REPORT FOR ACTION

Speed Limit Review – Danforth Road between Midland Avenue and Brimley Road

Date: April 10, 2017
To: Scarborough Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards: Ward 35 – Scarborough Southwest

SUMMARY

This report provides the results of a speed limit review conducted on Danforth Road, between Midland Avenue and Brimley Road in response to a request for a reduction of the existing 60 km/h speed limit to 50 km/h. The analysis concludes that a 50 km/h speed limit is not technically justified on this section of Danforth Road which currently has a posted speed limit of 60 km/h along its entire length.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District recommends that:

1. City Council not reduce the speed limit from 60 km/h to 50 km/h on Danforth Road, between Midland Avenue and Brimley Road.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact associated with this report. However, should the 50 km/h speed limit be approved the financial cost of posting the speed limit signs is approximately $2,500.00. Funding for the signs would be available in the Transportation Services Division’s 2017 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TP0397.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.
COMMENTS

As a result of a request from Councillor Michelle Holland, Transportation Services staff reviewed the traffic conditions and operations of this roadway to determine whether a reduction of the speed limit is justified on the subject section of Danforth Road.

The following characteristics describe Danforth Road, between Midland Avenue and Brimley Road:

- Danforth Road is a four lane major arterial roadway. Danforth Road begins at Danforth Avenue to the southwest (west of Warden Avenue), and runs to the north and east and ends at McCowan Road (south of Lawrence Avenue East).

- The land uses on this section of roadway include single family residential homes, a small retail plaza, apartment buildings, and a school. There are sidewalks on both sides of Danforth Road. The pavement width is approximately 14 metres.

- Based on the speed study results the 85th percentile speed (the speed at or below which 85% of the motorists travel) is 70 km/h on this section of Danforth Road.

- The recorded 20,522 vehicles per day volume falls within the typical values for this major arterial roadway classification.

50 km/h Speed Limit Warrant

In order for a 50 km/h speed limit to be warranted, various traffic conditions must be assessed such as 85th percentile speed, pedestrian and bicycle related factors, collisions, roadway geometry and operational related factors. The investigation indicates that the 85th percentile speed is 70 km/h on the subject section of roadway and therefore a 50 km/h speed limit is not justified nor recommended at this time. There was only one speed-related collision along this section over a five-year period.

Should the speed limit be reduced, extensive and selective enforcement will be required by Toronto Police Services to ensure compliance since the operating speed is consistent with a 60 km/h speed limit.
CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Location Plan (Speed Limit Review – Danforth Road)