TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Eileen Avenue – Traffic Calming

Date:	December 8, 2011
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 11 – York South-Weston
Reference Number:	p:\2012\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc120010-to

SUMMARY

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

This report summarizes the results of the traffic calming survey undertaken between July 13, 2011 and August 11, 2011, for owners and occupants on Eileen Avenue, between Scarlett Road and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue. The survey exhibits a response rate of just 43 per cent. As a result, installing speed humps is not recommended since the minimum survey response rate of greater than 50 per cent is not achieved. In addition, at least 60 per cent of residents polled must favour the speed hump plan. On Eileen Avenue, only 55 per cent of respondents indicated their support for the plan.

At the request of the area Councillor, the poll results were further broken down to reflect the opinion of the residents at the west end of the street and those at the east end of the street. The west end residents revealed only 38 per cent support for the plan while east end residents revealed 81 per cent support. The plan only proposed two speed humps, both situated on the east end of the street.

Although the residents in the west end of the street do not have the humps in front of their properties, as they have no other access to their properties and thus would be directly impacted with the installation of speed humps, they were included in the poll.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends to Etobicoke York Community Council that:

1. Traffic calming NOT be installed on Eileen Avenue, between Scarlett Road and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue.

Financial Impact

Adopting the above-noted recommendation does not result in any financial impact; however, if Community Council decides to approve installing traffic calming devices on this section of Eileen Avenue, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing two speed humps will be $6,000.00. This can be accommodated within funds allocated by City Council as part of the Transportation Capital Budget, subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At its meeting of June 22, 2011, Etobicoke York Community Council considered Item EY8.46, a staff report dated June 10, 2011, recommending that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on Eileen Avenue, between Scarlett Road and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue, to determine community support for the proposed traffic calming plan. This recommendation is based on a technical evaluation of the road for traffic calming purposes, and its compliance with the minimum warrant requirements specified by the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy.

The City's Traffic Calming Policy requires that staff undertake a survey of eligible property owners and occupants adjoining the streets being considered for traffic calming.

COMMENTS

As directed by Decision EY8.46, the City Clerk, Elections and Registry Services Division conducted a survey that was mailed to property owners and occupants on July 13, 2011. The last date for filing a response was August 11, 2011. The survey is designed to measure community support for speed humps on Eileen Avenue, between Scarlett Road and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue. After calculating the survey results, the area Councillor requested that Transportation Services report to Community Council on the survey, despite its negative results.

With respect to the survey, each of the following criteria must exhibit a positive response:

1. A minimum response rate greater than 50 per cent.
2. At least 60 per cent of the respondents must favour the prepared plan.

The following table describes the survey results:

Description	Calculations/Data
Total Ballots Mailed	278 (100%)
Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% +1)	140 (50% +1)
Valid Ballots Returned	119 (43%)
Respondents in Favour	65 (55% of respondents)
Respondents Opposed	54 (45% of respondents)

The area Councillor further requested that the poll results be summarized by the property owners and occupants residing between Scarlett Road and property #182 Eileen Avenue (the east end), and the property owners residing between #182 Eileen Avenue and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue (the west end).

The following table describes the survey results:

Scarlett Road to property #182 Eileen Avenue (east end)

Description	Calculations/Data
Total Ballots Mailed	139 (100%)
Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% +1)	70.5 (50% +1)
Valid Ballots Returned	47 (34%)
Respondents in Favour	38 (81% of respondents)
Respondents Opposed	9 (19% of respondents)

#202 Eileen Avenue to #255 Eileen Avenue (west end)

Description	Calculations/Data
Total Ballots Mailed	139 (100%)
Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% +1)	70.5 (50% +1)
Valid Ballots Returned	72 (52%)
Respondents in Favour	27 (38% of respondents)
Respondents Opposed	45 (63% of respondents)

Given that the properties west of #182 Eileen Avenue have no other access to their properties and would be impacted with the installation of speed humps, particularly in a situation when emergency services (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services) are greatly needed, their poll results are considered valid.

Regardless of the breakdown, the survey results of the overall area did not meet the minimum 50 per cent plus one vote response rate that the Traffic Calming Policy requires as just 43 per cent of eligible property owners/residents responded; consequently, the response rate is unlikely to accurately represent the views of the majority of residents, and under the policy, we cannot recommend installing speed humps on this section of Eileen Avenue.

Under the current policy, the City Clerk has notified Eileen Avenue residents in writing that the speed hump survey does not satisfy required criteria, and that any follow-up survey cannot be conducted for two years. Residents have not specifically been told that speed humps will not be installed, but can interpret the low response rate as an indication that existing traffic conditions and installing speed humps do not appear to be a particularly significant issue for several residents.

Notwithstanding our recommendation, should Community Council decide to proceed with installing speed humps, we recommend that:

1. The City Solicitor prepare a draft by-law for installing two speed humps on Eileen Avenue, between Scarlett Road and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue, generally as shown on Drawing EY11-101B dated June 2011.

2. Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Eileen Avenue between Scarlett Road and the westerly limit of Eileen Avenue upon installation of speed humps.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Site Map
Attachment 2: Speed Hump Location Plan