

Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Colin Avenue

Date: December 4, 2018
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 12, Toronto - St. Paul's

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that 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, specifically speed humps on Colin Avenue, between Hillside Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, to address residents' concerns regarding vehicle speeds. Our assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the Traffic Calming Policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, traffic calming should not be installed on the subject section of Colin Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Toronto and East York Community Council not authorize the installation of traffic calming (speed humps) on Colin Avenue, between Hillside Avenue West and Anderson Avenue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Existing Conditions

Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, is a local road that operates with two-way traffic. It has a posted speed limit of 30 km/h and an average daily two-way traffic volume of approximately 916 vehicles. The pavement width on Colin Avenue is approximately 8.5 metres and there are sidewalks provided on both sides of the road. Heavy vehicles are prohibited at all times. There is no TTC service provided on Colin Avenue.

Analysis

Transportation Services conducted three days of mid-block speed and volume studies on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, in June 2018.

The study findings were assessed against the City of Toronto's Traffic Calming Policy and it was found that Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, does not satisfy the installation criteria for traffic calming devices. It should be noted that the study is based on the warranted speed limit of 40 km/h.

The warrants were not met based on the following criteria:

- **Minimum Speed:** The operating speed (also known as the 85th percentile speed, and the speed at which 85 percent of vehicles travel at, or below) of 44 km/h is less than the required minimum of 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit to satisfy the traffic calming installation criteria.
- **Minimum Volume:** The average daily traffic volume recorded was 916 vehicles. This is below the minimum of 1,000 vehicles per day needed to satisfy the traffic calming installation criteria.

Therefore, the installation of traffic calming on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, is not warranted.

A review of Toronto Police Services collision records for a three-year period ending December 31, 2017 did not disclose any reported collisions on the subject section of Colin Avenue attributed to speeding.

Appendix A entitled "Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria (Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue)" outlines the results of our assessment for Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue.

Alternate Recommendations

If, despite the findings above, Toronto and East York Community Council determines that installing speed humps on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, would be beneficial, it may approve the following:

"That the Toronto and East York Community Council direct:

1. The Acting Director of Traffic Management, Transportation Services, request the City Clerk to poll eligible householders on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, 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 prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on the copy of Drawing No. 421G-3211, dated December 2018, attached to the report entitled 'Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Colin Avenue' from the Acting Director of Traffic Management, Transportation Services."

The estimated cost for installing 2 speed humps on Colin Avenue is \$8,000. The installation of speed humps on Colin Avenue would be subject to availability in Transportation Services 2019 Capital Funding and competing priorities.

Conduct Poll

The City of Toronto's Traffic Calming Policy stipulates the option that residents who would be directly affected by installing speed humps on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, be formally polled. A minimum response of 50 percent plus one ballot is required (25 percent in Community Safety Zone), of which at least 60 percent of the respondents must support installing speed humps in order to proceed with the installation. Should Toronto and East York Community Council approve the recommendations outlined above, Transportation Services would request a poll of eligible residents on Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue. If the poll supports speed humps, Transportation Services would schedule installation based on relative need, competing priorities and funding availability.

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. Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue, scored 9 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 services, and could result in increased response times in the event of an emergency.

Emergency Services Comments

Consultation with emergency services (Toronto Police Services, Toronto Fire Services and Toronto Paramedic Services) is required to ensure that the design and layout of a traffic calming proposal does not unduly affect their operations. Comments have not yet been received from Toronto Police Services, Toronto Fire Services and Toronto Paramedic Services.

Councillor Josh Matlow has been advised of the recommendation in this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-3211, dated December 2018
2. Appendix A - Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria
(Colin Avenue, between Hillside Avenue West and Anderson Avenue)

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Table 1: Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria

(Colin Avenue, between Hillsdale Avenue West and Anderson Avenue)

Warrant	Criterion	Requirement		Met/Not Met
Warrant 1 Petition	1.1 Petition	A petition requesting traffic calming must be signed by at least 25% of households on the street. OR A direct request from the Ward Councillor. Warrants #2 and #3 will not be considered until Warrant #1 is satisfied.		Met – Petition received
Impacts to Adjacent Streets		No significant traffic impacts on adjacent streets		Met – There should be no traffic spill-over to adjacent streets
Warrant 2 Safety Requirements (all three criteria must be fulfilled to satisfy this Warrant)	2.1 Sidewalks	Continuous sidewalks on at least one side of the street (both sides for collector streets or higher classification). OR Where there are no sidewalks, the installation of sidewalk on at least one side of the street must have first been considered.		Met – There are sidewalks present on both sides of the road
	2.2 Road Grade	Road grade 5% or less OR Between 5% and 8% road grade may be considered. Investigation must determine installation to be safe.		Met – The road grade on Colin Avenue is less than 5%
	2.3 Emergency Response	No significant Impacts on Emergency Services - as determined in consultation with Emergency Services (Fire, Ambulance and Police) staff.		Comments to be requested from Toronto Police, Fire and Paramedic Services
Warrant 3 Technical Requirements (all four criteria must be fulfilled to satisfy this warrant)	3.1 Minimum Speed	85 th percentile speed is a minimum of 10 km/h (but less than 15 km/h) over a warranted 40 km/h speed limit, and the traffic volume requirements of Warrant 3.2 must be fulfilled. OR On streets where the 85 th percentile speed exceeds a warranted 40 km/h speed limit by a minimum of 15 km/h, there is no minimum volume required in warrant 3.2.		Not Met – Speed studies on Colin Avenue show an average 85 th percentile speed of 44 km/h
	3.2 Min. and Max. traffic Volume	Local Roads Traffic volume between 1,000 Veh/day and 8,000 Veh/day	Collector Roads Traffic volume between 2,500 Veh/day and 8,000 Veh/day	Not Met – Local road with an average total daily volume of approximately 916 vehicles
	3.3 Minimum Street Segment Length between stop controls	Street segment length must exceed 120 metres between stop controls (signals or stop signs)		Met – The average segment length between stop sign controls is 155 metres
	3.4 Transit Service	Impacts on regularly scheduled Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) services will not be significant (as determined in consultation with TTC staff)		Met – No TTC service on Colin Avenue