TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Falstaff Avenue between Amber Crescent and Culford Road – Traffic Calming

Date:	December 3, 2012
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 12 – York South-Weston
Reference Number:	p:\2013\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc130007-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 October 17, 2012 and November 15, 2012, for owners and occupants on Falstaff Avenue, between Amber Crescent and Culford Road. The survey exhibits a response rate of just 40 per cent. As a result, installing speed humps is not recommended since the minimum survey response rate greater than 50 per cent plus one is not achieved. In addition, at least 60% of residents polled must favour the speed hump plan. On Falstaff Avenue, 62% of respondents indicated their support for the plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends to Etobicoke York Community Council that:

1. Traffic calming NOT be installed on Falstaff Avenue, between Amber Crescent and Culford Road.

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 Falstaff 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 September 11, 2012, Etobicoke York Community Council considered Item EY18.36, a staff report dated August 14, 2012, recommending that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on Falstaff Avenue, between Amber Crescent and Culford Road, to determine community support for the proposed traffic calming plan. Councillor Di Giorgio also presented a motion to amend Staff's recommendation by adding the words "amended to identify 4 speed humps instead of 6 speed humps and circulated to residents through the survey process". Staff's 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 EY18.36, the City Clerk, Elections and Registry Services Division conducted a survey that was mailed to property owners and occupants on October 17, 2012. The last date for filing a response was November 15, 2012. The survey is designed to measure community support for speed humps on Falstaff Avenue, between Amber Crescent and Culford Road. 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 plus one.
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	209 (100%)
Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% +1)	105 (50% +1)
Valid Ballots Returned	84 (40%)
Respondents in Favour	52 (62% of respondents)
Respondents Opposed	32 (38% 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 40 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 Falstaff Avenue.

Under the current policy, the City Clerk has notified Falstaff 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 Falstaff Avenue, between Amber Crescent and Culford Road, generally as shown on Drawing 42IF - 8225 dated August 2012.

2. Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Falstaff Avenue between Amber Crescent and Culford Road upon installation of speed humps.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Speed Hump Location Plan