The Gates and reservation system....

- Would it be possible for us to receive the findings of last year's pilot project?
- We are questioning the need for evenings 3pm to 8pm to be staffed and the gates operational. Our current observations find these times are not a problem.
- We would recommend that weekends should include Friday from 3pm to 8pm with the addition of all Holidays as well.
- Could you provide us with some clarification as to how the gate system works? What happens at 8pm – do the entrance gates close as not to allow anyone in? Is the park officially closed then?
- We are assuming that when the gates are down there is still a way for police and emergency services to bypass or open the gates.
- Last year there were many days where people could not get into the park as all reservations were booked, however the parking lot was almost empty. This was in fact the case when we had a meeting at the park with the Mayor last year. It seems there were no ramifications if someone did not show up for their reservation. There was also the opportunity for the same vehicle to book consecutive times in the park, allowing them to be there all day. Will the new system take these types of flaws into account?

Regards,

Walt Rickli, Janet McNally, Stephanie Oldfield & Judie Starchuk