



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Macpherson Avenue, between Avenue Road and Rathnelly Avenue – Results of Speed Hump Poll

Date:	December 6, 2007
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	St. Paul’s, Ward 22
Reference Number:	Ts08005te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

This report summarizes the results of the traffic calming poll undertaken on Macpherson Avenue, between Avenue Road and Rathnelly Avenue. In spite of the poll falling short by one ballot of the stipulated 50 percent plus one response rate, an overwhelming majority of residents who responded support installation of speed humps. Transportation Services recommends under the circumstances proceeding with the installation of speed humps on Macpherson Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. direct the City Solicitor to prepare a draft by-law for installing speed humps on Macpherson Avenue, between Avenue Road and Rathnelly Avenue, generally as shown on the attached print of Drawing No. 421F-9010, dated July 2007; and
2. reduce the speed limit on Macpherson Avenue, between Avenue Road and Rathnelly Avenue from 40 km/h to 30 km/h, upon installation of the speed humps.

Financial Impact

The estimated cost to install three speed humps on Macpherson Avenue is \$9,000.00. Funds in the amount of \$295,000.00 have been allocated in the Transportation Services 2008 Capital Budget for traffic calming initiatives. Installing speed humps on Macpherson Avenue would be subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on September 10, 2007, Toronto and East York Community Council endorsed the installation of speed humps on Macpherson Avenue subject to a favourable poll of residents (Item TE8.75 of Toronto and East York Community Council).

COMMENTS

Councillor Michael Walker has requested Transportation Services to report the results of the poll conducted in October/November 2007 regarding the installation of speed humps on Macpherson Avenue to Toronto and East York Community Council.

The Traffic Calming Policy, adopted by City Council requires among other matters, staff to undertake a poll of eligible voters on streets being considered for traffic calming and consult with Emergency Services.

With respect to the poll:

- a return rate of 50 percent plus one ballot; and
- a support rate of at least 60 percent of the valid ballots received is stipulated.

The poll results for Macpherson Avenue are as follows.

Poll results

Number of ballots mailed out	49	100 percent
Number of responses	24	49 percent
Number of ballots in favour	20	83 percent
Number of ballots opposed	4	17 percent
Number of ballots spoiled	0	0 percent
Number of ballots not returned	25	51 percent

Consultation with Emergency Services

We received specific comments from Toronto Fire Services regarding installation of speed humps on Macpherson Avenue. The comments are contained in a letter dated July 18, 2007, attached as Appendix "A".

Resolution

The poll undertaken on Macpherson Avenue failed in achieving the 50 percent plus one response rate by one ballot. Of the responses received, about 83% supported the installation of speed humps. If one additional ballot had been received, regardless of whether or not it was in favour of the installation, the poll would have been satisfied in all aspects.

An overwhelming majority of persons responding to the poll support installation of speed humps. In spite of the impact on emergency service vehicles, speed humps will promote lower operating speeds and provide a safer environment for all road users. Installation of speed humps should go forward.

Under the current polling policy, residents of Macpherson Avenue have been notified in writing by the City Clerk that the speed hump poll on this street did not satisfy the criteria and that any follow-up poll cannot be conducted for another two years. Residents have not specifically been told speed humps will not be installed but that is implied. If the Recommendations of this report are adopted, it would be advisable to advise the constituents accordingly. Transportation Services will consult with Councillor Walker as to the most appropriate way to do this.

CONTACT

Randy Hillis, Transportation Technologist
Traffic Operations, Toronto and East York District
Phone: (416) 338-5430
Fax: (416) 392-1920
E-mail: rhillis@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Drawing No. 421F-9010, dated July 2007
Appendix A – Letter from Fire Services, dated July 18, 2007

P:\2008\Cluster B\TRA\Toronto and East York District\TOP\ts08005te.top.doc – cag