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January 17, 2013

Mr. Brian Holditch
Transportation Technologist
17th floor, Metro Hall
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 3C6**Re: Traffic Calming Measures – Hamilton Street, between Dundas Street East and Kintyre Avenue – Evaluation for the installation of speed humps.**

Dear Mr. Holditch,

I have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of traffic calming measures Hamilton Street, between Dundas Street East and Kintyre Avenue. I have the following comments:

Toronto Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is supportive of community initiatives that improve the safety of all citizens, and visitors to, the City of Toronto. Traffic and pedestrian safety are key components of a healthy neighborhood and we endeavor to support the wishes of the community to implement measures to improve upon these components. We look to the City's Traffic Calming Policy and its Warrant Criteria for guidance in our assessments and recommendations.

As documented in the in the Traffic Calming Policy, Toronto EMS has concerns regarding the usage of traffic calming measures, especially vertical obstacle measures such as speed humps, as there are negative effects on emergency call response times, travel times to hospital and on patient comfort during transport. This delay is cumulative with each obstacle and can directly impact upon patient outcome.

It is noted that this proposal does not meet the Warrant Criteria as set out in the Policy and as such, Toronto EMS is opposed to the installation of speed humps on Hamilton Street, between Dundas Street East and Kintyre Avenue. It is important that the applicant(s) fully understand the potential for delay in emergency response and that alternatives to vertical measures be considered and evaluated.

Yours truly,

Shamez Kassam
Superintendent, EMS Planning
Toronto EMS

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