

**40 km/h Speed Zone: Dufferin Street, Beffort Road,
Hanover Road**

Date:	May 15, 2012
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services, North York District
Wards:	Ward 9 – York Centre
Reference Number:	<i>ny12057</i>

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Community Council has delegated authority to make a final decision, provided that it is not amended so that it varies with City policy or by-laws.

To deny the requests to amend the speed limit on Dufferin Street, Beffort Road and Hanover Road to 40 km/h.

The existing traffic and roadway conditions do not warrant the installation of a 40 km/h speed limit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, North York District recommends that North York Community Council:

1. Deny the amendments to the regulatory speed limit on Beffort Road, between Dufferin Street and Hanover Road;
2. Deny the amendments to the regulatory speed limit on Hanover Road, between Beffort Road and the west terminus of Hanover Road; and

3. Deny the amendments to the regulatory speed limit on Dufferin Street, between Wilson Avenue and Beffort Road.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with the adoption of this report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services, North York District was requested by the Ward Councillor on behalf of the area residents to review the feasibility of reducing the regulatory speed limit to 40 km/h on Beffort Road.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services has reviewed the feasibility of reducing the speed limit on Dufferin Street, Beffort Road and Hanover Road from 50 km/h to 40 km/h. Although, the request from the Councillor was to review Beffort Road, given the physical geometry/alignment of these three roadways (Dufferin Street/Beffort Road/Hanover Road) form one continuous roadway from Wilson Avenue to the north terminus of Hanover Road, staff in its review has considered these roadways as one.

Dufferin Street/Beffort Road/Hanover Road are classified as collector roads between Wilson Avenue and Plewes Road, and classified as a local road between Plewes Road and the westerly terminus of Hanover Road. This roadway operates as a two lane roadway with a pavement width of 8.5 metres and a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h. Municipal sidewalks are located on the west/south side of the roadway. There are no residential driveway accesses to this roadway with the exception of the residential home at 130 Maniza Road.

Located on the west/south side of the roadway are residential properties and located on the east/north side of the roadway is the parking facility for Bombardier and the airport runways to De Havilland.

To assess the existing traffic conditions, 24-hour volume and speed studies were conducted on Dufferin Street/Beffort Road/Hanover Road between Wilson Avenue and end of Hanover Road.

The following table identifies the results of those studies:

Location	Dir	Speed Limit (km/h)	Vehicle Speeds (km/h)		Traffic Volume		
			Operating	Average	AM Peak Hr	PM Peak Hr	24 Hrs
Dufferin St (Regent Rd to Katherine Rd)	NB	50	64	50	374	133	1941
	SB		56	45	101	431	2217
Beffort Rd (Plewes Rd to Hanover Rd)	NB		68	60	353	90	1333
	SB		76	68	47	521	1695
Hanover Rd (Beffort Rd to Hanover Rd)	NB		70	62	184	89	1037
	SB		58	51	56	388	1528

The results of the vehicle speed studies indicated that the operating speeds, the speed at which 85% of the motorists are travelling at or below is 76 km/h, and the average vehicle speeds are at or below 68 km/h. In view of the residents' concerns and results of the speed studies, Transportation Services has requested that the Toronto Police Service undertake the appropriate enforcement of speed limit on Dufferin Street/Beffort Road/Hanover Road between Wilson Avenue and end of Hanover Road. We have also included this roadway in the "Watch Your Speed" program in 2011.

It should be noted that the 40 km/h speed limit policy considers various roadway characteristics, safety concerns, collision patterns, location of pedestrian generators such as schools and the absence of municipal sidewalks.

In applying the criteria established as a part of the City's 40 km/h speed limit policy, a reduction of the speed limit on Beffort Road is not justified. Specifically, given that there is a municipal sidewalk on the west side of the roadway and that there are no schools along this roadway. Furthermore, it was noted that there have been zero collisions reported in the preceding three year period ending December 31, 2011, where vehicle speed was identified as a factor.

Given the geometry of the roadway, reducing the speed limit will not result in reducing the vehicle travelling speeds and may only create a greater variance in speeds between motorists.

As such, this Division is unable to support a reduction of the speed limit to 40 km/h on Dufferin Street, Beffort Road and Hanover Road.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendation contained within this report.

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SIGNATURE

Pascoal D'Souza
Acting Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map – Beffort Road: 40 km/h Speed Zone
Attachment 2: 40 km/h Warrant Sheet Beffort Road