March 23, 2015

Dear Councillor Doucette and Clerk of the Etobicoke-York Community Council, Rosemary Mackenzie

REDUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL AREA VEHICLE SPEED LIMIT TO 30KM/HOUR IN BLOOR WEST VILLAGE

The Bloor West Village BIA is the first BIA established in the world, and we are so proud to have both a successful and well-known business area directly alongside a thriving and popular residential neighborhood.

The Bloor West Village BIA board of management is writing to you to express our concerns about the safety of pedestrians in our neighborhood. It is becoming increasingly common for us to receive complaints and deep concerns from our residents about the vehicle speeds in the neighborhood. Most of us serving on this Board have personally either seen or experienced a near-fatal pedestrian accident due to excessive vehicle speeds. While the current 40km speed limit in our residential areas may be the norm within the City, the higher volumes of bicycle traffic, and the roadway deficiencies such as narrowed travel ways and narrowed road shoulders due to car parking make this current speed limit inappropriate and dangerous. The Bloor West Village BIA is also renowned and celebrated for its walkability, which we would like to continue to encourage, in every safest way possible.

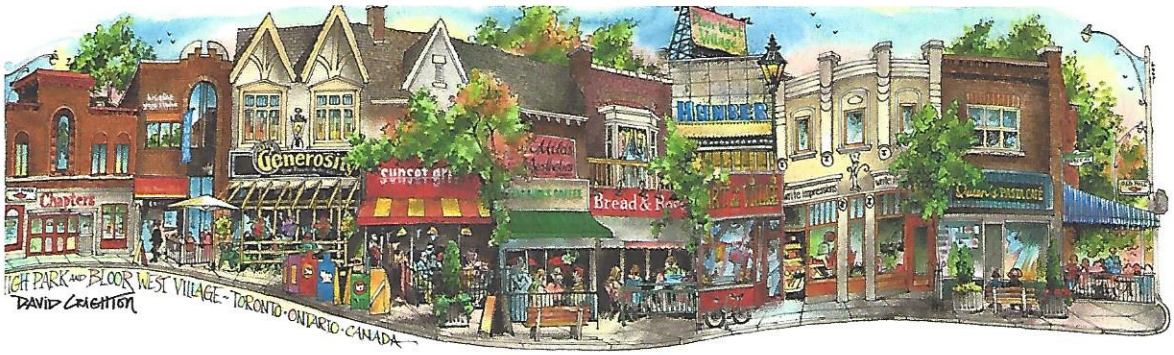
In conclusion the Bloor West Village BIA Board Of Management is asking for and supports the posting of a lower speed limit to 30km/h to keep our pedestrians, our children and our neighborhood safe. Your consideration of this request would be most appreciated.

Paula McInerney

Chairperson

Bloor West Village Business Improvement Area

2344A Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON, M6S 1P3



May 2nd, 2016

Councillor Sarah Doucette
City of Toronto

Dear Councillor Doucette,

On behalf of the Residents of Bloor West Village, the Bloor West Village Residents Association would like to recommend that Council approve a blanket policy of a 30 km/h speed limit on all residential streets in Ward 13, to improve safety on our streets.

The current system of requiring residents to apply on a street by street basis is unnecessarily onerous and time consuming. In addition, this policy has already been implemented a year ago in the City of Toronto for all of the Wards east of Keele Street.

There is no good reason for Ward 13 not to adopt this same policy!

Yours sincerely,

James Isbister, Chair
Bloor West Village Residents Association

The JUNCTION
business improvement area

396 Pacific Avenue Suite 205
Toronto,ON M6P 2R1
T: 416 767 9068
W: www.thejunctionbia.ca
E: thejunctionbia@gmail.com

18 May, 2016

Re: Reduction of speed limit to 30kph on residential streets

Dear Councillor Doucette.

Further to your presentation, discussion and the subsequent motion passed at the May meeting of The Junction BIA Board of Management, I am writing to you to express our support for the speed limit reduction to 30kph on residential streets in our neighbourhood.

As business owners and, in most cases, residents of The Junction, we are very aware of the issue of speeding in residential areas. Because almost every street has street parking, the dangers are even greater. While residents are encouraged to allow their children to play outdoors, many parents are terrified to do so because of speeding cars along their streets. Furthermore, while enforcement is obviously important and should continue, we believe that the lowered limit will be helpful in encouraging motorists to slow down and, consequently, make our area safer. We also believe that the City should continue to smooth the flow of traffic on major routes so that motorists are not tempted to use residential streets as short cuts.

To conclude: the Junction BIA supports the introduction of a 30kph speed limit on residential streets. We believe that this will improve safety in our neighbourhood and that, where collisions do occur, the damage or injury will be significantly reduced.

On behalf of The Junction BIA Board of Management.

James F. Roche

Chair

May 24, 2016

Dear Councillor Doucette,

Green 13 strongly supports a reduction of speed limits on Ward 13 residential streets to 30 km per hour, and urges Council to bring this into effect.

Significant studies have been published supporting the 30 km per hour limit. In 2012, Dr.David McKeown, the City's Medical Officer for Health proposed city-wide speed limits of 30 km/hr on residential streets and 40 km/hr everywhere else. By reducing the speed limit on residential street the city will reduce the number of car pedestrian accidents and increase pedestrian survival rates. Ward 13 has a high number of children and senior citizens. Let's give them a chance.

The transportation sector is one of Toronto's major sources of GHG emissions, and our collective goal is to reduce GHGs by 80% by 2015. Let's do our part to reduce speed, reduce GHGs, enhance the quality of our air, make our streets safer, and increase civility.

Toronto is a world class city. Let's follow the example of Paris, France and other world class cities which have reduced speeds on their residential streets to 30 km/hr

Yours truly,

Rita Bijons and Paul Mero, Co-Chairs, Green 13

Green 13
c/o Annette Library
145 Annette St.
Toronto, M6P 1P3

SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

95 Lavinia Avenue Box 102, Toronto, Ontario, M6S 3H9

April 2016

to: the Etobicoke York Community Council

Subject: **Petition for a 30 km/hr Speed Limit on Ward 13 Residential Streets**

Whereas:

1. There has been a dramatic increase in requests, throughout the city, for lowered speed limits on residential streets; and
2. A speed limit reduction no longer requires the installation of traffic calming measures; and
3. The Toronto East York Community Council, just east of our Ward's Keele Street boundary, voted to make all residential streets 30 km/hr; and
4. The change would **not** apply to major and arterial roads in the Ward;

Therefore:

We, the Board of Directors of the Swansea Historical Society, call upon the Etobicoke York Community Council to create a consistency throughout our Ward, create a natural flow from the downtown core, and improve the safety of our streets by implementing a change of the speed limit to 30 km/hr on residential streets in Ward 13.

Sincerely,

R. B. Roden

Dr. Robert Roden

President

Swansea Historical Society

July 26, 2016

Dear Councillor Doucette,

I would like to express my enthusiastic support of your efforts to implement a ward-wide 30kph speed limit on residential streets.

The simple fact is that reducing speeds saves lives. In Toronto, the number of fatalities and injuries that occur on our streets is completely unacceptable yet totally avoidable.

By reducing speed limits to 30kph we can not only reduce fatalities and injuries but also significantly improve quality of life for all people, especially our most vulnerable; children, older adults, and the poor.

As founder and chair of the board of 8 80 Cities I have worked with over 200 cities around the world in helping to create a vision and actions for building more inclusive, safe, and healthy cities. Our organization is based on a simple yet effective philosophy; if you build a city that is great for an 8 year old and 80 year old than you will build a city that is great for all. Reducing speed limits to 30kph is a simple and effective step in reaching these goals; obviously it has to be complemented with the necessary budget to re-paint all signs immediately, substantially increase bumps, education and strong sanctions for those who do not comply.

As chair of World Urban Parks, I am conscious of the need for every person, especially children, to have a park within a short walk. However, that short walk has to be safe and enjoyable and making the maximum speed of cars 30Kph is a major contribution to this goal.

While I have worked around the world, Toronto is my home. While some progress has been made on this front it is critical that all wards adopt a 30kph speed limit in order to enjoy the benefits of safer, healthier streets for all Torontonians. Our organization has drafted a report with some of the latest research that outlines the many benefits of implementing 30k on residential streets with some best practices from cities around the world. The report can be found here http://www.880cities.org/images/resource/walking-cycling-arti/livable-streets-30k.pdf

Sincerely,
Gil Penalosa
1830 Bloor street W. suite 710
Toronto, M6P 0A2

Gil (Guillermo) Penalosa MBA PhDhc CSP

Founder & Chair:
8 80 Cities
World Urban Parks
Gil Penalosa & Assoc.
Toronto, Canada
gpenalosa@880cities.org
+1 416 399 2550
Penalosa_G

Dear Councillor Doucette,

I have long wondered why there is such speed limit sign inconsistency in Ward 13.

Next to children's playgrounds the posted speed limit is 40KM on a side residential street. In areas of homes, schools, community centres there are 50K posted. The number of residential streets that have signs 30KM are few and far between thus providing confusion for motorists.

We recommend all residential streets to have posted 30KM as the speed limit. Why? There are so many studies with the conclusion that **Speed Kills**.

http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/road_traffic/world_report/speed_en.pdf
"Speed has been identified as a **key risk factor in road traffic injuries**, influencing both the risk of a road crash as well as the **severity** of the injuries that result from crashes"

http://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Import/Documents/_versions/4041/Speed-crash-facts-2012.1.pdf
Probability of **death** if a Pedestrian is struck by car:
30km/h 10% 40km/h 30% **45km/h 50%**

http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/saferroadsnsw/speeding_and_crashes.pdf
"Drivers are **twice** as likely to **kill a pedestrian** if they are **travelling at 50 km**/h than if they are travelling at 40 km/h."

For those who argue against lowering speed limits on residential streets to 30KM ... I ask why?

If the statistics prove driving at 40KM or 50KM drastically increases the probability of killing a pedestrian –a person who could be your neighbour, your grandparent, wife or child…. Why would you not support lowering the speed limits to ensure the safety of all.

Please let me know if you require anything further.

Best regards,

Janet Joy Wilson

Volunteer – Co-Captain Ward 13 Bike Group / Cycle Toronto
Ward Advocacy Volunteer of the Year 2014
ward13@cycleto.ca
Twitter Facebook Tumblr
http://cycleto.ca/ward/13

St Pius X Catholic School Parent Council

June 12, 2016

Councillor Doucette and members of Etobicoke York Community Council
Via email: Councillor_Doucette@Toronto.ca

Councillor Doucette,

I am writing on behalf of the St Pius X Catholic School Parent Council to express our support for the proposal to reduce speed limits on local, residential roads in Ward 13 to 30 km/hr. Students at our school get there by foot, cycle or car and in a busy city that does not come without risks. We believe the City has a responsibility to ensure our roads are as safe as possible for all users and one of the best ways to do that is to reduce the speed of motor vehicles traveling on those roads.

A growing body of evidence shows that reducing speed limits in residential areas limits accidents and fatalities. Both the European Union and the World Health Organisation have recommended 30 km/h speed limits in order to make our neighbourhoods safer. Consistency in the limits across the ward will help motorists who are traveling from other downtown wards and will make our school zone traffic calming measures more effective.

We are pleased to join with the many other residents of Ward 13 who support making this change and we urge the members of Community Council to vote to make our community safer.

Sincerely,

Tara Christie
School Council Co-Chair (May/June 2016)

Swansea Public School
Parent Council
207 Windermere Ave
Toronto, ON
M6S 3J9

June 7, 2016

Councillor Doucette and members of Etobicoke York Community Council
Via email: Councillor_Doucette@Toronto.ca

Councillor Doucette,

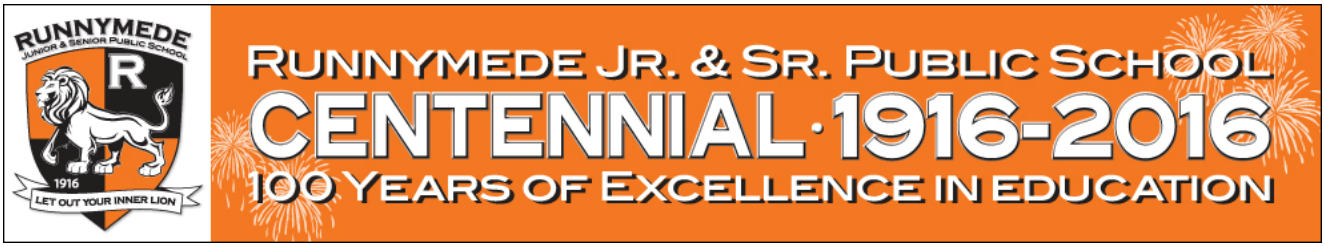
I am writing on behalf of the Swansea Public School Parent Council to express our support for the proposal to reduce speed limits on local, residential roads in Ward 13 to 30 km/hr. Students at our school get there by foot, cycle or car and in a busy city that does not come without risks. We believe the City has a responsibility to ensure our roads are as safe as possible for all users and one of the best ways to do that is to reduce the speed of motor vehicles traveling on those roads.

A growing body of evidence shows that reducing speed limits in residential areas limits accidents and fatalities. Both the European Union and the World Health Organisation have recommended 30 km/h speed limits in order to make our neighbourhoods safer. Consistency in the limits across the ward will help motorists who are traveling from other downtown wards and will make our school zone traffic calming measures more effective.

We are pleased to join with the many other residents of Ward 13 who support making this change and we urge the members of Community Council to vote to make our community safer.

Sincerely,

Heather Chiavegato
Chairperson- Swansea Parent Council 2015-16
On behalf of Swansea Parent Council 2015-16



Runnymede Public School Council
357 Runnymede Road
Toronto, ON

June 8, 2016

Dear Councillor Doucette:

We are writing you this letter, as concerned parents, to express our support in keeping our streets safer by reducing the speed limit on side streets to 30km/hr in our Ward (Ward 13) instead of the current limit of 40 km/hour.

We are fortunate enough to live in a thriving neighbourhood where we can enjoy the luxury of being able to walk our children to school. While this gives us a great sense of community, we are always aware of safety risks associated with speeding vehicles in the neighbourhood. Many of us have seen vehicles speeding along our streets and around our schools, putting the lives of pedestrians at risk.

With all the construction and congestion, traffic is only getting worse. Many of these drivers don't live in our area; they are just rushing to get to a jobsite or cutting through as they head elsewhere. We as residents know that there are potentially children, cyclists, elderly, etc. at every turn and drive accordingly.

Studies have shown that when a pedestrian is hit by a car, the risk of serious injury or death increases dramatically for a car traveling at 50km/hr. vs. 40 km/hr. vs. 30km/hr. We can take action to prevent unnecessary injury or death.

We understand that our neighbouring Ward (to the east) has had their speed limits reduced. On behalf of Runnymede Public School Parents, we request that the legal speed limit on our side streets also be reduced to 30 km/hour so that we will be protected like everyone else.

Yours truly,

Dale Cadeau
Co-Chair
School Council
Runnymede Public School

Catholic School Parent Council
James Culnan Catholic School
605 Willard Avenue
Toronto, ON
M6S 3S1

June 27, 2016

Councillor Doucette and members of Etobicoke York Community Council
Via email: Councillor_Doucette@Toronto.ca

Councillor Doucette,

I am writing on behalf of the James Culnan Catholic School Parent Council to express our support for the proposal to reduce speed limits on local, residential roads in Ward 13 to 30 km/hr. Students at our school get there by foot, cycle or car and in a busy city that does not come without risks. We believe the City has a responsibility to ensure our roads are as safe as possible for all users and one of the best ways to do that is to reduce the speed of motor vehicles traveling on those roads.

A growing body of evidence shows that reducing speed limits in residential areas limits accidents and fatalities. Both the European Union and the World Health Organisation have recommended 30 km/h speed limits in order to make our neighbourhoods safer. Consistency in the limits across the ward will help motorists who are traveling from other downtown wards and will make our school zone traffic calming measures more effective.

We are pleased to join with the many other residents of Ward 13 who support making this change and we urge the members of Community Council to vote to make our community safer.

Sincerely,

Katherine OIejarz and Michelle Steele
Co-Chairs
James Culnan Catholic School