

Speed Limit Amendments – Renforth Drive between Bloor Street West and Rathburn Road

Date: December 14, 2018
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 2 – Etobicoke Centre

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the Etobicoke York Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report recommends that a 40 km/h speed limit be implemented on Renforth Drive, between Bloor Street West and Burnhamthorpe Road, as the 40 km/h speed limit warrant is met. Although not technically warranted, staff also recommends that a 40 km/h speed limit be implemented on Renforth Drive, between Burnhamthorpe Road and Rathburn Road, for speed limit uniformity. Currently, the speed limit on Renforth Drive, between Eglinton Avenue West and Bloor Street West varies between 40 km/h and 50 km/h. This proposal will provide consistency in terms of the speed limit on Renforth Drive between Bloor Street West and Eglinton Avenue West.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council reduce the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Renforth Drive, between Bloor Street West and Burnhamthorpe Road.
2. Etobicoke York Community Council reduce the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Renforth Drive, between Burnhamthorpe Road and Rathburn Road.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for the installation of the speed limit signs is \$1,000.00. These funds are included within the Transportation Services Division's 2019 interim Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services staff received a request from the local Councillor, on behalf of area residents, to investigate vehicle operating speeds on Renforth Drive, between Bloor Street West and Burnhamthorpe Road. In response to this request, speed studies were conducted by Transportation Services staff. The study results were applied to the City's 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant.

Renforth Drive, between Bloor Street West Road and Burnhamthorpe Road is a 10 metre wide two-lane roadway with dedicated bicycle lanes, classified in the City's Road Classification System as a "Collector" roadway with sidewalks on both sides of the street. The legal speed limit is 50 km/h on this section of Renforth Drive.

Renforth Drive between Burnhamthorpe Road and Rathburn Road is also classified as a "Collector Roadway" with a pavement width of approximately 12 metres. This two lane roadway has dedicated bike lanes on both sides of the road, with a parking lane on the west side of the road. A legal speed limit of 50 km/h exists on this section of road.

A speed and volume study was conducted on Renforth Drive, between Sealcove Drive and Bridgetown Drive (north intersection). The studies revealed that the 85th percentile speed (the speed at or below which 85 percent of the motorists feel comfortable travelling given the prevailing traffic and roadway conditions) was 58 km/h, with an average speed of 50 km/h. In addition, we recorded a 24-hour traffic volume of 4,646 vehicles.

In addition to our speed studies, we reviewed the collision history on Renforth Drive, between Bloor Street West and Burnhamthorpe Road for a five year period, January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2017. The Toronto Police Service collision records indicate that there have been no reported collisions where speed was indicated as a contributing factor.

Application of the study data to the City of Toronto 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant, reveals that a 40 km/h speed limit is warranted on Renforth Drive, between Bloor Street West and Burnhamthorpe Road based on the road width and the presence of two or more curves in the roadway with a safe speed of less than 50 km/h. Details of our 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant analysis are included in Attachment 2.

Given that the 40 km/h warrant has been met, staff recommends a 40 km/h speed limit on Renforth Drive between Bloor Street West and Burnhamthorpe Road. Although the section of Renforth Drive, between Burnhamthorpe Road and Rathburn Road, does not meet the 40 km/h warrant (given it has a pavement width greater than 10.5 metres and an anticipated 85th percentile speed greater than 50 km/h), staff also recommends a 40 km/h speed limit on this segment of road for consistency purposes. As a result of the proposed speed limit amendments, Renforth Drive would have a 40 km/h speed limit between Bloor Street West and Eglinton Avenue West.

The Ward Councillor was contacted and supports the recommendations.

CONTACT

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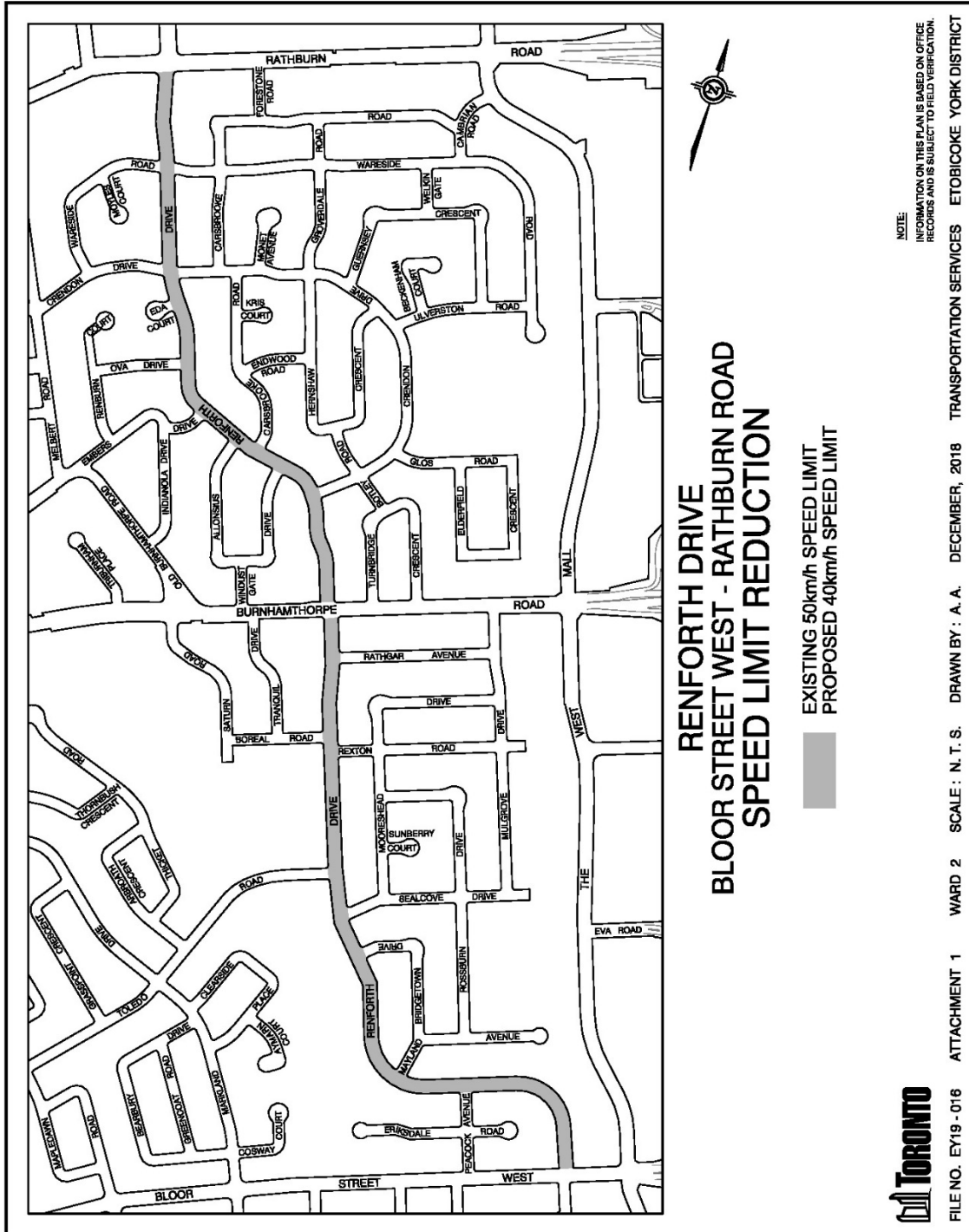
Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P. Eng.
Acting Director, Traffic Management
Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1: Location Plan (Renforth Drive)
2. Attachment 2: 40 km/h Speed Limit Warrant - Renforth Drive

ATTACHMENT 1

Location Plan (Renforth Drive)



ATTACHMENT 2

40 Km/h Speed Limit Warrant – Renforth Drive

A. ROAD WIDTH	
1. (i) Pavement width equal to or greater than 10.5 metres and the 85th percentile speed is equal to or less than 50 km/h	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
OR	
(ii) Pavement width less than 10.5 metres	
PAVEMENT WIDTH: 10 metres 85TH PERCENTILE SPEED: 58 km/h	

AND

B. PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT	
1. (i) Elementary or junior high school abuts the road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OR	
(ii) Parkland abuts the road which is contiguous to and used to gain access to an elementary or junior high school Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OR	
(iii) Absence of sidewalk on both sides of the road or a major portion of the road Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

OR

C. ROAD AND TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENT	
1. (i) Two or more locations where grades are greater than 5%; and/or safe speed on curves is less than 50 km/h Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
OR	
(ii) 2 or more locations where there is lack of sufficient distance to stop safely traveling at 50 km/h Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OR	
Pattern of collisions where vehicle speed was identified as a factor Local streets – 3 or more over 3 years Other streets – 5 or more over 3 years Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	