



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Traffic Calming – Donora Drive

Date:	January 25, 2012
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Beaches-East York, Ward 31
Reference Number:	Ts2012039te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services staff have reviewed the need for traffic calming on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue to address residents’ concerns with the speed of traffic. Our assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the Traffic Calming Policy has not been met. Therefore, speed humps should not be installed on this section of Donora Drive at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends to Toronto and East York Community Council that:

1. Traffic calming not be installed on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue.

Financial Impact

The adoption of the above-noted recommendation will not result in any financial impacts.

If, however, Toronto and East York Community Council decides speed humps on Donora Drive would be beneficial, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing three speed humps would be \$9,000.00. Funds have been allocated in the Transportation Services 2012 Capital Budget for traffic calming initiatives. Installing speed humps on Donora Drive would be subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At the request of Councillor Janet Davis, Transportation Services staff conducted a traffic study on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue to determine whether traffic calming devices would address concerns with current traffic operations.

COMMENTS

Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, is a local street operating two-way with a posted speed limit of 40 km/h and a pavement width of 9.0 metres. Sidewalks exist on both sides of the roadway and the road grade is less than 5 percent. There is no TTC Route on Donora Drive.

Analysis

Vehicle speeds and traffic volumes are the prime criteria for installing traffic calming devices. Other factors, including road width, pedestrian facilities and gradient are also considered in the assessment.

Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, does not meet all the criteria for installing traffic-calming devices. Specifically, the operating speed of 45 km/h is below the minimum of 10 km/h over the existing posted speed limit and the daily traffic volume is less than 1000 vehicles, as required in the Traffic Calming Policy. Therefore, the installation of traffic calming on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, is not technically warranted.

Toronto Police Service collision records indicate no collisions were reported on this section of Donora Drive for the three-year period ending December 31, 2011.

Appendix "A" outlines the assessment of the technical criteria in more detail.

Alternate recommendations

If, despite the findings above, Toronto and East York Community Council determines that installing speed humps on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue would be beneficial, it may approve the following:

1. Transportation Services consult with Councillor Davis to develop a speed hump plan.
2. Polling Registry Services poll eligible householders on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, to determine whether residents support the installation, in accordance with the City of Toronto traffic calming policy.
3. Subject to favourable results of the poll:
 - (a) The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, for traffic

calming purposes, generally as the speed hump plan that Transportation Services circulated to residents during the polling process shows; and

- (b) Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, when the speed humps are installed.

Conduct poll

The City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy stipulates residents who would be directly affected by installing speed humps on this section of Donora Drive must be formally polled. A minimum response of 50 percent plus one ballot is required, of which at least 60 percent of the respondents must be in favour of installing speed humps in order to proceed with the installation. Subject to approval by Toronto and East York Community Council of the alternate recommendations outlined above, Polling Registry Services would poll eligible residents on this section of Donora Drive. If the poll supports speed humps on Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, Transportation Services staff would schedule installation based on relative need, competing priorities, and funding availability.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

Relative need and priority of speed hump installation is based on a technical assessment of traffic volume, vehicle speed percentages, speed-related collisions, and the presence of schools, parks, seniors' residences or bicycle routes. Donora Drive, between Dawes Road and Victoria Park Avenue, scored 18 ranking points out of a possible 100.

No alterations to parking regulations are required, nor would the number of parking spaces be affected, and the effects on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection should be minimal.

Speed humps would result in slower operating speeds for all vehicles, including emergency service vehicles, and could result in increased response times in the event of an emergency.

Emergency Services Comments

Consultation with emergency services (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services) is required to ensure that a traffic calming proposal does not unduly affect their operations. We have received comments from Emergency Medical Services, dated January 13, 2012 (attached Appendix B), and from Fire Service, dated January 16, 2012 (attached Appendix C). Both services are opposed to the installation of speed humps on Donora Drive.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421G-0548, dated January 2012
- (2) Appendix A – Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria
- (3) Appendix B – Letter from EMS, dated January 13, 2012
- (4) Appendix C – Letter from Fire, dated January 16, 2012

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