

Traffic Calming (Speed Hump) - Strawberry Hills Drive

Date: April 4, 2022

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 23, Scarborough North

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services has reviewed the need for traffic calming (speed humps) on Strawberry Hill Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail. The assessment indicates the warrant criteria as set out in the City of Toronto's Traffic Calming Policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, staff do not recommend the installation of speed humps on Strawberry Hills Drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Scarborough Community Council not authorize the installation of traffic calming (speed hump) measures on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

If Scarborough Community Council amends the recommendation in this report and authorizes the installation of one speed hump on Strawberry Hills Drive, the estimated cost of installing a speed hump is \$4,000.00. Funding would be subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2022 Capital Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services received a petition from the Ward Councillor, on behalf of area residents, to investigate the feasibility of installing physical traffic calming (speed hump) measures on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail, to address concerns with speeding vehicles.

Existing Conditions

Strawberry Hills Drive is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, north-south, collector roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 9.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 3,400 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service on Strawberry Hills Drive
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street
- The land use in the area consists mainly of detached and semi-detached residential dwellings.

A map of the area and proposed locations of the speed humps is included in Attachment 2.

Study Results

In order for speed humps to be recommended on a street, the criteria as set out in the City of Toronto's Traffic Calming Policy must be satisfied. The warrant criteria includes factors such as vehicle speed and volume, road widths, pedestrian facilities and gradient. Details of the warrant criteria are included in Attachment 1.

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, a vehicle speed and volume study was conducted on Strawberry Hill Avenue in November 2021.

Based on the study results, the overall warrant for traffic calming was not met for the following reason:

- Minimum speed: The operating speed, which is the speed at which 85 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 41 km/h. In order for speed humps to be technically warranted the operating speed must be a minimum of 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit. The operating speed of 41 km/h is 1 km/h over the warranted speed of 40 km/h and less than the required 10 km/h minimum.

The overall investigation concluded that the warrant criteria as outlined in the Traffic Calming Policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, staff do not recommend the installation of a speed hump on Strawberry Hills Avenue.

Alternate Recommendations

If, despite the findings above, Scarborough Community Council decides to proceed with installing a speed hump on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail, it may approve the following:

"That the Scarborough Community Council:

1. Direct the Director of Traffic Management, Transportation Services, request the City Clerk to poll eligible householders on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail. The poll is 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. authorize the installation of traffic calming (speed hump) on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail.
 - b. direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway to install one speed hump on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail, for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on ATTACHMENT 2, dated April 2022, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming (Speed Hump) - Strawberry Hills Drive" report, dated April 4, 2022 from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services."
 - c. reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail.

The estimated cost of installing one speed hump on Strawberry Hills Drive is \$4,000.00. The installation of speed humps on the subject roadways would be subject to availability in Transportation Services 2022 Capital Budget and competing priorities.

Polling Requirement

The City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy requires that the City Clerk (Polling Registry Services) formally poll property owners/occupants who are directly affected by the installation of traffic calming measures. Under the policy, the poll will be considered in favour of traffic calming if it satisfies the following requirements:

- A response rate of 50 percent plus one
- A response rate of 25 percent if the subject street is within a Community Safety Zone or a School Speed Zone
- A support rate of at least 60 percent of the valid responses

Subject to approval by Community Council of the alternate recommendations in this report, the City Clerk will poll property owners/occupants. Should the results support installing traffic calming measures on Strawberry Hill Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail, Transportation Services staff will schedule installation based on relative need and competing priorities.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

Relative need and priority of speed humps installation is based on a technical assessment of traffic volume, vehicle speed percentages, speed-related collisions, and the presence of schools, parks, seniors' residences and bicycle routes. Strawberry Hill Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail, scored four 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 a minimal effect on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection.

Consultation with emergency services (Police, Fire and Paramedic Services) is required to ensure that the design and layout of the traffic calming proposal does not unduly affect their operations. Toronto Paramedic Services and Toronto Police Service have not provided comments back at the time of writing this report. Installing speed humps will result in slower operating speeds for all vehicles, including emergency service vehicles.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendation of this staff report.

CONTACT

Dan Clement, CET, Manager Traffic Operations (Area 1), Transportation Services, 416-397-5021, Dan.Clement@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail
Attachment 2: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - Strawberry Hills Drive: Steeles Avenue East - Goldhawk Trail

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Strawberry Hills Drive, between Steeles Avenue East and Goldhawk Trail

Warrant Criteria	Requirement	Warrant Satisfied?
Petition	Petition signed by at least 25% of the households on the street and/or 10% multiple family rental dwellings OR A direct request from the Ward Councillor	Yes
Impacts to Adjacent Streets	No significant traffic impacts on adjacent streets	Yes
Sidewalks	Are there continuous sidewalks on at least one side of street (both sides for collector or higher classification) OR On streets where no sidewalks exist, installation of sidewalks on at least one side must first be considered	Yes
Road Grade	Road grade 5% or less OR between 5% and 8% road grade may be considered. Investigation must determine installation to be safe.	Yes
Emergency Response	Emergency Services have noted that the impact of traffic calming, specifically speed humps, will not significantly affect service delivery	No response reviewed
Minimum Speed	The 85th percentile speed must be a minimum of 10 km/h over the warranted speed limit and the traffic volume warrant must be satisfied OR On streets where the 85th percentile speed exceeds the warranted speed limit by a minimum of 15 km/h, there is no minimum traffic volume required	No (41 km/h)
Traffic Volumes	Local road traffic volume must be between 1,000 and 8,000 vehicles per day OR Collector road traffic volume must be between 2,500 and 8,000 vehicles per day	Yes (3,375 vpd)
Minimum Block Length	On streets where mid-block traffic calming measures are proposed, the minimum block length must exceed 120 metres	Yes
Transit Service	No significant impacts on regularly scheduled Toronto Transit Service vehicles (as determined in consultation with TTC staff)	N/A

Attachment 2: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - Strawberry Hills Drive: Steeles Avenue East - Goldhawk Trail



