

Traffic Calming - Melrose Avenue

Date: December 13, 2018

To: North York Community Council

From: Acting Director, Transportation Services, Traffic Management

Wards: Ward 8 - Eglinton-Lawrence

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 staff have reviewed the need for traffic calming on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, to address residents' concerns regarding vehicle speeds. Our assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the traffic calming policy has been satisfied. Therefore, traffic calming should be installed on the subject section of Melrose Avenue, subject to positive results of the traffic calming poll.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Direct City Clerks to poll eligible householders on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, to determine whether residents support the installation of traffic calming, in accordance with the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy.
2. Subject to favourable results of the poll, the City Solicitor:
 - a. Prepare a by-law to alter the roadway to install three speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, generally as shown on Drawing No. NYRD18-0072, dated December 2018, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming - Melrose Avenue" from the Acting Director, Transportation Services, Traffic Management.
 - b. Approve the reduction of the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, when speed humps are installed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing three speed humps on Melrose Avenue is \$12,000.00. The installation of speed humps on Melrose Avenue would be subject to availability in Transportation Services 2019 Capital Funding and competing priorities.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by former Councillor Carmichael Greb, on behalf of local residents, to investigate the feasibility of installing traffic calming measures (speed humps) on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on Melrose Avenue, and have submitted a petition in support of this request.

Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, is a collector street that operates with two-way traffic. It has a posted speed limit of 40 km/h and a daily traffic volume of approximately 3,000 vehicles. The pavement width on Melrose Avenue is 8.5 metres and there are sidewalks provided on both sides. Heavy vehicles are prohibited at all times and there is no TTC service provided on Melrose Avenue.

Analysis

Transportation Services conducted mid-block speed and volume studies on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, over a three day mid-week period in May 2018. The following table identifies the results of the study:

Table 1: 24-Hour Speed and Volume Study - Melrose Avenue (May 1-3, 2018)

Direction	Vehicle Speeds		Traffic Volumes		
	Operating	Average	AM	PM	24-hour
Eastbound	51 km/h	41 km/h	84	169	1,183
Westbound	45 km/h	37 km/h	115	150	1,589

In reviewing the traffic data collected as part of this investigation, the "Technical Requirements" warrant of the Traffic Calming Policy is satisfied on Melrose Avenue. Specifically:

- The operating speed of 51 km/h of eastbound motorists is greater than 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit; and
- The average daily traffic volume recorded was approximately 3,000 vehicles, which is greater than the required minimum of 2,500 vehicles.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three year period ending June 30, 2017 disclosed one collision on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road. Further review determined that this collision was not related to excessive speeding.

Conduct Poll

According to the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy, a formal poll managed by City Clerks must be conducted of households directly abutting or flanking the street. The policy stipulates that a minimum response of 50 percent plus one of affected residents respond, and that 60 percent of valid responses support the proposal, in order to implement traffic calming measures (speed humps).

Subject to approval by North York Community Council of the recommendations outlined above, Transportation Services would request a poll of eligible residents on Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road. If the poll supports speed humps, Transportation Services would schedule installation based on relative need and competing priorities.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

Relative need and priority of speed hump installation is based on a technical assessment of traffic volume, vehicle speed percentages, speed-related collisions, and the presence of schools, parks, seniors' residences or bicycle routes. Melrose Avenue, between Avenue Road and Elm Road, scored 52 ranking points out of a possible 100.

No alterations to parking regulations are required, nor would the number of parking spaces be affected by the installation of speed humps. Installation of speed humps will have minimal effect on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection.

Speed humps will result in slower operating speeds for all vehicles, including emergency service vehicles, and could result in increased response times in the event of an emergency.

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. Toronto Paramedic Services have provided their comments in the attached letter dated June 26, 2018 (Appendix B). Toronto Fire Services have provided their comments in the attached letter dated October 22, 2018 (Appendix C). Comments have not been received from Toronto Police Service.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Roger Browne
Acting Director

ATTACHMENTS

1. Map - Traffic Calming - Melrose Avenue
2. Appendix A - Traffic Calming Summary
3. Appendix B - Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated June 26, 2018
4. Appendix C - Letter from Toronto Fire Services, dated October 22, 2018