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2007 MAR 13 P 2:21

**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Request to Prohibit Train Whistle Blowing – Pedestrian Railway Crossing East of Corvette Avenue

Date:	March 9, 2007
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards:	Ward 35 – Scarborough-Southwest
Reference Number:	P:\2007\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\sc07028 D07-505 Corvette Anti-Whistling

SUMMARY

This report responds to a request to prohibit train whistling at the at-grade pedestrian crossing of the GO Transit Uxbridge Subdivision, east of Corvette Avenue.

Council's approval of the by-law amending Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 591, Noise, will require GO Transit to instruct train crews to cease and desist using train whistling at this crossing except when there is an emergency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Scarborough District, recommends that:

1. City Council pass a resolution to prohibit train whistling at the rail crossing at mileage 59.96 of the Uxbridge Subdivision, a pedestrian crossing east of Corvette Avenue.
2. Staff send GO Transit, Transport Canada and all relevant organisations contained in Schedule C of the Transport Canada Railway Safety Directorate Guidelines a copy of this report.
3. City Council amend Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 591, Noise, accordingly.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications if Council agrees with the staff recommendation.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting ending October 1, 2004, City Council adopted a report relating to the prohibition of train whistling at the level railway crossing at Danforth Road, approximately 400 metres south of the pedestrian crossing of this railway east of Corvette Avenue. On February 6, 2007, City Council enacted a by-law to this effect amending Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 591, Noise.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In 2004, staff received a petition through the previous Councillor's office from residents residing in the Greystone Walk condominium development near Danforth Road and Midland Avenue. They expressed concerns regarding train whistling at the level crossing of the GO Transit Uxbridge Subdivision and Danforth Road. As part of the studies into this matter, the Corvette Avenue pedestrian crossing was identified for consideration of improvements as well. At the time, it appeared that an anti-whistling by-law was required for the Danforth Road level crossing only, as per the federal *Railway Safety Act*. Such a by-law amending Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 591, Noise, was eventually enacted in early 2007.

Improvements made to the Corvette Avenue pedestrian crossing including fencing, railway crossing signals and gates are now complete. However, train whistling continues to occur.

COMMENTS

Subsequent to this process, it was identified that an anti-whistling by-law for the Corvette Avenue pedestrian crossing would also be required due to the close spacing with the Danforth Road level crossing.

When enacted, the amendment to the Toronto Municipal Code will prohibit train whistling relating to the Corvette Avenue pedestrian crossing and require GO Transit to order train crews to cease and desist such whistling, except when there is an emergency.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE



Peter J. Noehammer, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District

MAO:ca

ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix 1 - Noise
2. Location Plan – Corvette Avenue – Pedestrian Railway Crossing

Appendix 1

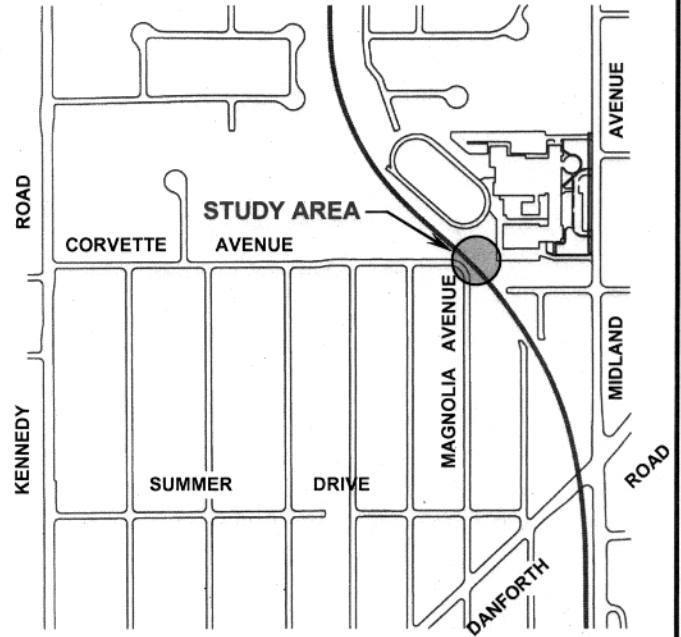
"Noise" Regulation to be Enacted

1. Chapter 591, Noise, of The City of Toronto Municipal Code is amended by inserting the following in the table in § 591-13:

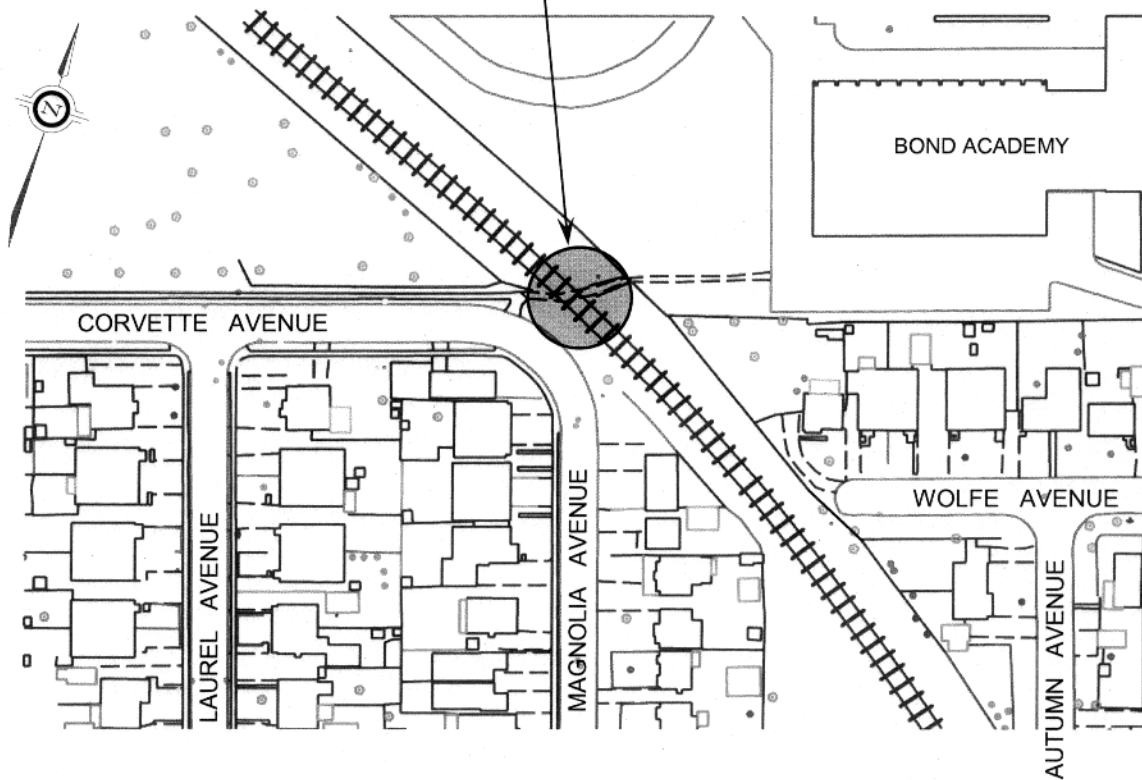
No.	Railway	Subdivision, Branch or other Trackage	Mileage	Street Name
D.	Go	Uxbridge Subdivision	59.96	Corvette Avenue



PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT MILEAGE 59.96



KEY MAP



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Scarborough District

SCALE	NTS
DATE	MARCH / 2007
DRAFTING	MR

**ANTI-WHISTLING BY-LAW LOCATION
PEDESTRIAN RAILWAY CROSSING
EAST OF CORVETTE AVENUE**

FILE NUMBER: D07-505	
ATTACHMENT 2	WARD 35