



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Lawrence Avenue West – Speed Limit Amendment**

<b>Date:</b>	March 31, 2011
<b>To:</b>	Etobicoke York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Acting Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 12 – York South-Weston
<b>Reference Number:</b>	p:\2011\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc110056-to

**SUMMARY**

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

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to reduce the speed limit on Lawrence Avenue West, between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street.

A staff assessment has determined that the criteria for installing a 50 km/h speed limit on major arterial roads are achieved, in that the findings are consistent with the 50 km/h Speed Limit Warrant. Approving this report will result in a 50 km/h speed limit regulation along Lawrence Avenue West between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street and provide for a consistent 50 km/h speed limit between Royal York Road and Don Mills Road.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Transportation Services recommends that Etobicoke York Community Council approve:**

1. Rescinding the existing 60 km/h speed limit on Lawrence Avenue West between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street.

**Financial Impact**

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$400.00

## ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services staff received a request from the Toronto Police Services to consider the reduction of the speed limit on Lawrence Avenue West between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street from 60 km/h to 50 km/h. Although the majority of Lawrence Avenue West is already 50 km/h, there is a short section that is posted as 60 km/h (between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street). Maps of the area are Attachment 1 and 2.

## COMMENTS

Lawrence Avenue West is a major arterial road with a speed limit of 50 km/h, except between; Black Creek Drive and Keele Street (1.2 km) and; Don Mills Road and Port Union Road, which both have a speed limit of 60 km/h.

The adjacent land uses in Black Creek Drive and Keele Street area include a Public Library, Amesbury Sports Complex, open park space, Amesbury Community Centre, a Fire Hall, and several low-rise to mid-rise residential buildings.

To assess existing traffic conditions, 24 hour vehicle speed (and volume) studies were conducted on Lawrence Avenue West. The following table identifies the results of those studies.

Lawrence Avenue West	Dir	Speed Limit	Vehicle Speeds		Traffic Volume		
			Operating	Average	AM	PM	24 Hr
Between De Marco Boulevard and Culford Road	WB	60	64	54	805	931	13 781
	EB		66	56	845	875	10 978
Between Culford Road and Pimlico Road	WB		67	58	712	968	13 148
	EB		65	54	811	1 051	11 603
Between Pimlico Road and Keele Street	WB		62	53	684	980	12 752
	EB		59	45	608	639	9 485

The results of the vehicle speed studies confirmed the operating speeds, the speed at which 85% of the traffic travels at or below are between 59 km/h and 67 km/h, and average speeds are between 45 km/h and 58 km/h.

Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending July 15, 2010, indicate that there have been no reported collisions in which speeding was indicated as a factor on Lawrence Avenue West between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street.

Lawrence Avenue West satisfies the Traffic Environment criteria as specified in the attached Appendix A: Table 1, based on Pedestrian and Bicycle Factors and Roadway Geometry Related Factors.

Although the section of Lawrence Avenue West between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street is posted as 60 km/h, the surrounding conditions are similar to other sections of Lawrence Avenue West with 50 km/h speed limits. As such, for consistency with the rest of Lawrence Avenue West, a 50 km/h speed limit is also recommended on the section of Lawrence Avenue West between Black Creek Drive and Keele Street.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Steven Kodama, P.Eng.

Acting Director, Transportation Services – Etobicoke York District

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A: 50 km/h Warrant

Attachment 1: Map

Attachment 2: Area Map

## APPENDIX “A”

### The Warrants:

A permanent 50 km/h maximum speed limit may be implemented on an arterial road where **one of the following two warrants A and B is met.**

**A. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed is less than 60 km/h.**

Range 59 km/h to 67 km/h (No)

**B. If any combination of FIVE of the following criteria were answered as YES.**

*1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Related Factors*

*Result*

1.a	Is pedestrian activity (Age under 12) Heavy? Or Is pedestrian activity (Age under 12) Medium and sidewalk setback less than 2.5 m? Or Is pedestrian activity (Age under 12) Light and sidewalk setback less than 0.5 m? Or Is pedestrian activity (Age OVER 12) Heavy and sidewalk setback less than 0.5 m?	No  Yes  No  No	Yes
1.b	Is the bicycle activity (without a bike lane) High?	No	No

*2. Collision Related Factor*

*Result*

2	Is the Probability of Safety Improvement Index (PSI index) low? (Emphasis is on collision patterns that cannot be influenced by localized improvements)	No	No
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### 3 Roadway Geometry Related Factors

#### Result

3.a	Is the number of curves per kilometre with a comfortable speed less than 60 km/h (Level/rolling terrain) equals two or more?	No	No
3.b	Is the number of locations per kilometre with insufficient distance to stop safely while travelling at 60 km/h equals two or more?	Yes	Yes
3.c	Is the length of speed zone < 1 km?	No	No
3.d	Is the number of non-commercial driveways per kilometre > 30?	Yes	Yes
3.e	Is the number of low-density residential driveways per kilometre > 5?	Yes	Yes
3.f	Absence of a Centre Left-Turn Lane (Mid-Block/Partially)	Yes	Yes

### 4. Roadway Operation Related Factors

#### Result

4	Is the On-Street Parking activity <sup>6</sup> Medium to high?	No	No
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The above warrants are intended to assist Traffic Operations staff in deciding whether the lower 50 km/h speed limit should be applied to an arterial road.