

July 22, 2010  
Teresa Carmichael  
Engineering Technologist  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Metro Hall  
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6

**Re: Benson Avenue, between Winona Drive and Greensides Avenue – Evaluation for the Installation of Speed Humps**

Dear: Ms. Carmichael,

I have received and reviewed the evaluation from Traffic Operations for installation of speed humps for Benson Avenue, between Winona Drive and Greensides Avenue. 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 healthy 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.

Benson Avenue is often used by EMS staff as an alternate to St Clair Avenue West.

As documented in the in the Traffic Calming Policy, Toronto EMS objects to 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 speed humps on Benson Avenue, between Winona Drive and Greensides Avenue. 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.

Caroline Mellor  
Senior EMS Planner  
Toronto EMS

C.c.: Councillor Joe Mihevc, St. Paul's – Ward 21, Suite B35, City Hall, Toronto, On. M5H 2N2  
Chief William Blair, Toronto Police Service, 40 College Street, Toronto, Ontario. M5G 2J3.  
Attention Staff Inspector Michael Matic, 13 Division  
District Chief, Manick Noormahamud, Emergency Planning, Toronto Fire, 4330 Dufferin Street,  
Toronto, Ontario, M3H 5R9

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TS201104-Annex A