
**Installation of a 40 kilometres per hour speed limit on
Glencrest Boulevard**

Date:	December 19, 2006
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Beaches – East York, Ward 31
Reference Number:	Ts07022tey.top.doc

SUMMARY

As requested by Councillor Janet Davis, we are reporting on the findings of our investigation to implement a 40 kilometres per hour maximum speed limit on Glencrest Boulevard, between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street.

Our evaluation of this street against the warrants for a lower speed limit of 40 kilometres per hour indicated that lowering the speed limit is not technically justified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. A maximum speed limit of 40 kilometres per hour not be implemented on Glencrest Boulevard, between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the receipt of this report. If Council decides to implement a 40 kilometres per hour speed limit on Glencrest Boulevard, between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street, the estimated cost to undertake the installation of signs will be \$800.00. Funds are available in the Transportation Services Division 2007 Operating Budget interim appropriations.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

After receiving an e-mail in July 2006 from Councillor Janet Davis, we undertook an investigation to determine if the installation of speed humps or reduction of the speed limit was warranted on Glencrest Boulevard.

COMMENTS

Glencrest Boulevard is a local street extending five blocks west from Victoria Park Avenue to a dead end. Traffic operates two-way with a speed limit of 50 km/h on a road width of 9.0 metres. Parking is prohibited at all times on the south side, from Victoria Park Avenue to Glenburn Avenue (one block). Otherwise parking is allowed for a maximum of three hours at all times on both sides of the street. Permit parking regulations are not in effect on Glenburn Avenue.

Glencrest Boulevard did not satisfy the technical warrants for the installation of speed humps. Traffic volume is less than 1000 vehicles a day and the operating speed of traffic is 42 kilometres per hour. As an alternative, we evaluated traffic conditions on Glencrest Boulevard against the criteria for lowering the speed limit to 40 kilometres per hour. Our evaluation considered:

- the proximity of pedestrians and sidewalks to the roadway;
- abutting land use, i.e., schools or park lands;
- roadway characteristics, i.e., width, slope, curves, parking; and
- collision history over a three-year period where speed was a factor.

To justify a speed limit of 40 km/h, one or more of the technical Warrants A, B, C or D, shown on the charts in Appendix A, attached to this report, should be met. Our evaluation indicates none of these are met. Specifically, Glencrest Boulevard does not meet the criteria for a lower speed limit for the following reasons:

- Although the road width is less than 10.5 metres, sidewalks are at the curb and parking greater than three hours (permit parking) is not allowed on this street;
- there are no parks or schools abutting the street;
- the road grade and alignment does not result in a slope or severe curve that reduces the line of sight between motorists, pedestrians and cyclists or prevents motorists travelling at the speed limit from stopping safely; and
- there have been no reported collisions in the past three years that can be attributed to the speed of traffic.

Our findings indicate the current operating speed of traffic on Glencrest Boulevard is less than 45 kilometres per hour and the street is operating safely at this time. The 50 kilometres per hour maximum speed limit is appropriate. Lowering the speed limit to 40 kilometres per hour is not recommended and will not reduce the current speeds vehicles travel at on Glencrest Boulevard.

Even though our findings are not favourable, if Toronto and East York Community Council wishes to lower the speed limit on Glencrest Boulevard to 40 kilometres per hour, it must recommend that:

1. the maximum speed limit on Glencrest Boulevard, from Victoria Park Avenue to the west end of the street, be reduced from 50 kilometres per hour to 40 kilometres per hour.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – Warrants for Reducing the Maximum Speed Limit to 40 Km/h
Drawing No. 421F-8637, dated December 2006

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