



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Proposed Amendment to Polling Process for Traffic Calming Projects

<b>Date:</b>	August 1, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Transportation Services
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards
<b>Reference Number:</b>	p:\2007\ClusterB\tra\tim\pw07023tim

#### SUMMARY

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In 2002, Council adopted the Traffic Calming Policy which included a process for conducting polls for the implementation of traffic calming projects. In January 2007, the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 190, "Polling and Notification" took effect and with it, the establishment of polling eligibility requirements that differed from that contained in the Traffic Calming Policy. Changing the Traffic Calming Policy polling eligibility requirements to conform to Municipal Code Chapter 190 will provide for consistent and uniform application in this area and simplify the efforts of Election and Registry Services in conducting traffic calming polls. This report provides information on the background and implications of this change, and also seeks City Council approval of the recommended amendments to the polling process respecting traffic calming projects.

#### RECOMMENDATION

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The Transportation Services Division recommends that:

1. the polling eligibility requirements for traffic calming projects contained in the City's Traffic Calming Policy be amended so as to conform to the polling eligibility requirements outlined in the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 190, "Polling and Notification."

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

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There are no financial impacts arising from the adoption of the recommendation.

## COMMENTS

In 2002, Council adopted the Traffic Calming Policy and with it a process for conducting polls pertaining to traffic calming projects. This Policy specified the following poll eligibility requirements:

*“When petitioning or surveying for traffic calming, only one survey per petition name be accepted per household, in accordance with the one poll per household scheme.”*

This stated polling requirement of ‘one-vote-per-household’ was considered simple and fair. At the time Transportation Services staff conducted the polls, a household was defined as a property with frontage on the street under review. Concern with what constituted a ‘household’ was addressed by providing additional ballots, on request, to all members eighteen years and older residing at the property.

In 2006, City Clerk’s harmonized the process for conducting polls resulting in the enactment of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 190, “Polling and Notification” in January 2007. It is now appropriate that the traffic calming polling process be revised to align with the eligibility requirements stated in Municipal Code Chapter 190 as noted below:

*§ 190-4. Polling list.*

*The City Clerk’s Office shall compile a polling list including names and corresponding addresses of those listed on the following documents as owners, residents and tenants of property located wholly or partially within the polling area:*

*A. Current Returned Assessment Roll;*

*B. Municipal Connect, Toronto Property System (TPS) or any other related geographic information system (GIS) developed using information from Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and City records; and*

*C. Affidavit delivered to the City Clerk during the polling period in a form prescribed by the City Clerk and asserting that the affiant is an owner, resident or tenant of property located wholly or partially within the polling area.*

This change will enhance the affected resident participation in the traffic calming polling process, increase the number of ballots in circulation and lead to an expected increase in the number of ballots returned. Also, changing the Traffic Calming Policy polling eligibility requirements to conform to Municipal Code Chapter 190 will provide for consistent and uniform application in this area and simplify the efforts of Election and Registry Services who now conduct the traffic calming polls.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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