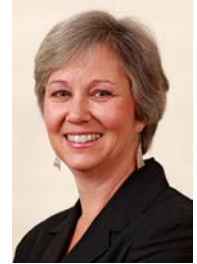


Ward 13

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Date: May 26, 2016
To: **Members of the Etobicoke York Community Council**
From: Councillor Sarah Doucette (Ward 13)
Subject: Request report on reducing speed limits in Ward 13

SUMMARY:

Requests from residents of Ward 13 for speed reductions and traffic calming measures have increased in recent years. Residents are concerned with vehicle speeds and volumes on our residential streets. Our ward currently has 19 requests for traffic calming in progress or recently completed by Transportation Services. Each of these traffic studies take 6-8 months to complete as well as considerable staff and financial resources.

This street-by-street approach has left us with a patchwork of varying speed limits throughout the ward and in some cases, up to three different speed limits on a single street. Many in our ward supported the efforts of Toronto-East York Community Council which voted last year to make all local, residential streets 30 km/h and thought it would apply in their neighbourhoods as well. Since that time, I've heard from growing numbers that want to see this measure in Ward 13.

Research indicates that lowering speed limits to 30 km/h on residential streets reduces fatality rates and makes our streets safer – something that has been echoed by the World Health Organization and our own municipal agencies:

- The Board of Health has advocated for lower speeds to reduce injuries and fatalities (April 30, 2012 –HL13.1 – 'Road to Health: A Healthy Toronto by Design'), recommending that the General Manager, Transportation Services consider reducing vehicle speed limits to 30 km/h on residential streets.
- The City of Toronto adopted a new 30 km/h speed limit policy in 2015, recognizing the increased demand for lower speeds without physical traffic calming.
- At Etobicoke York Community Council, Councillor Grimes (Ward 6) and I moved to have the General Manager, Transportation Services "report on measures to reduce traffic speeds in Wards 6 and 13, including a reduction in speed limits, to 40 km/h and 30 km/h, specifically in school zones, parks and near day cares," noting the dangerous levels of speeding facing our communities.

Consulting with Ward 13 residents, I received hundreds of responses in support of making this change. In addition to petitions, emails and calls on the subject, The Bloor West Village Residents' Association, the Bloor West Village BIA, the Junction BIA, the Swansea Historical Society, Cycle Toronto's Ward 13

Chapter and local environmental organisation Green 13 have all submitted letters of support for this measure on behalf of their members.

On behalf of the residents of Ward 13, I am requesting that Transportation Services report on the feasibility of reducing the speed limits on residential streets (local roads):

RECOMMENDATION:

The Etobicoke York Community Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report to the Etobicoke York Community Council meeting on September 7, 2016 for consideration of reducing the speed limits on all local roads in Ward 13 to 30 km/h.

I am seeking your support to make the residential streets in Ward 13 safer for all users.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Doucette,
City Councillor - Ward 13