

## **Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Walmer Road**

**Date:** June 6, 2019  
**To:** Toronto and East York Community Council  
**From:** Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services  
**Wards:** Ward 11, University-Rosedale

### **SUMMARY**

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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 Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal 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 Walmer Road.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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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 Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting of July 4, 2018, adopted Item TE34.209, titled "Traffic and Parking Amendments - Ward 20 (Delegated)", which included a request that Transportation Services investigate the feasibility of installing traffic calming measures on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue. <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.TE34.209>

## **COMMENTS**

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### **Existing Conditions**

Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal 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 1,420 vehicles. The pavement width on Walmer Road is approximately 7.2 metres, and there are sidewalks provided on both sides of the road. There is no TTC service provided on Walmer Road.

### **Analysis**

Transportation Services conducted mid-block speed and volume studies on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, in April 2019.

The study findings were assessed against the City of Toronto's Traffic Calming Policy and it was found that Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal 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 warrant was 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 42 km/h is less than the required minimum of 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit to satisfy the traffic calming installation criteria.

Therefore, the installation of traffic calming on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, is not warranted.

A review of Toronto Police Services collision records for the three-year period ending December 31, 2018 did not disclose any reported collisions on the subject section of Walmer Road attributed to speeding.

Appendix A entitled "Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria (Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue)" outlines the results of our assessment for Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue.

## **Alternate Recommendations**

If, despite the findings above, Toronto and East York Community Council recommends installing speed humps on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, it may approve the following:

"That the Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Direct the Acting Director of Traffic Management, Transportation Services, request the City Clerk to poll eligible householders on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal 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:

(a) The installation of traffic calming on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue be authorized; and

(b) The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on the copy of 'Drawing No. 421G-3428, dated June 2019, attached to the report entitled 'Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Walmer Road' from the Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services."

The estimated cost for installing nine speed humps on Walmer Road is \$36,000. The installation of speed humps on Walmer Road would be subject to availability in Transportation Services 2020 Capital Funding estimates 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 Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal 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 adopt the alternate recommendations outlined above, Transportation Services would request a poll of eligible residents on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue. If the poll supports speed humps, Transportation Services would schedule installation based on relative need, competing priorities and funding availability.

More recently, as part of a report presented at the Council meeting on May 22, 2018 entitled "Next Steps on Traffic Safety Measures", a motion was approved such that Community Councils also have the authority to waive petition and polling requirements for traffic calming measures. As such, this option is also available to Community Council.

### **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. Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, scored 18 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 emergency services.

Councillor Mike Layton has been advised of the recommendation of this staff report.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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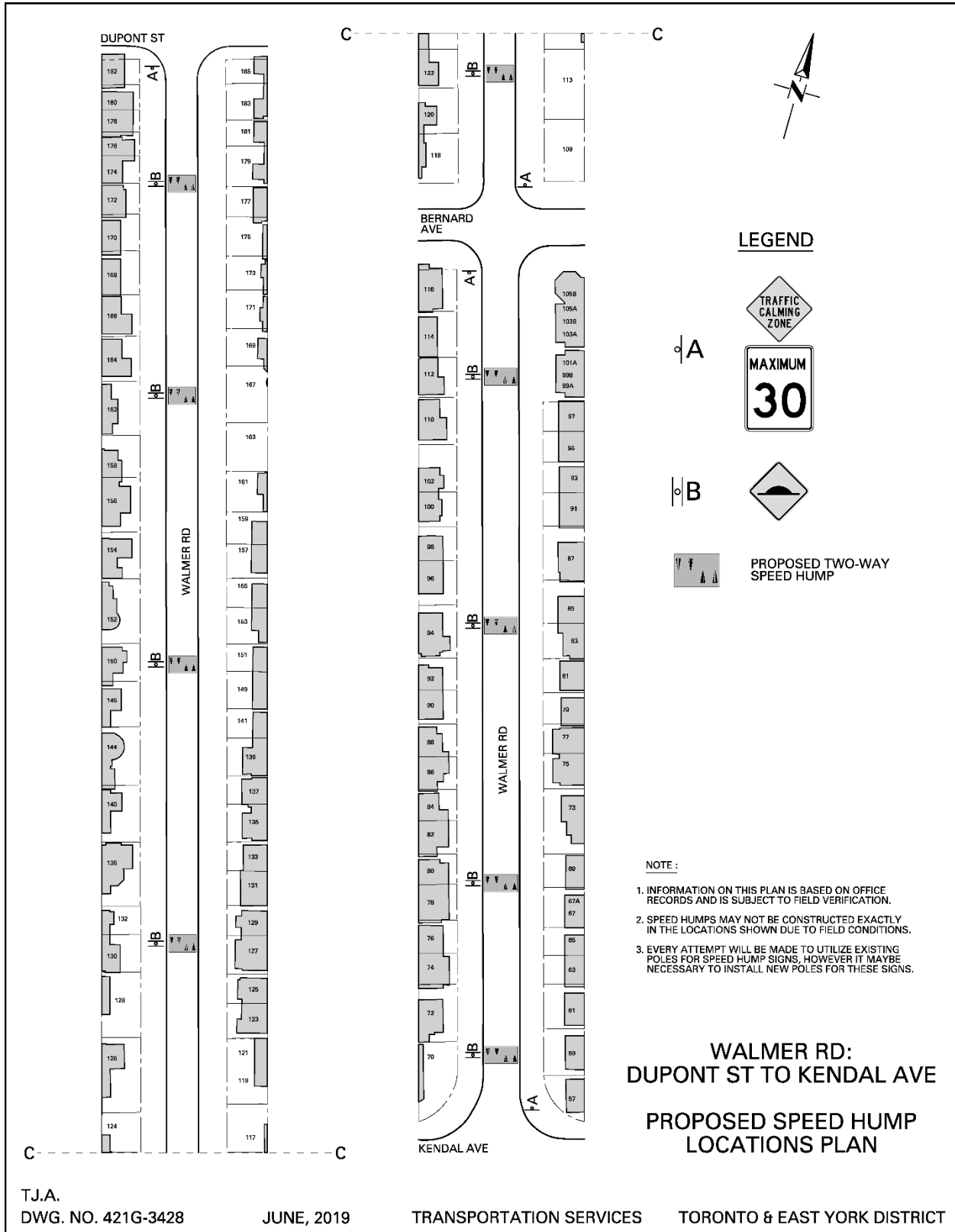
Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.,  
Acting Director,  
Traffic Management  
Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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1. Drawing No. 421G-3428, dated June 2019
2. Appendix A - Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria -  
Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue

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## Appendix A

### Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria

Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue

Warrant	Criterion	Requirement	Met/Not Met
<b>Warrant 1</b> Petition	1.1 Petition	A petition requesting traffic calming must be signed by at least 25% of households on the street. <b>OR</b> A direct request from the Ward Councillor.  <b>Warrants #2 and #3 will not be considered until Warrant #1 is satisfied.</b>	<b>Met</b> – Direct request received from Ward Councillor’s office
Impacts to Adjacent Streets		No significant traffic impacts on adjacent streets	<b>Met</b> – There should be no traffic spill-over to adjacent streets
<b>Warrant 2</b> 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). <b>OR</b> Where there are no sidewalks, the installation of sidewalk on at least one side of the street must have first been considered	<b>Met</b> – There is sidewalk present on both sides of the road
	2.2 Road Grade	Road grade 5% or less <b>OR</b> Between 5% and 8% road grade may be considered. Investigation must determine installation to be safe.	<b>Met</b> – The road grade on Walmer Road 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 have been requested
<b>Warrant 3</b> Technical Requirements  (all four criteria must be fulfilled to satisfy this warrant)	3.1 Minimum Speed	85 <sup>th</sup> %ile 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. <b>OR</b> On streets where the 85 <sup>th</sup> %ile 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.	<b>Not Met</b> – Speed studies on Walmer Road show 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speeds of 42 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
	3.3 Minimum Street Segment Length between stop controls	Street segment length must exceed 120 meters between stop controls (signals or stop signs)	<b>Met</b> – Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Bernard Avenue is about 300 metres  <b>Met</b> – Walmer Road, between Bernard Avenue and Kendal Avenue is about 210 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)	<b>Met</b> – No TTC service on Walmer Road