

Traffic Calming Poll Results - Richardson Avenue

Date: March 16, 2023

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 5 - York South - Weston

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is reporting on the results of the traffic calming poll undertaken on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue. Polling ballots were mailed to the affected residents to determine the level of support in the community for the proposed installation of speed humps. The minimum response rate of 50% plus 1 votes needed to proceed with the installation was not achieved. Therefore, staff do not recommend the installation of speed humps on Richardson Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council not authorize the installation of traffic calming (speed humps) on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report.

If Etobicoke York Community Council amends the recommendation in this report and authorizes the installation of speed humps on Richardson Avenue, the estimated cost of installing two speed humps is \$8,000. Funding would be subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2023 Capital Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on June 27, 2022, Etobicoke York Community Council adopted Item EY33.52 "Poll for Traffic Calming - Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue" and, in so doing, directed Transportation Services to request the City Clerk to poll eligible householders in English or any other language specified by Community Council, on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue, to determine if property owners/occupants support the installation of speed humps, according to the City of Toronto Traffic Calming Policy and report to Etobicoke York Community Council in the first quarter of 2023 on the findings of the poll.

[Agenda Item History - 2022.EY33.52 \(toronto.ca\)](#)

COMMENTS

The Ward Councillor has requested Transportation Services to report on the results of the poll undertaken in February 2023, regarding the installation of speed humps on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue. The Traffic Calming Policy adopted by City Council requires that staff undertake a poll of eligible voters on streets being considered for traffic calming and consult with Emergency Services. 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

As Richardson Avenue is not within a designated Community Safety Zone nor a School Speed Zone, the 50 percent plus one response rate is required.

Poll Results

The City Clerk received back 28 out of the 62 ballots that were mailed out. This is a response rate of 45 percent and less than the required minimum of 50 percent plus one. Of the 28 ballots received back, Table 1 summarizes the level of support for speed humps.

Table 1: Poll Results - Support for Speed Humps on Richardson Avenue

Response Type	Number of ballots	Percentage
In Favour	24	85%
Opposed	4	14%
Spoiled Ballot	0	N/A

The poll is deemed to be a negative poll as the response rate was 45 percent which is less than the required minimum of 50 percent plus one.

Alternate Recommendations

If, despite the findings above, Etobicoke York Community Council decides to proceed with installing speed humps on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue, it may approve the following:

"That the Etobicoke York Community Council:

1. Authorize the installation of traffic calming (speed humps) on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue, despite poll results that did not satisfy the polling criteria for the installation of speed humps pursuant to the City's Traffic Calming Policy.
2. Direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter the roadway to install two speed humps on Richardson Avenue, between Beechborough Avenue and Lonborough Avenue, generally as shown on ATTACHMENT 1, dated August 2022 attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming Poll Results - Richardson Avenue" from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.
3. Amend the existing speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Richardson Avenue, between Strathnairn Avenue and Eglinton Avenue West."

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. Emergency services were advised of this proposal. Comments have not been received back at the time of writing this report from Toronto Police Service, Toronto Paramedic Services or Toronto Fire Services. Installing speed humps will result in slower operating speeds for all vehicles, including emergency service vehicles.

Notification of Residents

As per the Polling Policy, residents of Richardson Avenue 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 Etobicoke 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.

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

CONTACT

Shawn Dillon, Manager Traffic Operations (Area 2), Transportation Services, 416-394-8409, Shawn.Dillon@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Richardson Avenue

Attachment 1: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - Richardson Avenue

