November 9, 2017

Chair and Committee Members
Toronto & East York Community Council
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

RE: 30 km/h Speed Limit on Public Laneways in Ward 29

SUMMARY:

The Highway Traffic Act states that the speed limit is 50 km/h "within a local municipality or within a built-up area" and 80 km/h "not within a built-up area" [Section 128(1)]. However, the Highway Traffic Act does allow the "council of a municipality...to prescribe a rate of speed different from the rate set out in subsection (1)" [Section 128(2)].

The Toronto and East York Community Council recently reduced speed limits in the District to 30 km/h; however, these reductions are only applicable to local roads. As such, if there is currently no by-law in a public lane, the speed limit is 50 km/h.

Laneways by their very nature (narrow widths, use for deliveries, many irregular and obstructed sightlines, lack of sidewalks, etc) require lower traffic speeds. For safety reasons, the speed limit on laneways should not be greater than on the surrounding local roads.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council reduce the speed limit to 30 km/h on all public laneways within the confines of Ward 29.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Fragedakis
City Councillor
Ward 29, Toronto-Danforth