REPORT FOR ACTION

Speed Hump Poll Results - Norfolk Street

Date: October 19, 2017
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards: Ward 18, Davenport

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that 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.

At the request of Councillor Ana Bailão, Transportation Services is reporting the results of the traffic calming poll undertaken on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street. The poll provided a response rate of less than the 50 percent plus one ballot required by the traffic calming policy needed to confirm that there is a favourable consensus in the community to install traffic calming measures.

Accordingly, continuing the process to install speed humps on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street, is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council deny the installation of traffic calming (speed humps) on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Adopting the above-noted recommendation carries no financial impact.
DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of February 22, 2017, Toronto and East York Community Council recommended the installation of speed humps on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street, subject to a favourable poll of residents (Item TE22.74).

COMMENTS

Councillor Ana Bailão has requested Transportation Services to report on the results of the poll undertaken in June and July 2017, regarding the installation of speed humps on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street. The traffic calming policy, as adopted by City Council requires, among other matters, that staff undertake a poll of eligible voters on streets being considered for traffic calming and consult with Emergency Services. With respect to the poll:

- A return rate of 50 percent plus one ballot; and
- A support rate of at least 60 percent of the valid responses is required.

The poll results for the subject section of Norfolk Street are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poll Results</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of ballots mailed out</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of ballots received</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of ballots in favour</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of ballots opposed</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of ballots spoiled</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in the above table, 18 of the 55 ballots mailed out were returned. The response rate of 33 percent is less than the minimum 50 percent plus one ballot response rate required to consider the poll valid in accordance with the current polling policy. Additionally, less than 60 percent were in favour of the speed humps. When the polling requirements have not been met, the process to install the proposed traffic calming measures should not go forward. Also, a two-year moratorium is imposed on further polling.

Emergency Services Comments

Consultation with emergency services (Police, Fire and Paramedic Services) is required in order to ensure that the design and layout of a traffic calming proposal does not unduly affect their operations. Comments have been requested. Toronto Paramedic Services had provided their comments in the attached letter dated January 13, 2017 (Appendix A). Comments have not received from Toronto Police Service and Toronto Fire Services.
Notification of Residents
Under the polling policy, residents of Norfolk Street have been notified in writing by the City Clerk that the speed hump poll on this street did not satisfy the required criteria and that any follow-up poll cannot be conducted for a period of two years. Residents have not been told specifically that speed humps will not be installed and have been advised that Toronto and East York Community Council has the final decision on the matter. However, they might interpret the failure of the poll as the final decision on this matter.

Alternate Recommendations
If, however, Toronto and East York Community Council wishes to proceed with installing speed humps on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street, the following alternate recommendation should be adopted:

1. The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter the roadway to install one speed hump on Norfolk Street, between Shirley Street and Hickson Street, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G-2380, dated January 2017 attached to the report dated October 11, 2017, entitled "Speed Hump Poll Results – Norfolk Street" from the Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

The estimated cost for installing one speed hump would be $3,200.00. The installation of the speed hump on Norfolk Street would be a subject to availability of Transportation Services 2018 Capital Funding and competing priority.
Councillor Ana Bailão has been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Dave Twaddle, C.E.T.
Acting Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-2380, dated January 2017

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January 13, 2017

Mr. Humera Khatoon  
Engineering Technologist Technician  
Transportation Division  
Metro Hall 17th Floor

Re: Traffic Calming Measures – Norfolk Street between Shirley Street and Hickson Street

Evaluation for the installation of traffic calming devices (i.e. Speed Humps)

Dear Mr. Khatoon,

I have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of traffic calming devices (speed humps) on Norfolk Street between Shirley Street and Hickson Street.

Toronto Paramedic Services is supportive of community initiatives that improve the safety of all citizens and visitors to the City of Toronto. Traffic and pedestrian safety are key components of a healthy neighborhood and we endeavor to support the wishes of the community to implement measures that improve upon these components.

As documented in the Traffic Calming Policy, Toronto Paramedic Services has concerns regarding the usage of traffic calming measures, specifically vertical obstacle measures such as speed humps. These have a negative impact on emergency call response times, travel times to hospital and on patient comfort during transport. This delay is cumulative with each obstacle and can directly impact patient outcome.

In addition to concern for patient outcome and safety, it is noted that this proposal does not meet the Warrant Criteria as set out in the Traffic Calming Policy. Therefore, Toronto Paramedic Services is opposed to the installation of traffic calming devices on Norfolk Street between Shirley Street and Hickson Street. It is important that the applicant fully understands the potential for delay in emergency response and that alternatives to vertical measures be considered and evaluated.

Yours truly,

Dawn Ainsworth  
Superintendent, Toronto Paramedic Services  
Planning, Special Events & Emergency Management

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