

Neighbourhood Speed Limits Technical Selection Criteria for 40 km/h

At the February 1, 2021 Strategic Meeting of Council the [City of Calgary Standard Speed Limit Bylaw](#) was passed, which will change the default unposted speed limit within city limits to 40 km/h effective May 31, 2021. This change may affect both residential and collector roads in neighbourhoods.

The City has developed repeatable criteria, which can be applied across the city, to determine if a collector road will have a 40 km/h or 50 km/h speed limit.

These criteria were used to determine if the speed limit will be posted at 50 km/h or if 40 km/h will apply (and may or may not be posted):

- Roads within industrial areas and downtown will remain at their current speed limits.
- Playground Zone signs will remain unchanged (30 km/h from 07:30 to 21:00), but the speed outside of the zone may change.
- Collector or Neighbourhood Boulevard roadways that have observed speeds consistent with 40 km/h will be left as unposted or posted at 40 km/h as appropriate. As a clear definition: If a speed study is available and the average operating speed is less than 45 km/h, and the 85-percentile speed is less than 55 km/h, the speed limit of the roadway will be 40 km/h.
- Collector roadways and Neighbourhood Boulevards that serve a collector function (connect multiple residential roads to arterial roads), provide a connection to another collector roadway or loop back to itself, or carry high traffic volumes (>2000 vehicles/day) are all appropriate to sign at 50 km/h.
- Collectors will not be posted at 50 km/h unless they are 500 metres or longer. If an uninterrupted (i.e. no Playground Zone or stop control) length of a collector is greater than 500 metres, it will be posted as 50 km/h. If a road is less than 500 metres, but connects to two higher class roadways and satisfies other criteria (on this list), it will be posted at 50 km/h.
- Cul-de-sacs will not have a posted speed limit. A collector road, with a median, that connects to a cul-du-sac will also not have a posted speed limit.
- Calgary Transit will be consulted for collectors that otherwise would not meet the above criteria but serve as a bus route. Collectors with bus routes which have been identified for on-demand transit service will not be posted at 50 km/h unless other criteria are met to post the speed limit at 50 km/h.