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November 30, 2009
Mr. Randy Hillis
Engineering Technologist
17th Floor, Metro Hall
55 John Street
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6

Re: Old Forest Hill Road, between Dunloe Road and Russell Hill Road – Evaluation for the installation of Speed Humps.

Dear Mr Hillis:

I have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of traffic calming measures (speed humps) for Old Forest Hill Road, between Dunloe Road and Russell Hill Road. I have the following comments:

Toronto Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is supportive of community initiatives that improve the safety all citizens of, and visitors to, the City of Toronto. Traffic and pedestrian safety are key components of a healthy neighbourhood and we endeavour to support the wishes of the community to implement measures to improve upon these components. We look to the City's Traffic Calming Policy and its Warrant Criteria for guidance in our assessments and recommendations.

As documented in the in the Traffic Calming Policy, Toronto EMS has concerns regarding the usage of traffic calming measures, especially vertical obstacle measures such as speed humps, as there are negative effects on emergency call response times, travel times to hospital and on patient comfort during transport. This delay is cumulative with each obstacle and can directly impact upon patient outcome.

It is noted that this proposal does not meet the Warrant Criteria as set out in the Policy and as such, Toronto EMS is opposed to the installation of speed humps on Old Forest Hill Road, between Dunloe Road and Russell Hill Road. It is important that the applicant(s) fully understand the potential for delays in emergency response and that alternatives to vertical measures be considered and evaluated.

Yours in service,

Caroline Mellor
Senior EMS Planner
Toronto EMS

Copy: Councillor Michael Walker, St Paul's - Ward 22, 2nd Floor, Suite B26, City Hall, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2
Chief William Blair, Toronto Police Services, 40 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2J3
Attn: Staff Inspector Larry Sinclair, 53 Division
District Chief, Manick Noormahamud, Emergency Planning, Toronto Fire, 4330 Dufferin Street
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