

## **Speed Limit Reduction - Woburn Avenue**

**Date:** November 18, 2016

**To:** North York Community Council

**From:** Director, Transportation Services, North York District

**Wards:** Ward 16 – Eglinton-Lawrence

### **SUMMARY**

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This staff report is about a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority to make a final decision, provided that it is not amended so that it varies with City policy or by-laws.

Transportation Services is requesting approval to reduce the speed limit to 40 km/h speed limit on Woburn Avenue between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street.

The implementation of 40 km/h speed limit on this roadway will promote reduced travel speed and provide a safer environment for pedestrians.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. North York Community Council reduce the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Woburn Avenue, between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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All costs associated with amending the limits of the 40 km/h speed zone on Woburn Avenue between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street are included within the Transportation Services 2017 Interim Operating Budget.

### **DECISION HISTORY**

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This report addresses a new initiative.

## COMMENTS

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Transportation Services was requested by the Ward Councillor, on behalf of a local resident, to investigate measures to lower vehicle speeds on Woburn Avenue, between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street, in order to enhance pedestrian safety in the vicinity of highly-used Woburn Park.

Woburn Avenue is designated as a local road with municipal sidewalks on the north side of the roadway and has a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h.

This area is primarily comprised of single family residential homes. Woburn Avenue has a pavement width of 8.5 metres. Located on the north side of the roadway is Woburn Park which provides access to Forest Hill Montessori School and Morris Winchevsky School. Woburn Avenue, between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street is approximately 550 metres in length and is controlled by an all-way stop control at the intersection of Woburn Avenue and Ledbury Street. The intersection of Bathurst Street and Woburn Avenue is controlled by a westbound stop control.

Weekday speed studies were undertaken on August 18, 2016 on Woburn Avenue and the 85th percentile speed (the speed at which 85 percent of vehicles travel at or below) was revealed to be 51 km/h and 49 km/h for eastbound and westbound traffic, respectively, between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street.

City Council, at its meeting on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2002, approved a city wide policy regarding the implementation requirements for a 40 km/h speed limit. The 40 km/h speed limit policy takes into consideration various roadway characteristics, safety concerns, location of pedestrian generators such as schools and parks contiguous to a school as well as roadways where there is an absence of municipal sidewalks.

The application of the criteria established as part of the City's 40 km/h speed limit policy has concluded that Woburn Avenue meets the warrant criteria for a 40 km/h speed limit based on the following:

- The presence of parkland that abuts the road which is contiguous to and used to gain access to an elementary or junior high school.

A 40 km/h speed limit zone is appropriate for the conditions on Woburn Avenue, between Bathurst Street and Ledbury Street and will enhance safety for all road users.

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendation in this staff report.

## **CONTACT**

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Shawn Dillon, Manager, Traffic Operations, Transportation Services Division, North York District, Telephone: 416-395-7463, Fax: 416-395-7544, Email: [Shawn.Dillon@toronto.ca](mailto:Shawn.Dillon@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

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Jacqueline White, P.Eng.  
Director

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1: Map – Woburn Avenue Proposed 40km/h Speed Limit