



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Traffic Calming – Highfield Road**

<b>Date:</b>	October 15, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Beaches – East York, Ward 32
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts2013187te.top.doc

**SUMMARY**

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

Transportation Services staff have reviewed the need for traffic calming on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, to address residents' concerns with vehicle speeds. Our assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the traffic calming policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, traffic calming should not be installed on Highfield Road at this time.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Transportation Services recommends to Toronto and East York Community Council that:**

1. Traffic calming not be installed on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road.

**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 a speed hump on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, would be beneficial, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing one speed hump would be \$3,000.00. Funds are available in the Transportation Services 2013 Capital Budget for traffic calming initiatives. Installing a speed hump on this section of Highfield Road would be subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

At the request of Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon, Transportation Services staff reviewed the need for traffic calming on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road. This was in response to residents' concerns with vehicle speeds.

## **COMMENTS**

Highfield Road is an 8.5-metre wide, two-way local roadway that runs south from Dundas Street East, turns west and becomes Kerr Road. There is a 50 km/h speed limit and heavy truck prohibition on Highfield Road. There are speed humps on Kerr Road, just west of Highfield Road. There is no TTC service on Highfield Road.

### **Analysis**

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

Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, does not meet all the criteria for installing traffic-calming devices. Specifically, the operating speed of 34 km/h is less than the minimum of 10 km/h over the existing posted speed limit required in the traffic calming policy. Also, this section of Highfield Road has an average daily vehicle volume of 250, less than the required minimum 1,000 vehicles per day. Accordingly, installing a speed hump on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road is not technically warranted.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending April 30, 2013 did not find any reported collisions on Highfield Road attributed to speeding.

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

### **Alternate Recommendations**

If, despite the findings above, Toronto and East York Community Council determines that installing a speed hump on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, would be beneficial, it may approve the following:

1. Polling Registry Services poll eligible householders on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, to determine whether residents support the installation, in accordance with the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy.
2. Subject to favourable results of the poll:
  - a. The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on the copy of Drawing No. 421G-1229, dated October 2013, attached to the report dated October 15, 2013,

entitled " Traffic Calming – Highfield Road", from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto East York District; and

- b. Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 50 km/h to 30 km/h on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, when the speed hump is installed.

### **Conduct Poll**

The City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy stipulates residents who would be directly affected by installing speed humps on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, 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 a speed hump in order to proceed with the installation. Subject to approval by Toronto and East York Community Council of the alternate recommendations outlined above, Transportation Services would request a poll of eligible residents on Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road. If the poll supports a speed hump, 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. Highfield Road, between Dundas Street East and Kerr Road, scored 8 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 a speed hump. Installation of a speed hump will have minimal effect on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection.

A speed hump 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. Toronto Fire Services provided their comments in the attached letter dated June 28, 2013 (Appendix B). Toronto Fire is opposed to the installation of a speed hump on Highfield Road at this time. Comments have not yet been received from the Toronto Police Service or Emergency Medical Services.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

Jacqueline White, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services  
Toronto and East York District

## **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Drawing No. 421G-1229, dated October 2013
- (2) Appendix A - Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria
- (3) Appendix B - June 28, 2013 letter from Toronto Fire dated June 28, 2013

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