TORONTO

REPORT FOR ACTION

Traffic Calming Poll Results – King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive

Date: December 6, 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 EY22.24, recommending that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive 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 King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive. Polling ballots were mailed to the affected residents on September 14, 2017 and 33% of the residents on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive, responded to the polling. As a result, the minimum response rate of 50% plus 1 votes needed to proceed with the installation was not achieved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Etobicoke York Community Council NOT approve installing traffic calming on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive.

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 King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive, the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing five speed humps on King George's Drive will be $20,000.00. 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 EY22.24 (Traffic Calming - King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive). The Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria was not achieved and Etobicoke York Community Council recommended that a survey of property owners/occupants be conducted on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive, 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 September 14, 2017. The survey is designed to measure community support for the speed humps on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive. The results are the basis of this report. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

COMMENTS

King George's Drive is a two-lane road classified in the City's Road Classification System as a "Local" road. This street operates two-way between, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive. The roadway has an urban cross-section (curb and gutter) with no sidewalks on either side of the street. The legal speed limit on King George's Drive is 40 km/h.

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:

King George's Drive

Description	Calculations/Data
Total Ballots Mailed	108 (100%)
Ballots Required to Proceed (min. required 50% + 1)	55 (50% + 1)
Ballots Returned	36 (33%)
Respondents in Favour	28 (78% of respondents)
Respondents Opposed	8 (22% of respondents)
Ballots Spoiled	0 (0% of respondents)

Transportation Services staff is unable to recommend traffic calming as the minimum response rate of 50% plus 1 votes needed to proceed with the installation was 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 five speed humps on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive, as shown on Drawing EY 17-024 dated March 2017.

2. Transportation Services take the necessary actions to reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on King George's Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive.

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. We advised emergency services of our intentions. Toronto Fire Services and Toronto Paramedic Services responded and a copy of both responses are attached for reference.

CONTACT

Muhammad Qamar
Traffic Operation, Etobicoke York District
Tel: (416) 338-2972
Fax: (416) 394-8432
E-mail: muhammad.qamar@toronto.ca
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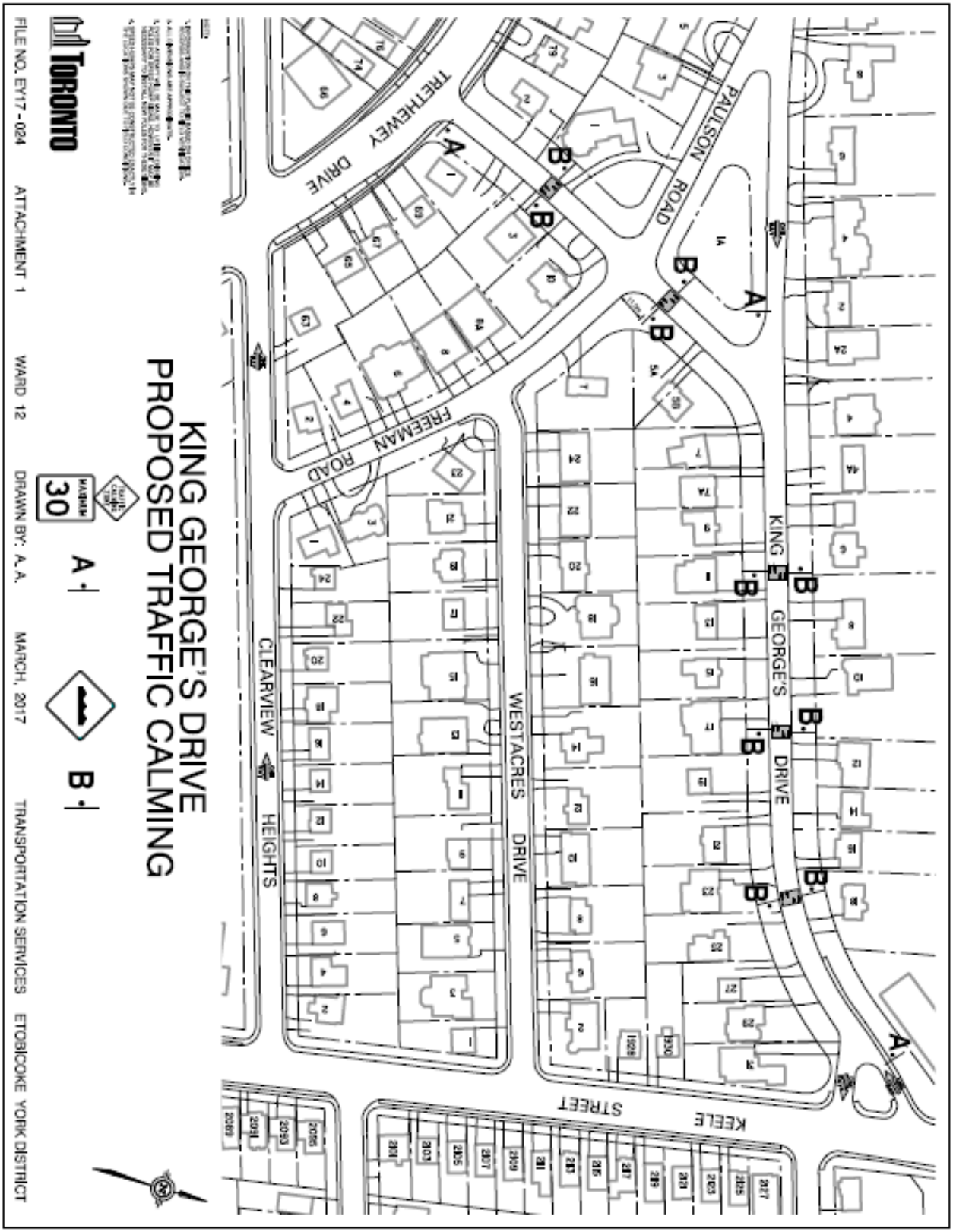
Steven Kodama, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

1. Location Plan (King George's Drive)
2. Letter from Toronto Fire Services, dated March 15, 2017
3. Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services dated April 6, 2017

1. Area Map (King George's Drive)



Attachment 2: Response from Toronto Fire Services

TORONTO

Emergency Management
Health and Safety

John Livey
Deputy City Manager

Fire Services
75 Toryork Drive
Toronto, Ontario

Tel: 416-338-9510
Fax: 416-338-9527

March 15, 2017

Muhammad Qamar
Engineering Technologist
Transportation Services
Etobicoke Civic Centre

King Georges Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive - 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 primary concern is that the physical calming measures being proposed may have negative impacts on emergency response to the area.

Fire Services is opposed to this installation of speed humps 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.

Additionally, turning restrictions are already in place at both Trethewey and Keele Street intersections. The major infrastructure construction underway at Eglinton Avenue (south) may be temporarily increasing the traffic volumes above normal levels.

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

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Attachment 3: Response from Toronto Paramedic Services

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

Gord McEachen, Acting Chief

Toronto Paramedic Services
Program Development & Service Quality
4330 Dufferin Street
Toronto, Ontario M3H 5R9

Tel: 416-397-0780
Fax: 416-696-3603
Dawn.Ainsworth@toronto.ca
www.toronto.ca

April 6, 2017

Mr. Muhammad Qamar
Engineering Technologist
Transportation Services
Etobicoke Civic Centre

Re: Traffic Calming Measures on King Georges Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive – Evaluation for the installation of traffic calming measures (i.e. Speed Humps).

Dear Mr. Qamar,

I have received the proposed request for installation of speed humps on King Georges Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive. I have the following comments:

Toronto Paramedic Services is supportive of community initiatives that improve the safety of all citizens of, 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 to 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.

Therefore, Toronto Paramedic Services is opposed to the installation of traffic calming devices on King Georges Drive, between Keele Street and Trethewey Drive. 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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toronto at your service