



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Whitewood Road – Traffic Calming

<b>Date:</b>	July 5, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	St. Paul's, Ward 22
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts07154te.top.doc

### SUMMARY

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This staff report is about a matter which Community Council has been delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision. Transportation Services staff have investigated installing traffic calming to address residents' concerns with the speed of traffic on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road.

Our assessment indicates that the speeds on the street are already below a level which would benefit from traffic calming. Therefore, speed humps should not be installed on Whitewood Road at this time.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

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**Transportation Services recommends to Toronto and East York Community Council that:**

1. traffic calming not be installed on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road.

#### **Financial Impact**

The adoption of the above-noted recommendation will not result in any financial impact. If, however, Toronto and East York Community Council decides speed humps on Whitewood Road would be beneficial, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing two speed humps would be \$6,000.00. Transportation Services has requested that funds in the amount of \$750,000.00 be allocated in the 2007 Capital Budget for traffic calming initiatives. Installing speed humps on Whitewood Road would be subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

At the request of Councillor Michael Walker, Transportation Services studied Whitewood Road between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road to determine whether traffic calming devices would address concerns with current traffic operations.

## **COMMENTS**

Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road, is a local street that operates two-way with a legal speed limit of 40 km/h and a pavement width of 8.5 metres. There is no TTC service on this street.

Vehicle speeds and traffic volume are the prime criteria for installing traffic calming devices. Other factors, including road width, pedestrian facilities and gradient are also considered in the assessment.

Toronto Police Service collision records indicate that no collisions were reported during the three-year period ending March 31, 2007.

Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road does not meet all the criteria for installing traffic calming devices. Specifically, the operating speed of 43 km/h is less than the required 10km/h over the posted speed limit. In addition, the average speed recorded on Whitewood Road was 35 km/h. Therefore, installing speed humps on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road, is not warranted.

Appendix A outlines the assessment of the technical criteria in more detail.

## **Alternate recommendations**

If, despite the findings above, the Toronto and East York Community Council determines that installing speed humps on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road would be beneficial, it may approve the following:

1. Transportation Services poll eligible householders on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road, to determine whether residents support the installation, in accordance with the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy; and
2. subject to favourable results of the poll;
  - (a) The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road, for traffic calming purposes, generally as the speed hump plan that Transportation Services circulated to residents during the polling process shows; and

- (b) Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from forty kilometres per hour to thirty kilometres per hour on Whitewood Road, between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road, when the speed humps are installed.

### **Conduct poll**

The City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy stipulates householders who would be directly affected by installing speed humps on Whitewood Road must be formally polled. A minimum response of 50 percent plus one ballot is established, of which at least 60 percent of the responding households must be in favour of installing speed humps in order to proceed with the installation. Accordingly, subject to approval by Toronto and East York Community Council of the alternate recommendations outlined above, Transportation Services would poll householders on Whitewood Road, and would report the results to Councillor Walker. If the poll supports installing speed humps on Whitewood Road, Transportation Services staff would schedule installation based on relative need and competing priorities.

### **Relative Priority and Other Impacts**

Relative need and the priority of installing speed humps is based on a technical assessment of traffic volume, vehicle speed percentages, speed-related collisions, and the presence of schools, parks, seniors' residences or bicycle routes. Whitewood Road between Davisville Avenue and Millwood Road scored 17 ranking points out of a possible 100.

No alterations to parking regulations are required, nor would the number of parking spaces be affected, and the effects on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection should be minimal.

Installing speed humps will result in slower operating speeds for all vehicles, including emergency service vehicles, and could result in increased response times in the event of an emergency.

## **Emergency Services Comments**

Consultation with emergency services (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services) is required in order to ensure that the design and layout of a traffic calming proposal does not unduly affect their operations. We've advised emergency services that the subject location was being considered for the installation of traffic calming. Toronto Fire Services, in a letter dated June 22, 2007, have advised that they are opposed to these speed humps, as they would slow their responding vehicles and affect their ability to deliver service in the quickest possible manner.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Drawing No. 421F-9004, dated July 2007  
Appendix A - Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria  
Appendix B – Letter from Fire Services

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