



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**40 km/h Speed Limit: York Mills Road between
Parkwood Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue**

Date:	August 28, 2015
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, North York District
Wards:	Ward 34 – Don Valley East
Reference Number:	<i>p:/2015/ClusterB\TRA\NorthYork\ny15074</i>

SUMMARY

As TTC operates a transit service on York Mills Road, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services is requesting approval to reduce the speed limit on York Mills Road, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue, from 50 km/h to 40 km/h. On this section of York Mills Road there are two elementary schools, a Montessori school/daycare and a retirement residence. A 40 km/h speed limit will promote slower operating speeds and enhance safety for all road users.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve a 40 km/h speed limit on York Mills Road, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the installation of a 40 km/h speed limit zone are included within the Transportation Services 2015 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor Minnan-Wong, on behalf of local residents, to investigate measures to lower vehicle speeds on York Mills Road, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue, in order to enhance pedestrian safety in the vicinity of Saint Isaac Jogues and Saint Madeleine Catholic Elementary Schools and the Rayoak Retirement Residence.

COMMENTS

York Mills Road narrows from a 15 metre-wide major-arterial road to an 8.6 metre-wide collector road at the skewed intersection with Parkwoods Village Drive. From this intersection Parkwoods Village Drive becomes the major arterial road that continues south east to connect with Victoria Park Avenue. York Mills Road, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue, consists of one eastbound lane and one westbound lane, with a speed limit of 50 km/h.

Saint Isaac Jogues and Saint Madeleine Catholic Elementary Schools are located on the north side of York Mills Road, between Ness Drive and Rayoak Drive. Also, Rayoak Retirement Residence and Kids Hut Daycare and Montessori School are located on the north side of the road, between Rayoak Drive and Victoria Park Avenue. There are pedestrian crossovers (PXO) on York Mills Road at Ness Drive and Rayoak Drive. The parking regulations on York Mills Road are as follows:

North Side

- Ness Drive to Rayoak Drive: No Parking, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- Rayoak Drive to Victoria Park Avenue: No Parking Anytime.

South Side

- Parkwoods Village Drive to Victoria Park Avenue: No Parking, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

The TTC operates the 144 express bus route in the eastbound direction on the subject section of York Mills Road with five trips during the a.m. period and nine trips during the p.m. period. TTC stops are located just east of Parkwoods Village Drive and at Victoria Park Avenue.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending October 31, 2014, revealed 15 collisions were reported on the subject section of York Mills Road. One of these collisions was attributed to excessive vehicle speeds and one involved a pedestrian.

Weekday speed studies were recently undertaken on York Mills Road and the 85th percentile speed (the speed at which 85 percent of vehicles travel at or below) was revealed to be 54 km/h and 51 km/h for eastbound and westbound traffic, respectively, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Rayoak Drive. Between Rayoak Drive and Victoria Park Avenue the 85th percentile speed was revealed to be 54 km/h and 56 km/h for eastbound and westbound traffic, respectively.

In July 2002, City Council approved "Warrants for Implementing a 40 km/h Speed Limit" which considers various traffic conditions, such as roadway width, pedestrian conditions (presence of elementary or junior high school, absence of sidewalks) and road and traffic environment (collision patterns, safe stopping distance). Transportation Services has evaluated York Mills Road, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue against the warrant criteria and found that a 40 km/h speed limit is justified. The results of this review revealed the following aspects of the technical warrant criteria were satisfied:

- (a) The pavement width is less than 10.5 metres;
- (b) An elementary school abuts the road; and
- (c) Long-term parking (more than 3 hours) is permitted on both sides of the road and the remaining travelled portion of the road is less than 5.7 metres for two-way operation.

Based on these factors the technical warrant criteria are satisfied and a reduction of the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h is recommended on York Mills Road, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue. A 40 km/h speed limit will promote slower operating speeds and enhance safety for all road users.

The reduced speed limit will result in increased vehicle travel times of approximately 10 seconds, between Parkwoods Village Drive and Victoria Park Avenue. The TTC has been advised of the recommended 40 km/h speed limit and has no objection to the warranted speed limit reduction.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendation of this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Jacqueline White, P. Eng.
Director

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Map – York Mills Road, Parkwoods Village Drive – Victoria Park Avenue, Proposed 40 km/h Speed Limit