

April 26, 2023

Re: Item for Discussion - School Bus Stop Arm Camera

At its meeting of April 19, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion 23-GC-079, regarding the Item for Discussion - School Bus Stop Arm Camera, as follows:

“WHEREAS almost 824,000 students travel in about 16,000 school vehicles every school day in Ontario and according to the Ministry of Transportation’s statistics the rate of vehicles failing to stop for a stopped school buses is over 30,000 times every day;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario passed the Safer School Zones Act in 2017 which authorized the use of Automated School Bus Stop Arm Camera Systems to detect incidents where vehicles failed to stop when the school bus has the stop-arm extended (O. Reg. 424/20);

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities (AMO) working on behalf of all Ontario Municipalities made its submission to the Standing Committee on General Government on May 21, 2019 in support of Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs) to be used to collect fine revenue for school bus stop arm infractions and other applications, including Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) technologies deployed in school and community safety zones;

AND WHEREAS police resources cannot be spread any thinner to enforce additional Highway Traffic Act offences throughout municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the administrative and financial costs to establish the required municipal AMPs program under the Highway Traffic Act, and its regulations, are substantial and maybe out of reach for small or rural municipalities that have insufficient amounts of traffic to generate the required funds to offset the annual operational costs of a municipal AMPs program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge urges the Provincial Government to:

1. Require all school buses to have stop arm cameras installed and paid for by the Province for the start of the 2023-2024 school year; and
2. Underwrite the costs for the implementation and ongoing annual costs for Administrative Monetary Penalties in small and rural municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry and MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka Graydon Smith, Provincial opposition parties, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.”

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
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In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori McDonald". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "L" and "M".

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk