

Speed Limit Reduction - Sweeney Drive

Date: December 12, 2018

To: North York Community Council

From: Acting Director, Transportation Services, Traffic Management

Wards: 16 - Don Valley East

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which 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.

Transportation Services is requesting North York Community Council authorize a speed limit reduction from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on two sections of Sweeney Drive, between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street.

The implementation of a 40 km/h speed limit on these sections is warranted and will provide a consistent speed limit over the entire length of Sweeney Drive. The lowered speed limit will promote reduced travel speeds and provide a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists, which includes students destined to/from two nearby elementary schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Transportation Services, Traffic Management recommends that North York Community Council:

1. Rescind the 40 km/h speed limit on Sweeney Drive, between Sloane Avenue and Wyndcliff Crescent.
2. Rescind the 40 km/h speed limit on Sweeney Drive, between Sundial Crescent (east intersection) and Sundial Crescent (west intersection).
3. Reduce the speed limit from 50 km/h to 40 km/h on Sweeney Drive, between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs associated with the signage changes required for the speed limit reduction on Sweeney Drive can be accommodated within the Transportation Services 2019 Interim Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting on October 26 and 17, 1999 adopted Report No. 9, Clause No. 3, which recommended a 40 km/h speed limit reduction on sections of Sweeney Drive and Sundial Crescent, adjacent to École élémentaire Jeanne-Lajoie. The Council decision can be found at:

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/1999/agendas/committees/ny/ny991012/it007.htm>

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong, on behalf of area residents, to review the feasibility of implementing a consistent 40 km/h speed limit over the entire length Sweeney Drive, between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street.

Sweeney Drive is 8.5 metre wide, two-way street with a sidewalk on the north side. The section between Victoria Park Avenue and Wyndcliff Crescent is classified as a collector street and the section between Wyndcliff Crescent and the west end is classified as a local street. There is a posted 40 km/h speed limit on the following two sections of Sweeney Drive:

- between Wyndcliff Crescent and Sloane Avenue, along the frontage of Victoria Village Public School. This regulation was introduced prior to 1998; and
- between the east and west intersections with Sundial Crescent, along the frontage École élémentaire Jeanne-Lajoie. This regulation was introduced in 1999.

There is a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h on the remainder of Sweeney Drive. TTC service on Sweeney Drive is provided by 91 Woodbine bus route, which travels on the section between Sloane Avenue and Victoria Park Avenue.

The land use on Sweeney Drive is generally residential. In addition to the two elementary schools noted, Sweeney Park is located on the north side of the street, west of Victoria Village Public School.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records for the three year period ending June 30, 2018 revealed that there were five reported collisions on Sweeney Drive,

between Victoria Park Avenue and the west end of the street. None of these five collisions could be attributed to speeding.

City Council, at its meeting on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2002, approved a city wide policy regarding the implementation requirements for a 40 km/h speed limit. The 40 km/h speed limit policy considers various roadway characteristics including the presence of schools, the absence of municipal sidewalks and where the safe speed on curves is less than 50 km/h.

The 40 km/h speed limit criteria was applied to the two sections of Sweeney Drive with a regulatory 50 km/h speed limit. The review determined that a 40 km/h speed limit is warranted on these two street sections.

A 40 km/h posted speed limit is recommended for the conditions on Sweeney Drive and will provide a consistent speed limit over the entire length of the street. The lowered speed limit will promote reduced travel speeds and provide a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists, which includes students destined to/from Victoria Village Public School and École élémentaire Jeanne-Lajoie.

The TTC has been advised of the proposed speed limit reduction as bus service is provided on a section of Sweeney Drive.

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendations in this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map – Speed Limit Reduction - Sweeney Drive