



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Old Burnhamthorpe Road – Speed Limit Amendment

Date:	April 15, 2009
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 3 – Etobicoke Centre
Reference Number:	p:\2009\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc090071-to

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which 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 Old Burnhamthorpe Road between the east and west intersections of Burnhamthorpe Road.

As the 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant requirements are achieved, a 40 km/h speed limit is recommended on Old Burnhamthorpe Road between Burnhamthorpe Road (east intersection) and Burnhamthorpe Road (west intersection).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Etobicoke York Community Council approve:

1. Enacting a 40 km/h speed limit on Old Burnhamthorpe Road between Burnhamthorpe Road (east intersection) and Burnhamthorpe Road (west intersection).

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$800.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services staff received a communication from Councillor Doug Holyday, forwarding concerns of an area resident regarding the speed of vehicular traffic on Old Burnhamthorpe Road and recent collisions at the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Embers Drive. As a result of these concerns, the resident requested that an all-way stop control be erected at the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Embers Drive.

COMMENTS

Old Burnhamthorpe Road is a 9.6 metre wide two-way local road built to urban standards with a speed limit of 50 km/h. There are sidewalks on north and east sides of the street. The surrounding land uses consist of detached single family dwellings and townhouses. Parking is prohibited on both sides of Old Burnhamthorpe Road, except for a 155 metre long section on the south side of the road, west of Elmcrest Road, where parking is allowed subject to the City-wide three hour maximum parking by-law. Curve warning and 30 km/h advisory tab signs are currently in place for both directions of traffic in advance of the easterly curve on Old Burnhamthorpe Road at Embers Drive. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

Transportation Services staff conducted traffic counts at the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Embers Drive which revealed that the City-wide warrants for the installation of all-way stop control are far from being met at this location. In addition, staff conducted traffic counts at the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Melbert Road, located just northwest of the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Embers Drive. The traffic volume and volume splits at the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Melbert Road also do not warrant the installation of an all-way stop control.

To quantify the speed concerns, studies were conducted using automatic traffic recorders on Old Burnhamthorpe Road. The study results were applied to the 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant and are the basis of this report. Automatic speed and volume studies were conducted on Old Burnhamthorpe Road, west of Melbert Road, on a typical weekday. These study results revealed an average speed of 49 km/h. The 85th percentile or operating speed on Old Burnhamthorpe Road is 57 km/h. The 85th percentile is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the motorists feel comfortable travelling under the existing roadway conditions. The 24-hour volume was recorded as 2066 vehicles.

Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending December 31, 2008, indicate that there has been one reported collision on Old Burnhamthorpe Road where speed may have been a factor. In this collision, an eastbound motorist on Old Burnhamthorpe Road lost control at the intersection of Embers Road and collided with a westbound motorist on Old Burnhamthorpe Road. In addition, the area resident claims that there have been two collisions at this intersection in February and March of this year, however, staff can not verify these collisions given that we do not have any information on them in our database as of the date of this report.

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. Old Burnhamthorpe Road satisfies the Road Width and Pedestrian criteria as set in the attached Appendix A, since there are two curves on this road. Given the facts that the warrant criteria are met and that there is a collision history in the area of the curve at the intersection of Old Burnhamthorpe Road and Embers Drive, it is prudent to reduce the speed limit to reflect these conditions and therefore, staff is recommending the reduction in the speed limit.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John Niedra, P.Eng.

Director, Transportation Services-Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A

Attachment 1: Map

**APPENDIX A
40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant**

Old Burnhamthorpe Road

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
		<i>PAVEMENT WIDTH: 9.6 metres</i> <i>85TH PERCENTILE SPEED: 57km/h</i>
		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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"/>
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"/>
		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"/>
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"/>
		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>