



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Traffic Calming – Eireann Quay

Date:	July 26, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Trinity-Spadina, Ward 20
Reference Number:	Ts10130te.top.doc

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter which Community Council has been delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services has investigated installing speed humps on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay, to address concerns regarding the speed of traffic.

Staff’s assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the Traffic Calming Policy has not been met, therefore, installation of speed humps on Eireann Quay is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Not authorize installation of speed humps on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay.

Financial Impact

The adoption of the above-noted recommendation will not result in any financial impact. If, however, Toronto and East York Community Council decides speed humps on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay would be beneficial, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing 2 speed humps would be \$6,000.00. Funds in the amount of \$418,000.00 have been provided in the Transportation Services 2010

Capital Budget for traffic calming initiatives. Installing speed humps on Eireann Quay is subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At the request of Councillor Adam Vaughan, Transportation Services investigated Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay, to determine whether installation of speed humps is justified to address concerns with current traffic operations.

COMMENTS

Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay, is a local road that operates two-way northbound and southbound with a daily traffic flow of approximately 6,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 40 km/h. There are no intersecting streets between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay. A sidewalk is provided on the east side of the road. There is no TTC service on this street. The west side of the street is entirely park land and the east side is comprised of institutional and public works properties.

Analysis

The Toronto Police Service collision records indicate that no speed-related collisions have been reported on Eireann Quay for a three-year period ending December 31, 2009.

Vehicle speeds and traffic volume are the prime criteria for installing traffic calming devices. Other factors, including road width, pedestrian facilities, and gradient are also considered in the assessment.

Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay, does not meet the following criteria stipulated in the City of Toronto's Traffic Calming Policy for installing speed humps:

- the operating speed of traffic is 37 km/h. Not only is this below the minimum threshold of 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit stipulated by the policy, it is below the posted speed limit and is already at a level that the installation of speed humps is expected to achieve.

Therefore, installing speed humps on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay is not technically warranted or recommended.

Appendix A outlines the assessment of the technical criteria in more detail.

Alternate recommendations

If, despite the findings above, the Toronto and East York Community Council determines that installing speed humps on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay would be beneficial, it should adopt the following:

1. The requirement that the City Clerk poll eligible householders on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay, to determine whether residents support the installation of speed humps in accordance with the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy be waived in this instance.
2. The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter a section of the roadway on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay, for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on the attached Drawing No. 421G-0105, dated July 2010.
3. Transportation Services take the necessary action to reduce the speed limit from forty kilometres per hour to thirty kilometres per hour on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay when the speed humps are installed

Conduct Poll

The City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy stipulates residents who would be directly affected by installing speed humps on Eireann Quay must be formally polled. A minimum response of 50 percent plus one ballot is required, of which at least 60 percent of the respondents must support installing speed humps in order to proceed with the installation. However Eireann Quay is unique in that there are no residential properties located on either side of this street. The Clerk has advised that given the spirit of both Chapter 190 – Polling and Notification and the City Council approved Traffic Calming Policy, the City Clerk must conduct traffic polls of individuals only. With no residential properties on this street and no residents impacted on adjacent streets, a poll could not be conducted in this instance.

Under the circumstances, if the Toronto and East York Community Council determines that installing speed humps on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay would be beneficial, then the polling requirement should be waived.

If the installation of speed humps is approved, Transportation Services would schedule installation based on relative need and competing priorities.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

Relative need and priority of speed hump installation is based on a technical assessment of traffic volume, vehicle speed percentages, speed-related collisions, and the presence of schools, parks, seniors' residences or bicycle routes. Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the south end of Eireann Quay scored 22 ranking points out of a possible 100.

No alterations to parking regulations are required, nor would the number of parking spaces be affected, by the installation of speed humps. Installation of speed humps will have minimal effect on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection.

Speed humps will result in slower operating speeds for all vehicles, including emergency service vehicles, and could result in increased response times in the event of an emergency.

Emergency Services Comments

Consultation with emergency services (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services) is required in order to ensure that the design and layout of a traffic calming proposal does not unduly affect their operations. We have advised emergency services that the subject location is being considered for the installation of traffic calming. Toronto Emergency Medical Services has indicated they are not in favour of speed humps on Eireann Quay (Letter from Toronto Emergency Medical Services of July 2, 2010 attached as Appendix B). We have not received any other comments back at this time.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421G-0105, dated July 2010
- (2) Appendix A - Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria
- (3) Appendix B – July 2, 2010 letter from Toronto Emergency Medical Services

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