

Speed Reduction: Joel Swirsky Boulevard

Date:	May 25, 2009
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District
Wards:	Ward 10– York Centre
Reference Number:	<i>ny09038</i>

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that the Community Council has delegated authority to make a final decision provided that it is not amended so that it varies with City policy or by-laws.

To deny a request to install the reduction of the speed limit on Joel Swirsky Boulevard between Bowering Walk and Wilson Heights Boulevard from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

The existing traffic and roadway conditions do not warrant the reduction of speed limit at the above-noted location.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services Division recommends that North York Community Council:

1. Deny the reduction of the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Joel Swirsky Boulevard between Bowering Walk and Wilson Heights.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with the adoption of this report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Transportation Services Division, North York District, was requested by Councillor Michael Feldman on behalf of an area resident to investigate the feasibility of the reduction of the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Joel Swirsky Boulevard between Bowering Walk and Wilson Heights Boulevard.

COMMENTS

Currently, Joel Swirsky Boulevard is classified as a local road, 8.5 m in width, with a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h from Bowering Walk and Wilson Heights Boulevard. Sidewalks are provided on both sides and no schools are present on this section of roadway.

Staff of this division have reviewed the feasibility of implementing traffic calming on Joel Swirsky Boulevard three times in the past six years. In each instance, the traffic data collected did not support the implementation of 40 km/h speed limit or traffic calming (speed humps) on Joel Swirsky Boulevard.

In reviewing the City's 40 km/h speed limit policy, a reduction in the speed limit on Joel Swirsky Boulevard, between Bowering Walk and Wilson Heights Boulevard is not warranted. The City of Toronto policy for introducing a 40 km/h speed limit considers various roadway characteristics, safety concerns, collision patterns and the location of pedestrian generators such as schools, parks and the absence of municipal sidewalks.

In order to consider a reduction to 40 km/h, either Warrant A, B or C, as per Attachment 2, must be met. Based on our review none of the warrants were met, therefore this division does not support the reduction of the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Joel Swirsky Boulevard between Bowering Walk and Wilson Heights Boulevard.

Councillor Michael Feldman has been advised of the recommendations in this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map – Joel Swirsky Blvd (*ny09038_map*)
Attachment 2: Speed Summary Warrant Sheet Joel Swirsky Blvd (*ny09038_warrant*)