



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Gihon Spring Drive - Speed Limit Reduction

Date:	December 27, 2006
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 1 – Etobicoke North
Reference Number:	eycc070007-to; eycc070007-to-att1

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to reduce the speed limit on Gihon Spring Drive from Kidron Valley Drive to Steeles Avenue West to 40 km/h.

As the 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant requirements are achieved, extension of the 40 km/h speed limit is recommended on Gihon Spring Drive to reduce operating speeds and enhance safety in the vicinity of the curve. This limit will be posted on the entire length of the road between Martin Grove Road and Steeles Avenue West.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Council approve the following actions:

1. The by-law associated with the 40 km/h speed limit on Gihon Spring Drive between Martin Grove Road and Steeles Avenue West be rescinded.
2. The speed limit on Gihon Spring Drive, between Martin Grove Road and Steeles Avenue West be reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h as the requirements of the 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant are achieved; and enact any appropriate related bills.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$600.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

A detailed assessment of traffic operations was conducted on Gihon Spring Drive, in the vicinity of Shockley Drive, as a result of a request from Councillor Suzan Hall, Ward 1, Etobicoke North, on behalf of a resident living on the northwest corner of the intersection of Gihon Spring Drive and Shockley Drive. The specific concern of this resident was the number of collisions that have occurred at this intersection resulting in damage to his property. A map of the area is Attachment No. 1.

COMMENTS

Gihon Spring Drive is classified as a local residential road in the community south of Steeles Avenue West between Martin Grove Road and Kipling Avenue. The speed limit is currently 40 km/h in the area of John D. Parker Public School and St. Angela Catholic School (between Martin Grove Road and Kidron Valley Drive) and 50 km/h between Kidron Valley Drive and Steeles Avenue West. All-way stop controls exist on Gihon Spring Drive at Mount Olive Drive and at Kidron Valley Drive.

A review of the collision history for the period, (January 31, 1985 to November 28, 2005) shows that 13 property damage and 2 personal injury collisions have occurred at the intersection of Gihon Spring Drive and Shockley Drive, including two incidents at the northwest corner. These were designated as “fail to remain” and therefore there is insufficient information available on the contributing factors.

Transportation Services staff conducted an automatic traffic count (speed & volume) on Gihon Spring Drive just south of Shockley Drive to determine if speeding may have been a factor in these collisions. Analysis of the data retrieved, reveals that the operating speed for Gihon Spring Drive (85th percentile) in the area of Shockley Drive is 53 km/h. The 85th percentile is the speed at or below which the majority of motorists feel comfortable traveling at under the existing roadway conditions. The total two-way volume of traffic recorded for this section of the roadway during the 24-hour period was 530 vehicles.

Under the current Council policy, 40 km/h speed limits may be implemented on streets where Road Width and either Pedestrian or Road and Traffic Environment criteria are met. This segment of Gihon Spring Drive satisfies all the criteria as set in Appendix A, attached, so a speed limit reduction is warranted.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John Niedra, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A
Attachment No. 1: Map

APPENDIX A

A. ROAD WIDTH			
1.	(i)	Pavement width equal to or greater than 10.5 metres and the 85 th percentile speed is equal to or less than 50 km/h	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
OR			
	(ii)	Pavement width less than 10.5 metres	
PAVEMENT WIDTH: 8.7 metres 85 TH PERCENTILE SPEED: 53 km/h			
AND			
B. PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT			
1.	(i)	Elementary or junior high school abuts the road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
OR			
	(ii)	Parkland abuts the road which is contiguous to and used to gain access to an elementary or junior high school Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
OR			
	(iii)	Absence of sidewalk on both sides of the road or a major portion of the road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OR			
C. ROAD AND TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENT			
1.	(i)	Two or more locations where grades are greater than 5%; and/or safe speed on curves is less than 50 km/h Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
OR			
	(ii)	2 or more locations where there is lack of sufficient distance to stop safely traveling at 50 km/h Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OR			
	(iii)	Pattern of collisions where vehicle speed was identified as a factor Local streets – 3 or more over 3 years Other streets – 5 or more over 3 years Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	