

**Region of Queens Municipality Police Advisory Board
Thursday, November 13th, 2025
3:00 p.m.**

Agenda

Present:

Councillor Vicki Amirault, Chair
Don Kimball, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor Maddie Charlton
Kate Wong, Recording Secretary
Willa Thorpe, CAO
Andrew Francis
Cst. Andrew Winsor

Regrets:

Elaina Gaetan
Councillor Roberta Roy

1.0 Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Amirault, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:13p.m and opened the meeting by acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

2.1 November 13th, 2025 Police Advisory Board Agenda

Moved by Deputy Mayor, Seconded by Don Kimball;

THAT the Police Advisory Board approve the November 13th, 2025 Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interests

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest

4.0 Approval of August 14th, 2025 Minutes

4.1 August 16th, 2025

Moved by Don Kimball , seconded by Andrew Francis;

THAT the Police Advisory Board approve the August 14th, 2025 minutes as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5.0 New Business

5.1 Town Hall Feedback

Councillor Amirault discussed how there were reoccurring concerns raised during the Town Hall sessions, including issues at the Liverpool Skate Park, the operation of e-bikes and e-scooters, speeding, and supports for vulnerable residents in remote areas.

Skate Park, E-Bikes and E-Scooters

Constable Winsor reported concerns unsafe use of e-bikes and e-scooters at the Liverpool Skate Park and on sidewalks, particularly along Bristol Avenue. He reviewed how e-bikes and e-scooters are defined under the Motor Vehicle Act and noted that some youth had been operating high-powered electric dirt bikes on roads and sidewalks. Following education and enforcement at the local school, these bikes are no longer in regular use.

He also noted challenges related to gas-powered bicycle engine kits, which fall outside current legislation and pose safety and noise concerns. A municipal bylaw was suggested as a better tool for regulation.

The committee discussed sidewalk use versus roadway use for scooters on Bristol Avenue, acknowledging safety issues due to narrow lanes and heavy traffic. Allowing sidewalk use in limited areas, supported by signage and expectations for reduced speed, was considered, though enforcement of speed limits may be difficult.

Bylaw 12 – History and Update

CAO Thorpe and Constable Winsor reviewed the history of Bylaw 12, originally adopted in the 1990's to restrict skateboarding in downtown Liverpool. The bylaw is now viewed as outdated and overly restrictive. The committee agreed that the bylaw should be modernized to remove outdated skateboard provisions and incorporate clear regulations for e-bikes, e-scooters, and similar devices, with attention to the skate park, sidewalks, and high-traffic areas.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Don Kimball:

THAT the Police Advisory Board of Region of Queens Municipality recommend Council direct staff to research and present options for updating Bylaw 12, including the removal of overly restrictive provisions related to skateboarding, and the development of clear, enforceable provisions regarding operation of e-bikes and e-scooters

AND THAT the resulting options and proposed amendments be brought back to the Police Advisory Board for review prior to being forwarded to Council.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Speeding and Traffic Enforcement

Members noted that speeding remains a common concern across several communities, including Liverpool, Caledonia, and Labelle area. Constable Winsor reported that the Traffic Services Unit has been deployed more frequently within Queens County, and targeted enforcement projects are underway, including planned operations in North Queens. He noted that while increased enforcement may generate mixed reactions from residents, these efforts are intended to enhance safety and improve the visibility of traffic enforcement across the region.

Support for Vulnerable Residents in Remote Areas

A question raised at the North Queens Town Hall asked whether supports exist for vulnerable individuals living alone in remote areas, and whether

any type of registry or system is available for proactive wellness checks. Constable Winsor explained that the RCMP conduct wellness checks when concerns are reported by family, neighbours, or service providers, and will forcibly enter a residence if necessary to ensure safety. However, these checks are reactive and do not prevent situations where individuals may go unnoticed for an extended period. CAO Thorpe noted that following the Town Hall, she connected the resident who raised the concern with Shelly Walker to explore community-based supports. The committee discussed the value of community “phone trees” or regular check-in systems, the financial barriers many seniors face in accessing medical alert devices, and the potential for existing programs to help offset costs. Members highlighted the importance of strengthening community networks to identify and support vulnerable residents before situations escalate into emergencies.

6.0 Correspondence

6.1 ATV use in Labelle area

Councillor Amirault presented a letter from David Brown regarding ATV use and speeding in Labelle. Constable Winsor confirmed that the area is patrolled, though its remoteness makes it resource-intensive, and noted that a growing year-round population has led to increased complaints. He explained that RCMP policy prohibits pursuits of ATVs and dirt bikes due to the risk of serious injury, limiting enforcement options. Effective enforcement relies on residents reporting incidents in real time and being willing to provide statements or testify, as charges are difficult without a complainant. The committee acknowledged these limitations and emphasized the need for continued public education on how residents can support enforcement by reporting concerns and cooperating when they feel safe to do so.

7.0 Updates from RCMP

7.1 Highway Traffic Act – Cst. Andrew Winsor

7.2 Use of Electric Bikes and Scooters – Cst. Andrew Winsor

The committee agreed by consensus that both items had been fully reviewed earlier under Item 5.1 - Town Hall Feedback. As the topics were already addressed in detail, no further discussion was required.

8.0 Unfinished Business

8.1 Speed Radar Signs – Adam Grant, P. Eng. Director of Infrastructure

Director Grant reviewed the background and current use of the speed display devices. He noted that Council approved three units in 2023 with the intention of rotating them throughout Queens County, but the program has proven resource-intensive and constrained by provincial requirements for advance approval and specific siting on provincial roads. As a result, the devices have primarily been used in Liverpool. He reported that staff have not yet pulled or analyzed the current data from the signs.

Director Grant advised that feedback from other municipalities (Halifax Regional Municipality and Chester) indicates that speed display signs have little measurable long-term impact on driver behaviour (perhaps a 1-4 km/h reduction and a short-term effect that diminishes as drivers become accustomed to them), but they are generally well received by residents and Councils. Locally, early data suggested a temporary reduction in speeds when the signs were first activated, with speeds gradually returning to previous levels. The devices can, however, be useful for gathering data to identify genuine speeding hotspots and to guide RCMP enforcement.

He outlined three options for the program going forward:

1. Maintain the current deployment and continue operating the existing battery-powered units.
2. Expand or modify the program, including exploring conversion to solar power and more strategic, potentially fixed locations (e.g., school zones and other priority areas); or
3. Discontinue the program if the costs and staff time are not justified by the benefits.

Members discussed the possibility of converting the existing units to solar to reduce staff time spent changing batteries, with Director Grant noting this is technically feasible but would require additional funding. The committee also discussed the potential for fixed locations (such as key

school or residential areas) versus mobile deployments, and the need to bring forward any capital or retrofit costs through the budget process.

Moved by Councillor Vicki Amirault, seconded by Don Kimball;

THAT the Police Advisory Board of Region of Queens Municipality recommend Council direct staff to explore converting the three existing battery-powered speed display devices to solar power.

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Don Kimball;

THAT the Police Advisory Board of Region of Queens Municipality recommend Council direct staff to investigate traffic calming options for Liverpool.

MOTION CARRIED, unanimously.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Don Kimball;

THAT the Police Advisory Board of Region of Queens Municipality invite the District Director Western, Public Works and the Member of the Legislative Assembly to the next meeting of the Police Advisory Board.

MOTION CARRIED.

8.2 Signage at Carter's Beach - Adam Grant, P. Eng. Director of Infrastructure

CAO Thorpe shared an update from Western Public Works, who confirmed that "No Parking" signs are posted along the northern side of Carter's Beach Road and that updated signs, including standardized tow-away tabs, will be installed over the winter for the 2026 season. Public Works noted that some residents rely on shoulder parking and that the Motor Vehicle Act generally permits

it, which is why they did not prohibit parking along the entire road. Deputy Mayor Charlton disagreed, stating that residents do not typically park roadside and are the ones requesting stronger restrictions. Cst. Winsor added that signage does not actually cover the full length of the road and that unsafe parking continues to cause congestion regardless of location. The Committee agreed that Public Works' response does not fully address safety concerns and will raise these issues directly when the District Director attends a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.