



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Traffic Calming Poll Results – Hickory Tree Road,
between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent**

Date:	November 10, 2014
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 11 – York South - Weston
Reference Number:	p:\2015\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc150013-to

SUMMARY

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

This report summarizes the results of the traffic calming polls undertaken on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent.

At its meeting of June 17, 2014, Etobicoke York Community Council, as per item EY34.49, directed the City Clerk to formally survey residents directly affected by installing speed humps on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent. Polling ballots were sent to the affected residents on September 5, 2014 and although 94% of residents on Hickory Tree Road who responded to the polling supported the installation of speed humps, the minimum response rate of 50% plus one ballot was not achieved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends to Etobicoke York Community Council that:

1. Traffic Calming NOT be installed on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget – proposed speed hump installation (4 humps) on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent	Transportation Services Capital Budget	\$12,000.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

On September 10, 2007, Etobicoke York Community Council delegated a final decision to authorize the City Clerk to conduct a poll of eligible households on Hickory Tree Road for the installation of Traffic Calming (speed humps) based on staffs assessment that the Traffic Calming criteria had been met. The request for traffic calming was due to residents' concerns with vehicular speeds on Hickory Tree Road. A poll was conducted and the minimum response rate of 50% plus one ballot was not achieved.

At its meeting of June 17, 2014, the area Councillor presented a motion to Etobicoke York Community Council, as per item EY34.49. Etobicoke York Community Council directed the City Clerk to formally survey residents directly affected by installing speed humps on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent. Polling ballots were sent to the affected residents on September 5, 2014 and the results are the basis of this report.

Maps of the areas are Attachments 1.

COMMENTS

Hickory Tree Road is a 9.5 metre wide two-lane road classified as a “Collector” in the City’s Road Classification System. The road is located in the residential community south of Lawrence Avenue West and west of Weston Road. Sidewalks exist on both sides of the road. The speed limit on the street is 40 km/h.

The City's Traffic Calming Policy stipulates that a minimum of 50% plus one of affected households/properties respond, and that 60% of valid responses support the proposal in order to implement the plan.

The poll results for Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent are as follows:

Hickory Tree Road

Number of ballots issued	392	
Number of ballots returned by Post Office	14	
Number of eligible voters	378	
Number of responses required	190	50 % plus one ballot
Number of ballots returned	55	15 %
Number in favour of speed humps	52	95 % of those that responded
Number opposed to speed humps	1	2 % of those that responded
Number of spoiled ballots	2	3 % of those responded

Should Community Council decide to proceed with installing speed humps on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent, we recommend that:

1. The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on the attached Drawing EY07-143, dated June 2014.
2. A 30 km/h speed limit be approved on Hickory Tree Road, between Lawrence Avenue West and Bellevue Crescent when the speed humps are installed.

Consultation with emergency services (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services) is required to ensure that the design and layout of traffic calming proposals do not negatively affect their operations. Although we generally advise emergency services of our intentions, we do not always receive a formal response; however, in the past Toronto Fire Services has provided the following general statement regarding speed hump installation.

“...Toronto Fire Service is supportive of initiatives that improve the life safety of our citizens. Our concern is that the physical calming measures being proposed may negatively impact emergency response to the area.

The vertical restrictions imposed by speed humps have a much greater affect on large fire vehicles than smaller passenger vehicles. Response time increases with every obstacle a fire vehicle encounters en route from the fire station to the incident. Although the increase at each hump may only be seconds, the cumulative effect can be a significant amount of time that could result in increased property damage, unnecessary injury or loss of life.

Speed humps are generally hard on large, heavy vehicles (fire vehicles) and increase the potential to suffer mechanical damage. This in turn can lead to a vehicle being placed out of service for considerable periods of time. Aside from the costs associated with repairs, there is a decrease in the resources available to respond to other emergency situations.”

CONTACT

Larysa Sereda, Engineering Technologist Technician 1
Traffic Operations, Etobicoke York District
Tel: 416-392-8435; Fax: 416-394-8942;
Email: lsereda@toronto.ca
AFS20579

SIGNATURE

Steven T. Kodama P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services – Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - Proposed Speed Hump Location Plan- Hickory Tree Road