



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Queens Avenue - Speed Limit Amendment

Date:	December 11, 2008
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 6 – Etobicoke-Lakeshore
Reference Number:	p:\2009\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc080010-to

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 on Queens Avenue, between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Superior Avenue, from 50km/h to 40 km/h.

Given that there is a curve on Queens Avenue, a parkette at both ends of the road, and no sidewalks on the east side of the street along the frontages of the parkettes, a 40 km/h speed limit is recommended on Queens Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that the Etobicoke York Community Council approve:

1. Enacting a 40 km/h speed limit on Queens Avenue between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Superior Avenue.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$600.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Area residents have expressed their concerns on numerous occasions regarding the speed of vehicular traffic on Queens Avenue. As a result, Transportation Services has evaluated the need to lower the speed limit on this street. A map of the area is Attachment No. 1.

COMMENTS

Queens Avenue is classified as a local road and runs north-south between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Superior Avenue, east of Royal York Road. There are sidewalks on both sides of this road on the sections between Hillside Avenue and Superior Avenue, except for the section on the east side of Queens Avenue, south of Superior Avenue, where there is no sidewalk along the frontage of the parkette (Queens Park). With respect to the section between Hillside Avenue and Lake Shore Boulevard West, there is a sidewalk only on the west side of the street, thus there is no sidewalk along the frontage of Vimy Ridge Parkette located on the east side of Queens Avenue, north of Lake Shore Boulevard West. The pavement width on Queens Avenue is 7.2 metres.

The legal speed limit on this road is currently 50 km/h.

Land use on Queens Avenue is residential.

Our most recent speed study revealed an operating or 85th percentile speed of 42 km/h on Queens Avenue between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Queens Avenue. The 85th percentile is the speed at or below which the majority of motorists feel comfortable travelling under the existing roadway conditions. The traffic volume on this road is approximately 600 vehicles per day.

Under the current Council policy, 40 km/h speed limits may be implemented on streets where Road Width and either Pedestrian or Road and Traffic Environment criteria are met. Although Queens Avenue does not satisfy the Pedestrian or Road/Traffic Environment criteria as set in **Appendix A – Table 1** attached, there are other compelling site conditions that impacts operational safety and that merits additional consideration. Specifically, there are the two aforementioned parkettes located on Queens Avenue and neither have a sidewalk located along their frontages. In addition, there is a curve in the street located at the south limit of the road.

Based on the aforementioned, staff recommends the reduction of the speed limit on Queens Avenue, between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Superior Avenue, from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

CONTACT

Mark Hargot, Supervisor, Traffic Engineering - Etobicoke York District

Tel: (416) 394-8453; Fax: (416) 394-8942

E-mail: mahargot@toronto.ca

AFS9136

SIGNATURE

John Niedra, P.Eng.

Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A

Attachment No. 1: Map

APPENDIX A – TABLE 1

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
OR		
	(ii)	Pavement width less than 10.5 metres
		PAVEMENT WIDTH: 7.2 metres 85 TH PERCENTILE SPEED: 42 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"/>
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"/> Two parkettes located on Queens Avenue
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"/> Sidewalks absent in front of both parkettes
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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One curve located at south end of Queens Avenue
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"/> One reported speed-related collision on Queens Ave.