TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Traffic Calming – Quebec Avenue

Date:	April 5, 2012
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 13 – Parkdale–High Park
Reference Number:	p:\2012\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc120052-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 February 15, 2012 and March 15, 2012, for owners and occupants on Quebec Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Annette Street. The survey exhibits a response rate of just 47 per cent. As a result, installing speed humps is not recommended since the minimum survey response rate greater than 50 per cent is not achieved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends to Etobicoke York Community Council that:

1. Traffic calming NOT be installed on Quebec Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Annette Street.

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 Quebec Avenue, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing four speed humps will be $12,000.00. 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 January 10, 2012, Etobicoke York Community Council considered Item EY12.36, a staff report dated November 24, 2011, recommending that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on Quebec Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Annette Street, 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 EY12.36, the City Clerk, Elections and Registry Services Division conducted a survey that was mailed to property owners and occupants on February 15, 2012. The last date for filing a response was March 15, 2012. The survey is designed to measure community support for speed humps on Quebec Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Annette Street. 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	208 (100%)
Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% +1)	105 (50% +1)
Valid Ballots Returned	98 (47%)
Respondents in Favour	69 (70% of respondents)
Respondents Opposed	25 (26% of respondents)
Spoiled Ballots	4 (4% of respondents

The survey results of the area did not meet the minimum 50 per cent plus one vote response rate that the Traffic Calming Policy requires as just 47 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 Quebec Avenue.

Under the current policy, the City Clerk has notified Quebec 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 four speed humps on Quebec Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Annette Street, generally as shown on Drawing EY11-116 dated June 2011.

2. Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Quebec Avenue between Dundas Street West and Annette Street upon installation of speed humps.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Speed Hump Location Plan