

A wide-angle photograph of the Edmonton skyline, featuring several tall skyscrapers and modern buildings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue grid pattern.

Transportation Committee

Report CR_2855

Possible Additional Road Classifications

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | March 23, 2016

The logo for the City of Edmonton, consisting of the word "Edmonton" in a white, sans-serif font, set against a dark blue rectangular background.

Edmonton

Report Origin

August 19, 2015 Council Motion

- Arose during Community Traffic Management Plan discussions
- “That Administration provide a report on possible additional road classifications and how other large cities have adjusted road classifications to respond to changing traffic volumes and patterns, and how it can be applied to the City of Edmonton”

Approach

- Document application of Edmonton's classification system
- Research classification systems in other Canadian jurisdictions and interview their administration
- Interview internal stakeholders:
 - a. Application in different business groups
 - b. Influence on speeding, shortcutting & traffic volumes
 - c. Implications of change

Edmonton Context

- Current classification system:
 - Freeways, Arterials, Collectors and Locals
 - Complete Streets for context sensitive design
- Utilized for maintenance and renewal work processes
- Identified in statutory plans

Arterial



Collector



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Local



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Other Canadian Cities

Key Findings

- Current Classifications:
 - a. Range of classifications
 - b. Spectrum includes simple (major/minor designations) to more complex (Complete Streets)
- Purpose:
 - a. Solutions for greenfield development
 - b. Prioritize asset renewal or levels of maintenance

- a. Classifications are not a solution to managing traffic

Internal Stakeholder Interviews

Key Findings

- Speeding and shortcutting are influenced by:
 - a. Network connections (planning)
 - b. The “feel” of the roadway (design)
 - c. Education and enforcement (operation)

Other Considerations

- Future Transportation System Bylaw 15101 amendment to include collector roadways

Recommendation

Maintain current classification system and apply Complete Streets and Road Safety Strategy design principles to all new and reconstruction roadway projects.