

HARBORD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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September 8, 2020

Councillor Layton,

As you are well aware, the HVRA has long been active in working to reduce the amount of dangerous driving occurring in our neighbourhood. Our Transportation Committee (now renamed Safe Streets Committee) conducted a traffic safety study two years ago which documented the unacceptably high level of dangerous driving in our neighbourhood, data that was shared with your office <<https://harbordvillage.com/projects/urban-issues/traffic-calming-major/#trafficstudy>>. We have been pleased that speed humps have been installed along a number of our residential streets in order to calm traffic and that the pedestrian push-button signal at Harbord and Robert is finally operational as a proper signalized crossing.

We are surprised and dismayed, however, to learn that Transportation is recommending AGAINST installing traffic calming speed bumps along Lippincott, between College and Ulster. Their reasoning is problematic.

- This road is in a school zone, running alongside King Edward PS. The Speed limit is 30km/h. Despite this, Transportation has made their arguments based on a 40km/h speed limit.
- According to their numbers, 15% of the daily 745 vehicles counted were speeding at at least 10 km/h over the limit on this stretch. That is over 110 vehicles per day! And an unspecified number speed at less than 10km/h over the limit.
- Although there have not yet been any collisions with students or pedestrians, there was a serious collision on this stretch on August 12, 2019, in which a car crashed through the fence into the playground of the school. Had this occurred during the school session, this could easily have killed children or childcare workers.

- Indeed, the danger that speeding cars present in this location were deemed sufficiently serious that it was chosen as the site for a speed camera, one of only two in the entire ward.

We have joined forces with the King Edward School Council and the King Edward Child Care who share our concern for the safety of children on the stretch of Lippincott in question. We hope that you will champion the safety of our residents, and the hundreds of students who go to King Edward and who attend the daycare. It is clear that physical barriers such as speed bumps, narrowed lanes, and pinch points are among the most effective ways to calm traffic. If Toronto is serious about Vision Zero it needs to act. We urge you to support the installation of these calming measures at the TEYCC meeting on September 16th.

Nicole Schulman

Chair, HVRA Safe Streets Committee, HVRA Board Member

D. Williams

Co-Chair, King Edward Jr. and Sr. Public School Council

Eva Lacson

Director, King Edward Child Care