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NOTICE OF MOTION

Request for Zebra Markings at Crosswalks on Underhill Drive

Moved by: Councillor	Minnan-Wong	

SUMMARY:

Underhill Dr. is a collector road with a high level of peak period traffic and a posted speed limit of 40 km/h throughout. It is also part of a TTC bus route. There are two schools along Underhill Dr.; St. Catherine Catholic School at Roanoke Rd. and Milne Valley Public School near Beveridge Dr. There are five other schools in the community that are accessible on foot from Underhill Dr. as well. Currently there are two pedestrian crossings on Underhill Dr. in the vicinity of Milne Valley P.S. and St. Catherine School. Within the long stretch of Underhill Dr. between Cassandra Blvd. to the north and Lawrence Ave. East at the bottom end, they are the only two designated places to cross the street.

A common concern raised by residents and parents is the rate of speed of vehicles on Underhill Dr. through the school zone and the danger it creates for students and parents crossing the street. Speeding within a school zone should be of great concern and the safety of students and parents paramount. To ensure it is as safe as possible to cross the street, any and all measures to create a pedestrian crossing zone, visible to motorists so they stop when it's been activated and proceed cautiously through it when it is not in use, should be employed.

To that end, the city is in the process of employing enhancements such as zebra markings at pedestrian crossings on major arterial roads. Typically pedestrian crossings on collector roads like Underhill Dr. would not receive the same treatment. As a school zone with high volumes of peak period traffic, a street like Underhill Dr. should be an exception.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1 North York Transportation Department employ the same standards to enhance pedestrian crossings on major arterial roads at both pedestrian crossings on Underhill Dr. in 2010.