

Speed Limit Reduction and Road Alteration – Bayview Avenue south of Pottery Road

Date:	June 7, 2011
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Toronto-Danforth, Ward 29
Reference Number:	Ts2011153te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is seeking authority from Toronto and East York Community Council to reduce the speed limit on Bayview Avenue, from Pottery Road to Rosedale Valley Road, to 60 km/h and to remove the centre concrete median on Bayview Avenue, south of Pottery Road. A lower speed limit is more appropriate for the changing nature of this roadway and the increased presence of cyclists and pedestrians. Removal of the centre median is required to allow for improvements to the east side shoulder of Bayview Avenue for use by pedestrians and cyclists.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Approve the alteration of Bayview Avenue, by removing the centre median that extends south from Pottery Road, generally as shown in the attached Drawing Nos. 421G-0384 and 421G-0385 dated June 2011.
2. Reduce the existing speed limit on Bayview Avenue, between Pottery Road (southerly intersection) and Rosedale Valley Road, from 70 km/h to 60 km/h.

Financial Impact

The cost for removing the centre median on Bayview Avenue that currently extends south from Pottery Road, will be included as part of the reconstruction of Pottery Road that commenced in May of this year. Funds for this work have been allocated in the Transportation Services 2011 Capital Budget under Contract #1TE 04RD. The shoulder modifications and modifications to pavement markings on this same section of Bayview Avenue will be funded by Transportation Services 2011 Capital Budget, Cycling and Infrastructure Management.

BACKGROUND

Work has commenced on the reconstruction of Pottery Road from Broadview Avenue to Bayview Avenue. As part of this project, changes to Pottery Road and its intersection with Bayview Avenue will be made to improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. Also, major improvements have been made by Evergreen at the Don Valley Brickworks site, turning it into a popular destination point. Staff of Transportation Services have been working with Evergreen to improve the connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists destined for The Brickworks. The reconstruction project presents an opportunity to make some improvements to this connectivity on Bayview Avenue.

COMMENTS

Existing Conditions

Bayview Avenue, in this vicinity, is a four-lane major arterial roadway that generally runs in a north-south direction with a traffic volume of approximately 39,000 vehicles a day. There are no sidewalks or curbs on this section of Bayview Avenue. A paved shoulder is provided on both sides of the road and a centre median extends generally from Moore Avenue to south of Pottery Road. The posted speed limit on Bayview Avenue between Pottery Road and Rosedale Valley Road is 70 km/h. The speed limit on Bayview Avenue, north of Pottery Road and south of Rosedale Valley Road is 60 km/h. There is no regular transit service on this section of Bayview Avenue.

Proposed Road Alterations

The proposed modifications to the centre median on Bayview Avenue, south of Pottery Road, are shown in the attached Drawing Nos. 421G-0384 and 421G-0385, dated June 2011.

A cycling and pedestrian path currently connects to Bayview Avenue just north of the ramp from the Don Valley Parkway to Bayview Avenue. Improvements will be made to the east shoulder of Bayview Avenue, and a barrier will be constructed to separate pedestrians and cyclists from vehicular traffic, from this point to the signalized access to The Brickworks where a pedestrian crossing signal will be provided. These improvements to the east shoulder will then be extended further north to connect to

Pottery Road. In order to provide enough width on the east side shoulder for two-way cyclists and pedestrians, and at the same time maintain vehicle lanes of sufficient width, the centre median needs to be removed from a point approximately 33 metres south of Pottery Road to its southerly end. A modified centre median will remain on the south leg of the intersection of Bayview Avenue and Pottery Road which will hold the required signal poles and equipment. The pavement markings will be modified to shift the lanes slightly.

Speed Limit Reduction

As noted earlier, the speed limit on Bayview Avenue, from Pottery Road to Rosedale Valley Road is currently posted at 70 km/h. With all of the recent changes in this area, this speed is no longer appropriate for this roadway. The addition of traffic signals at the driveway to The Brickworks and the increase in activity at this location, along with the increased presence of pedestrians and cyclists in the area, call for a reduction in vehicular speeds. The proposed speed limit of 60 km/h will be consistent with the posted speed limit on Bayview Avenue both north and south of this area.

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SIGNATURE

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421G-0383, dated June 2011
- (2) Drawing No. 421G-0384, dated June 2011
- (3) Drawing No. 421G-0385, dated June 2011

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