



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Poplar Heights Drive - Speed Limit Amendment

Date:	May 1, 2008
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 4 – Etobicoke Centre
Reference Number:	p:\2008\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc080062-to – AFS7693

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to reduce the speed limit to 40 km/h on Poplar Heights Drive.

Enacting a 40 km/h speed limit on Poplar Heights Drive is consistent with the 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant. Approval of this report will result in a 40 km/h speed limit being posted on all of Poplar Heights Drive from Islington Avenue to Eden Valley Drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Etobicoke York Community Council approve:

1. Enacting a 40 km/h speed limit on Poplar Heights Drive, between Islington Avenue and Eden Valley Drive as the requirements of the 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant are achieved.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$900.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Speed studies were conducted on Poplar Heights Drive by Transportation Services staff, further to a request from Councillor Gloria Lindsay Luby, Ward 4, Etobicoke Centre, on behalf of a resident of the street who was concerned about speeding. A map of the area is Attachment No. 1.

COMMENTS

Poplar Heights Drive is a local road in the residential community south of Eglinton Avenue and east of Islington Avenue. The legal speed limit on Poplar Heights Drive is currently 50 km/h. There are numerous (4) curves in the roadway with appropriate warning signs posted in advance. Sidewalks are on both sides of the road.

Automatic speed and volume studies were conducted at two locations on Poplar Heights Drive. These study results reveal that the majority of motorists travel at speeds less than the 50 km/h speed limit with an 85th percentile speed ranging between 46 km/h and 51 km/h. The 85th percentile is the speed at or below which the majority of motorists feel comfortable travelling under the existing roadway conditions. The 24-hour volume was recorded between 501 and 939 vehicles.

Under the current Council policy, 40 km/h speed limits may be implemented on streets where the Road Width and either Pedestrian or Road and Traffic Environment criteria are met. Poplar Heights Drive satisfies the Road Width and Road and Traffic Environment criteria as set in Appendix A – Table 1 attached, since there are numerous curves in the road with a recommended travel speed of less than 50 km/h. It is prudent to reduce the speed limit to reflect this condition.

Our review of the Toronto Police Services collision records for the past three years for which we have complete data (January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2007) for Poplar Heights Drive reveals that there have been four reported collisions on this road, none of which were speed related.

Given all of the foregoing, it has been concluded that the implementation of a 40 km/h speed limit on all of Poplar Heights Drive is warranted.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – Table 1
Attachment No. 1: Map
Poplar Heights Drive – Speed Limit Amendment

APPENDIX A – TABLE 1

40 Km/h Speed Limit Warrant – Poplar Heights Drive

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: 8.5 metres 85 TH PERCENTILE SPEED: 46 - 51 km/h			
AND			
B. PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT			
1.	(i)	Elementary or junior high school abuts the road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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"/>	