

Traffic Calming - Buxton Road

Date: September 15, 2020

To: North York Community Council

From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 6 - York Centre

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 Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive, 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 Buxton Road, subject to positive results of the traffic calming poll.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. North York Community Council request the City Clerk to poll eligible householders on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive, to determine whether residents support the installation of traffic calming (speed humps), in accordance with the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy.

2. Subject to favourable results of the poll:

(a) North York Community Council authorize the installation of speed humps on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive; and

(b) North York Community Council direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter the roadway to install five speed humps on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G-3781 dated September 2020, attached to the report (September 15, 2020) entitled "Traffic Calming Buxton Road" from the Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing five speed humps on Buxton Road is approximately \$20,000. The installation of speed humps on Buxton Road would be subject to availability in Transportation Services 2021 Capital Budget and competing priorities.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on June 16, 2015, North York Community Council adopted a Motion presented by the former Councillor, Item NY7.42 (Speed Limit Reduction on Buxton Road) to reduce the speed limit on Buxton Road from 50 km/h to 30 km/h. The Community Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.NY7.42>

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor James Pasternak, on behalf of area residents, to investigate the feasibility of installing traffic calming measures (speed humps) on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on Buxton Road, and have submitted a petition in support of this request. A map of the area is shown in Attachment

Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive, is an 8.5 metres wide, two-way local road with a posted speed limit of 30 km/h. A sidewalk is provided on the south side of the street. There are two curves on Buxton Road that are delineated with curve warning signs. There is no TTC service provided on Buxton Road.

The land use on Buxton Road and the surrounding area is mainly comprised of residential dwellings. Beverley Heights Middle School, located on the west side of Troutbrooke Drive at Buxton Road, serves students from Grade 6 to Grade 8 and is a significant pedestrian generator on this street.

Analysis

Transportation Services conducted mid-block speed and volume studies on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive, over a three day mid-week period in February 2020. The following table identifies the results of the study:

Table 1: 24-Hour Speed and Volume Study - Buxton Road (February 4-6, 2020)

Buxton Road	Direction	Speed Limit (km/h)	Vehicle Speeds (km/h)		Traffic Volume		
			Operating	Average	AM Peak	PM Peak	24 HR
Buxton Road between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive	Eastbound	30	47	38	125	137	720
Buxton Road between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive	Westbound		44	37	103	195	717
Buxton Road between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive	Eastbound and Westbound		46	38	245	356	1,437

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

- The operating speed of 47 km/h of eastbound motorists is greater than 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit of 30 km/h;
- The operating speed of 44 km/h of westbound motorists is greater than 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit of 30 km/h; and
- The average daily traffic volume recorded was approximately 1,500 vehicles, which is greater than the required minimum of 1,000 vehicles.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three year period ending June 30, 2020 disclosed one collision attributed to speeding on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive.

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 set out above, Transportation Services will request a poll of eligible residents on Buxton Road, between Exbury Road and Troutbrooke Drive. If the poll supports speed humps, Transportation Services will 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.

No alterations to parking regulations are required, nor will 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.

However, 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. Comments have been requested but have not yet been received from emergency services.

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

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - Traffic Calming - Buxton Road
Attachment 2: Traffic Calming Warrant Summary - Buxton Road

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Attachment 2: Traffic Calming Warrant Summary - Buxton Road

Traffic Calming Warrant Summary Buxton Road From Exbury Road to Troutbrooke Drive

All three of the following warrants must be achieved

Warrant	Criterion	Requirement	Warrant Satisfied
Warrant 1 Petition	1.1 Petition	Petition signed by at least 25% of the households on the street and/or Councilor's request. It should be noted that if significant impacts are expected on adjacent streets, these streets would be included in the study process.	Yes ☒ or No ☐
Warrant 2 Safety Criteria [all three criteria must be fulfilled to satisfy warrant]	2.1 Sidewalks	Are there continuous sidewalks on at least one side of street [both sides for collector of higher classification] OR On streets where no sidewalks exist, installation of sidewalks on at least one side must first be considered	Yes ☒ or No ☐
	2.2 Road Grade	Road grade does not exceed 8% [Traffic calming measures must not be installed at or near these locations where grade exceeds 8%]	Yes ☒ or No ☐
	2.3 Emergency Response	Emergency Services have noted that the impact of traffic calming, specifically speed humps, <u>will not</u> significantly affect service delivery	Yes ☐ or No ☐ Not replied yet.
Warrant 3 Technical Requirement [all four criteria must be fulfilled to satisfy warrant]	3.1 Minimum Speed	The 85 th percentile speed must be a minimum of 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit and the volume warrant [3.2] must be fulfilled*	
	3.2 Traffic Volumes	Local Road Traffic volume must be between 1,000 and 8,000 vehicles per day	Collector Road Traffic volumes must be between 2,500 and 8,000 vehicles per day
	3.3 Minimum Block Length	On streets where mid-block traffic calming measures are proposed, the minimum block length must exceed 120 meters	
	3.4 Transit Service	Impacts on regularly scheduled Toronto Transit Service vehicles will not be significant [as determined in consultation with TTC staff]	
Warranted [yes/no]			Yes ☒ or No ☐

*If the 85th percentile [speed at or below which the majority of motorists feel comfortable traveling under the existing roadway conditions] exceeds the warranted speed limit by a minimum of 15 km/h, the volume warrant [3.2] does not apply