

Traffic Calming - Melrose Avenue

Date: February 3, 2023

To: North York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 8 - Eglinton-Lawrence

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that North York 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 Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street. 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 Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. North York Community Council not authorize the installation of traffic calming (speed humps) on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

If North York Community Council amends the recommendation in this report and authorizes the installation of speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, the estimated cost of installing four speed humps is \$16,000. Funding would be subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services Interim 2023 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 measures on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, to address concerns with speeding vehicles.

Existing Conditions

Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, local roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 8.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 2,600 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no TTC service provided on this roadway
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

The land use in the area consists of detached and semi-detached residential dwellings with a few commercial businesses at the east end of the street. There are two child care centres, North Yonge Child Care and ABC Academy Wanless Park as well as a place of worship. This subject section of Melrose Avenue is not within a designated community safety zone.

A map of the area and locations of the requested speed humps is included as 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 as Attachment 1.

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, a vehicle speed and volume study was conducted on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street on December 14 to 16, 2021.

The study revealed a 24-hour vehicle volume of 2,599 vehicles, which is above the required minimum of 1,000 vehicles per day for local roads. However, 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 48 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 48 km/h is 8 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 speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street.

Alternate Recommendations

If, despite the findings above, North York Community Council decides to proceed with installing speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, it may approve the following:

"That the North York Community Council:

1. Direct the Director of Traffic Management, Transportation Services, to request the City Clerk to poll eligible householders on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, 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 humps) on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street.
 - b. direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter sections of the roadway to install 4 speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, for traffic calming purposes, generally as shown on Attachment 2, drawing number TC-121, dated December 2022, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming - Melrose Avenue" from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.

The estimated cost for installing four (4) speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street is \$16,000:00. The installation of speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street would be subject to availability in Transportation Services Interim 2023 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 North York 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 Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, 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. Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, scored 35 ranking points out of a possible 100.

No alterations to parking regulations would be required, nor would the number of parking spaces be affected by the installation of speed humps. Installation of speed humps would have minimal effect on winter services, street cleaning and garbage collection.

Consultation with emergency services (Toronto Police Services, 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.

Toronto Fire Services responded and advised that they do not support the installation of speed humps as it may negatively impact their service delivery. A copy of their full response is included as Attachment 3. Toronto Police Service and Toronto Paramedic Services 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 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: Traffic Calming Warrant - Melrose Avenue: Jedburgh Road-Yonge Street
Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Melrose Avenue: Jedburgh Road-Yonge Street
Attachment 3: Response from Toronto Fire Services, Dated January 12, 2023

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Melrose Avenue: Jedburgh Road-Yonge Street

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/No
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
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 (48 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 (2599 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: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Melrose Avenue: Jedburgh Rd-Yonge St

Attachment 3: Response from Toronto Fire Services, Dated January 12, 2023

Temitope Oyeyemi

From: Joseph Del Vasto
Sent: January 12, 2023 1:38 PM
To: Temitope Oyeyemi
Cc: Claudio Gloazzo
Subject: RE: Speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street

Hello Temitope,

Fire Services does not support this proposed speed hump installation as it may negatively impact service delivery. The physical restriction imposed by a speed hump have a much greater impact on large fire vehicles. Response time increase with every obstacle encountered on route to any emergency incident and the cumulative impact of several speed hump can be a significant amount of time.

Fire Services is supportive of initiatives that improve safety for all citizens of and visitors to the city of Toronto. However, careful consideration must be given to accepting a delay to emergency response vehicles as a compromise to combat the risks presented by all vehicular traffic. Our recommendation is that non-physical measures be considered and evaluated to determine if desired results can be obtained without imposing a physical obstacle to emergency vehicles.

Regards,

Joseph Del Vasto

Toronto Fire Services
District Chief
Emergency Management
Technical Operations Division
75 Toryork Drive
Office: 416.338-9136
Mobile: 416-433-8347



From: Temitope Oyeyemi
Sent: January 11, 2023 12:13 PM
To: Joseph Del Vasto <Joseph.DelVasto@toronto.ca>
Cc: EMS Planning <emsplanning@toronto.ca>; 'andy.sawyer@torontopolice.on.ca' <andy.sawyer@torontopolice.on.ca>; Simona De Cicco <Simona.DeCicco@toronto.ca>; Shawn Dartsch <Shawn.Dartsch@toronto.ca>
Subject: Speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street

Good afternoon,

Transportation Services received and evaluated a request for speed humps on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street. Our overall investigation concluded that the warrant criteria were not fully satisfied hence we declined to recommend the installation of speed humps on this section of Melrose Avenue. However, the Ward Councillor has asked us to submit a report to the

February 2023 meeting of North York Community Council recommending that four speed humps be installed on Melrose Avenue, between Jedburgh Road and Yonge Street, subject to favourable results of a poll of local residents. The speed humps are proposed to be located in front of #25, #39, #57 and #73 Melrose Avenue.

Please, advise if the design and layout of the speed humps (attached above) unduly affects your operations.

Regards,

Temitope Oyeyemi
ETT 1, Traffic Operations
Transportation Services,
North York Civic Centre,
City of Toronto
5100 Yonge Street, 4th Floor
North York, ON M2N 5V7

Telephone: 416.395.7464

 **TORONTO** Transportation Services