

Toronto Emergency Medical Services
Headquarters
4330 Dufferin St.
Toronto, Ontario M3H 5R9Tel: 416-392-4930
Fax: 416-696-3603
skassam@toronto.ca
www.torontoems.caJuly 2, 2010
Mr. Bob Bonner
Transportation Technologist
Transportation Services
17th Floor, Metro Hall
Toronto, ON. M5V 3C6**Re: Traffic Calming Measures – Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the South End–
Evaluation for the installation of traffic calming measures.**

Dear: Mr. Bonner,

I have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of traffic calming measures for Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the South End. 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 health 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 traffic calming measures on Eireann Quay, between Queens Quay West and the South End. It is important that the applicant(s) fully understand the potential for delay in emergency response and that alternatives to vertical measures be considered and evaluated.

Yours truly,


Shamez Kassam
Senior EMS PlannerCopy: Councillor Adam Vaughan, Trinity Spadina – Ward 20, Suite C50, City Hall, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2
Gary Welsh P.Eng, General Manager – Transportation Services
Chief William Blair, Toronto Police Services, 40 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2J3
Attn: Traffic Sergeant, 52 Division
District Chief, Manick Noormahamud, Emergency Planning, Toronto Fire Services
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