

Speed Hump Poll Results - Lawton Boulevard

Date: February 27, 2019
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 is reporting on the results of the traffic calming poll undertaken on Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street. The poll provided a response rate of less than the 50 percent plus one ballot required by the traffic calming policy needed to confirm that there is a favourable consensus in the community to install speed humps on the subject section of Lawton Boulevard.

Accordingly, continuing the process to install speed humps on Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street, is not recommended.

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 Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on July 4, 2018, Toronto and East York Community Council recommended the installation of speed humps on Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street, subject to a favourable poll of residents. The Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.TE34.154>

COMMENTS

Councillor Josh Matlow has requested Transportation Services to report on the results of the poll undertaken in August 2018, regarding the installation of speed humps on Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street. The Traffic Calming Policy as adopted by City Council, requires among other matters, that staff undertake a poll of eligible voters on streets being considered for traffic calming and consult with Emergency Services. With respect to the poll:

- A return rate of 50 percent plus one ballot; and
- A support rate of at least 60 percent of the valid responses is required.

The poll results for the subject section of Lawton Boulevard are as follows:

Poll Results

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|------|
| No. of ballots mailed out | 816 | 100% |
| No. of ballots received | 204 | 25% |
| No. of ballots in favour | 148 | 73% |
| No. of ballots opposed | 41 | 20% |
| No. of ballots spoiled | 15 | 7% |

As shown in the above table, 204 out of 816 ballots mailed out were returned. The response rate of 25 percent is less than the minimum 50 percent plus one ballot response rate required to consider the poll valid in accordance with the current polling policy. When the polling requirements have not been met, the process to install the proposed traffic calming measures should not go forward. Also, a two-year moratorium is imposed on further polling.

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. Toronto Paramedic Services provided their comments in the attached letter dated June 4, 2018 (Appendix A). Comments have not been received from the Toronto Police Services and Toronto Fire Services.

Notification of Residents

Under the Polling Policy, residents of Lawton Boulevard have been notified in writing by the City Clerk that the speed hump poll on this street did not satisfy the required criteria and that any follow-up poll cannot be conducted for a period of two years. Residents have not been told specifically that speed humps will not be installed and have been advised that Toronto and East York Community Council has the final decision on the matter. However, they might interpret the failure of the poll as the final decision on this matter.

Alternate Recommendations

If, despite the findings above, Toronto and East York Community Council wishes to proceed with installing speed humps on Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street, the following alternate recommendations should be adopted:

"That the Toronto and East York Community Council direct:

1. The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter the roadway to install six speed humps on Lawton Boulevard, between Brentdale Drive and Yonge Street, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G-3059, dated June 2018 attached to the report entitled 'Speed Hump Poll Results - Lawton Boulevard' from the Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services."

The estimated cost for installing six speed humps on Lawton Boulevard is \$24,000. The installation of speed humps on Lawton Boulevard would be tentatively subject to availability in Transportation Services 2020 Capital Funding estimates and competing priorities.

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

CONTACT

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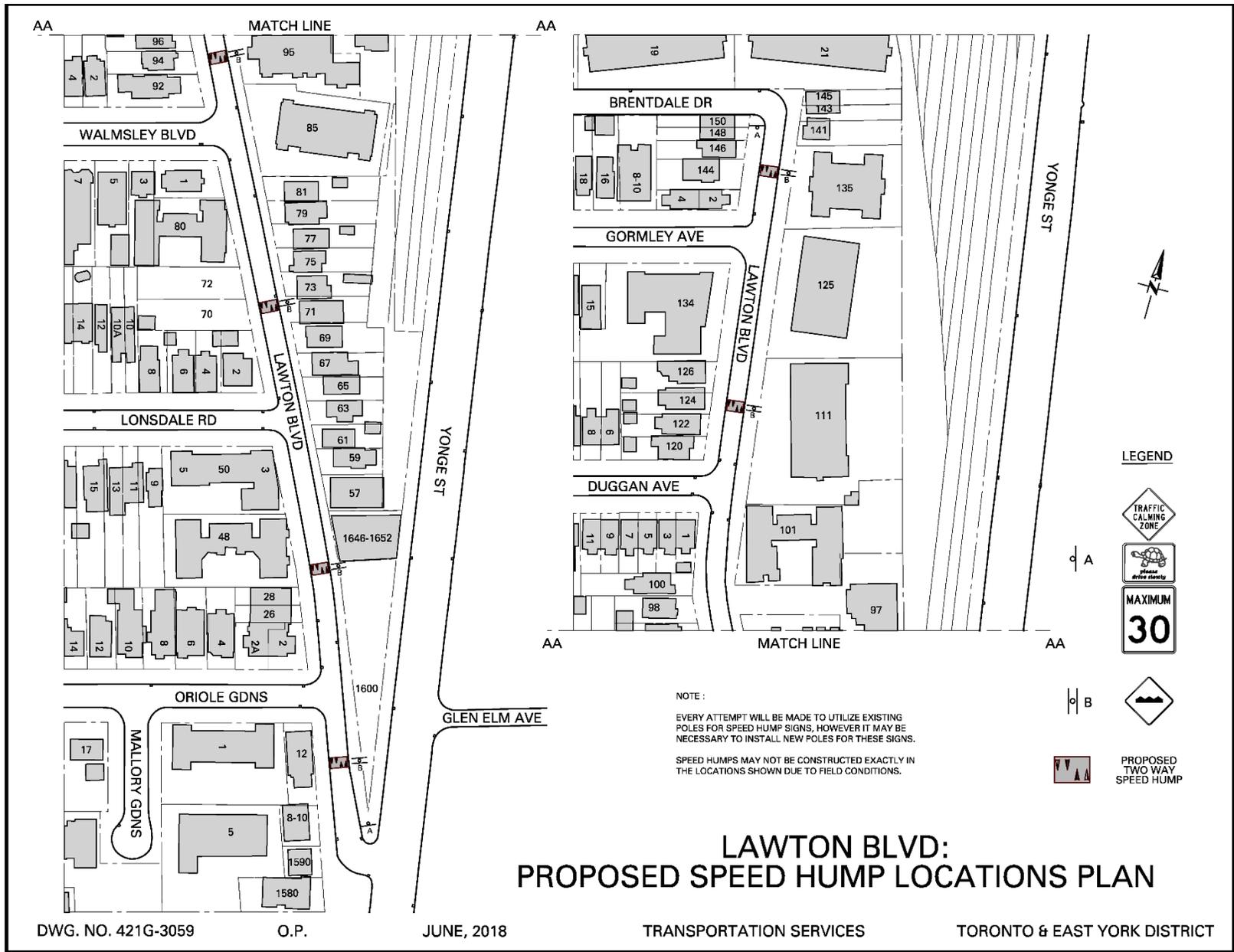
SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-3059, dated June 2018
2. Appendix A – Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated June 4, 2018

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Gord McEachen, Acting Chief

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June 04, 2018

Dennis Gravador
Transportation Services
City of Toronto
Metro Hall, 17th Floor

Re: Traffic Calming Measures – Lawton Blvd between Yonge Street and Brentdale Drive – Evaluation for the installation of traffic calming measures (i.e. Speed Humps).

Dennis,

I have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of speed humps on Lawton Blvd between Yonge Street and Brentdale 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 neighbourhood, and we endeavour 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 installation 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.

In addition to concern for patient outcome and safety, it is noted that this proposal does not meet the Warrant Criteria as set out in the Policy. Therefore, Toronto Paramedic Services is opposed to the installation of vertical traffic calming devices on Lawton Blvd between Yonge Street and Brentdale 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