

September 23, 2025

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP 180 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Suite A Orangeville, ON L9W 1K3

Dear Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP

Ensuring the safety of all road users, including children and seniors, is a common priority for municipalities, the provincial government, and the public. Following the province's decision to enable Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) in 2019, there is real evidence that it is an effective and evidence-based tool for improving road safety in our communities.

A July 2025 study from SickKids and Toronto Metropolitan University demonstrated that in Toronto, ASE cameras reduced the number of speeding vehicles by 45 per cent across 250 urban school zones. This included an 88 per cent decrease in vehicles travelling more than 20 km/h over the speed limit. This study also found that when cameras are removed, speeds return to pre-ASE levels.

The Town of Shelburne is committed to reducing speeding in our community and ASE which was activated on September 5, 2025, is an important part of our traffic calming program. Our community has 4 schools and many pedestrians, we also have two provincial highways, Highway 89 and Highway 10, within our boundaries and exceptional heavy truck traffic. All roads in Shelburne have been 40 km since 2021 with limited exceptions. The Town did significant analysis in reviewing the traffic calming tools we use, including ASE. Information on our ASE is summarized on our website <a href="https://www.shelburne.ca/living-here/automated-speed-enforcement-ase/">https://www.shelburne.ca/living-here/automated-speed-enforcement-ase/</a>.

The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police view ASE not as a revenue tool, but as a traffic safety tool. Its purpose is deterrence and prevention—helping to change driver behaviour and reduce collisions. By complementing traditional police enforcement, ASE also frees up police resources to focus on other pressing public safety priorities. We are very concerned that ASE penalty costs are being called a cash grab by municipalities. We would like to request that the amount of revenue the province has collected since the implementation of ASE in 2019 for the plate look up fee (currently \$8.25) and victim component fees be released.

Improving road safety through ASE is widely supported by Ontario drivers. A survey from CAA South Central Ontario found that despite the increase in ASE tickets issued



this year, nearly three-quarters of Ontario drivers support its use in targeted areas like school zones or community centres.

There were nearly 100 pedestrian deaths in Ontario in 2023. The evidence shows that if ASE cameras are removed, speeds will increase in community safety zones and more pedestrians will be at risk.

Municipalities are best placed to develop transportation plans based on their local knowledge and community input. Municipalities understand the need to use these tools thoughtfully and can be counted on to do so. We would welcome your support in encouraging Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria to work with municipalities and AMO to ensure the effective use of ASE and to improve public understanding of its importance to road safety.

Sincerely, Mayor Wade Mills wmills@shelburne.ca

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation

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