

Speed Hump Poll Results - Walmer Road

Date: October 8, 2019
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 11, University - Rosedale

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 Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue. The poll provided a response rate of less than the 50 percent plus one ballot required by the traffic calming policy to confirm that there is a favourable consensus in the community to install speed humps on the subject section of Walmer Road.

Accordingly, continuing the process to install speed humps on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on June 25, 2019, Toronto and East York Community Council adopted, as amended, Item TE7.102 and, in so doing, authorized the installation of speed humps on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, subject to a favourable poll of residents.

The Community Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.TE7.102>

COMMENTS

Councillor Mike Layton requested Transportation Services to report on the results of the poll undertaken in September 2019, regarding the installation of speed humps on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue. 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 Walmer Road are as follows:

Poll Results

No. of ballots mailed out	391	100%
No. of ballots received	95	24%
No. of ballots in favour	47	49%
No. of ballots opposed	32	34%
No. of ballots spoiled	16	17%

As shown in the above table, 95 out of 391 ballots mailed out were returned. The response rate of 24 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 Service, 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 been received from emergency services.

Notification of Residents

Under the polling policy, residents of Walmer Road 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 Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, the following alternate recommendations should be adopted:

1. The installation of traffic calming (speed humps) on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, be authorized.
2. The City Solicitor prepare a by-law to alter the roadway to install nine speed humps on Walmer Road, between Dupont Street and Kendal Avenue, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G-3428, dated June 2019 attached to the report entitled "Speed Hump Poll Results - Walmer Road" from the Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.

The estimated cost for installing nine speed humps on Walmer Road is \$36,000.00. The installation of speed humps on Walmer Road would be subject to availability in Transportation Services 2020 Capital Funding estimates and competing priorities.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-3428, dated June 2019

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