



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Speed Hump Poll Results – Heward Avenue, between Queen Street East and Eastern Avenue

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| Date: | December 8, 2008 |
| To: | Toronto and East York Community Council |
| From: | Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District |
| Wards: | Toronto-Danforth, Ward 30 |
| Reference Number: | Ts08209te.top.doc |

SUMMARY

This staff report deals with matters for which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report summarizes the results of the traffic calming poll undertaken on Heward Avenue, between Queen Street East and Eastern 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 the installation of speed humps. Transportation Services recommends under the circumstances proceeding with the installation of speed humps on Heward Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Direct the City Solicitor to prepare a draft by-law for installing four speed humps on Heward Avenue, between Queen Street East and Eastern Avenue, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421F-9383 (copy attached).
2. Reduce the speed limit on Heward Avenue, between Queen Street East and Eastern Avenue from 50 km/h to 30 km/h, upon installation of the speed humps.

Financial Impact

The estimated cost to install four speed humps on Heward Avenue is \$12,000.00. Funds in the amount of \$410,000.00 have been allocated in the Transportation Services 2009

Capital Budget for traffic calming initiatives. Installing speed humps on Heward Avenue would be subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on September 9, 2008, Toronto and East York Community Council endorsed the installation of speed humps on Heward Avenue subject to a favourable poll of residents (Item No. TE18.82).

COMMENTS

Councillor Paula Fletcher has requested Transportation Services to report the results of the poll regarding the installation of speed humps on Heward Avenue, between Queen Street East and Eastern Avenue, which was conducted in October/November 2008.

The Traffic Calming Policy, adopted by City Council requires among other matters, staff to undertake a poll of residents 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 Heward Avenue are as follows.

Poll Results

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|--------|
| # of ballots mailed out | 207 | 100% |
| # of responses | 104 | 50.2 % |
| # of ballots in favour | 85 | 81.7 % |
| # of ballots opposed | 19 | 18.3 % |
| # of spoiled ballots | 0 | 0 % |
| # of ballots not returned | 103 | 49.8 % |

Resolution

The poll undertaken on Heward Avenue failed in achieving the 50 percent plus one response rate essentially by a fraction of one ballot. Of the responses received, 81.7% 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. Speed humps will promote lower operating speeds and provide a safer environment for all road users. Based on the poll results, it is reasonable to recommend that the installation of speed humps should go forward.

Under the current polling policy, residents of Heward 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 prudent to advise the constituents accordingly.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.
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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421F-9383, dated August 2008

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