Traffic Calming Poll Results – Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road

Date: September 22, 2017
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
Wards: Ward 12 – York South-Weston

SUMMARY

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

At its meeting of May 2, 2017, Etobicoke York Community Council considered Item EY22.25, recommending that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road to determine community support for a proposed traffic calming plan. This report summarizes the result of the traffic calming poll for owners and occupants of Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road. Polling ballots were mailed to the affected residents and 47% of the residents on Rustic Road responded to the polling, of which 49% supported the installation of speed humps. As a result, the minimum response rate of 50% plus 1 votes and the minimum 60% "in favour" votes needed to proceed with the installation were not achieved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council NOT approve installing traffic calming on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Adopting the above-noted recommendation does not result in any financial impact; however, if Community Council decides to approve installing traffic calming devices on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road the following financial impact will result:
1. The estimated cost for installing four speed humps on Rustic Road will be $12,800.00. Funding for these speed humps is available in the Transportation Services 2018 Capital Budget, subject to competing priorities and funding availability.

**DECISION HISTORY**

At its meeting of May 2, 2017, Etobicoke York Community Council considered Item EY22.25 (Traffic Calming - Rustic Road). The Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria was achieved and Etobicoke York Community Council recommended that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road to determine community support for a proposed traffic calming plan. As directed, the City Clerk, Elections and Registry Services Division conducted a survey that was mailed to property owners and occupants on May 25, 2017. The survey is designed to measure community support for the speed humps on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road. The results are the basis of this report. Map of the area is Attachment 1.

**COMMENTS**

Rustic Road is a two-lane 8.5 metre wide road classified in the City's Road Classification System as a "Local" road. This street is located in the residential community east of Jane Street, south of Highway 401. There are sidewalks on both sides of the road. The legal speed limit on Rustic Road is 40 km/h. All-way stop signs are located at Rustic Road and Culford Road as well as Rustic Road and Hysel Road.

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

The following table describes the survey results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rustic Road</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Ballots Mailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% + 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballots Returned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents in Favour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents Opposed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballots Spoiled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transportation Services staff is unable to recommend traffic calming as the minimum response rate of 50% plus 1 votes and the minimum 60% "in favour" votes needed to proceed with the installation were not achieved.

Should Community Council decide to proceed with installing speed humps, we recommend that:

1. The City Solicitor prepare a draft by-law for installing four speed humps on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road, as shown on Drawing EY 17-31 dated March 2017.

2. Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Rustic Road, between Hysel Road and Culford Road.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendations contained within this report.

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 advised emergency services of our intentions, only Toronto Fire Services responded. Copy of the response is attached for reference.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Location Plan (Rustic Road)  
2. Letter from Toronto Fire Services, dated March 28, 2017
1. Area Map (Rustic Road)
March 28, 2017

Bruce Clayton
Manager, Traffic Operations
Transportation Services
Etobicoke York District

RE: Rustic Road, between Culford Road and Hysel Road - Evaluation for installation of traffic calming devices.

I am in receipt of the proposal for installation of traffic calming measures (speed humps) and provide the following comments.

Toronto Fire Services is supportive of initiatives that will improve the life safety for citizens of, and visitors to the City of Toronto. Our concern is that the physical calming measures being proposed may negatively impact emergency response to the area.

Fire Services is opposed to this speed hump installation as they would slow our responding vehicles and affect the delivery of service in the quickest possible manner. The effectiveness of our services is greatly impacted by time. The vertical restrictions imposed by speed humps have a much greater effect on large fire vehicles than smaller passenger vehicles. Response time increase with every obstacle a fire vehicle encounters on route to an emergency incident. Although the increase at each hump may only be seconds, the cumulative effect can be a significant amount of time. A thirty-second response delay (3 to 4 humps) is enough to potentially affect the outcome of an emergency incident.

It is imperative that the individuals directly affected by this installation be made fully aware of the potential negative effects of the proposed calming device. Careful consideration must be given to accepting delays of emergency response vehicles as a compromise to combat the risks presented by all vehicular traffic.

Fire Services recommends that non-physical measures (speed limits or prohibited turns) be implemented and evaluated before physical forms are considered. Desired results may be obtained without imposing a physical obstruction to emergency vehicles. The impact of a speed hump installed in a segment of a street is difficult to evaluate without considering all other existing factors on the surrounding streets.

Regards,

Terry Bruining
Captain, Emergency Management, Health & Safety
Toronto Fire Services