May 06, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

On December 11, 2012, I spoke with Mrs. Jane Park, co-chair of the Parent Council of Sir Ernest Macmillan Senior Public School (149 Huntsmill Boulevard), who expressed a number of safety concerns related to automobile traffic and pedestrian students at the intersection of Springhouse Drive and Huntsmill Boulevard, during school drop-off and pick-up times. In subsequent discussions on the matter, the same worries were expressed by other members of the school’s Parent Council, school Staff and its Principal, Doug McNeill. I contacted Councillor Mike Del Grande’s office on December 18th about the matter, and encouraged the school’s Parent Council to compose and send his office a letter detailing their issue.

Subsequent to the aforementioned letter being sent to Councillor Del Grande’s office, a morning meeting was arranged on January 16, 2013 by his assistant, Carol McDonald. I attended the meeting which included Mr. Frank Bozzo from the City of Toronto; along with representatives from the Toronto Police and Toronto Parking Authority, as well as Mrs. Nancy Mohammed co-chair of the school Parent Council and Principal Doug McNeill. After witnessing the morning’s student drop-off in front of the school, Mr. Bozzo agreed to effect a study of the intersection’s traffic volume to determine the advisability of any traffic control measure(s).

On April 10, Carol McDonald forwarded the report from the City of Toronto Traffic Services which detailed the findings of the study. The report did not recommend traffic control measures for the specified intersection. However, I did note that on Page 4 of the report’s summary that the volume of traffic was actually quite near to the limit for Warrant Requirements that might lead to some form of traffic control being implemented. I would urge the Scarborough Community Council to take another look at the report and consider that the safety of students is the primary concern which occasioned this discussion and petition.

Yours very sincerely,

Sam Sotiropoulos
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