

Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - White Heather Boulevard

Date: April 18, 2024

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 is recommending the installation of speed humps on White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle. Staff's assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the updated Traffic Calming Policy has been satisfied. Therefore, speed humps should be installed on White Heather Boulevard.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Scarborough Community Council authorize the installation of speed humps on White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle.
2. Scarborough Community Council direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter the roadway for the installation of ten speed humps on White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle, generally as shown on Attachments 5 and 6, Drawing No.'s TC-264 and TC-265 dated April 2024, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - White Heather Boulevard" from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.
3. Subject to approval of Recommendations 1 and 2 above, Scarborough Community Council reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle, in conjunction with the installation of speed humps.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing ten speed humps on White Heather Boulevard is \$40,000.00. Funding is subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2024 Capital Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services received a request from the Ward Councillor, on behalf of area residents, to investigate the feasibility of installing speed humps on White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on White Heather Boulevard.

Existing Conditions

White Heather Boulevard 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 8.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume varies from approximately 2,000 to 2,500 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- Northbound and southbound U-turns are prohibited at all times between Dragoon Crescent and Sandhurst Circle
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service provided
- There is continuous sidewalk on the east side of the street
- The sidewalk on the west side of the street terminates approximately 40 metres north of Lady Sarah Crescent on the west side of the street

The land use in the area consists of detached and semi-detached residential dwellings. Percy Williams Junior Public School and the adjacent Richmond Park are located on the east side of the street, north of Sandhurst Circle. Accordingly, White Heather Boulevard, between Sandhurst Circle and Longsword Drive, is designated as a Community Safety Zone.

A map of the area and proposed locations of the speed humps is included in Attachments 5 and 6.

Study Results

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, two vehicle speed and volume studies were conducted on White Heather Boulevard from October 17, 2023 to October 19,

2023. The results of the studies were evaluated against the warrant criteria for Traffic Calming as adopted by City Council. The study results on White Heather Boulevard are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: White Heather Boulevard Speed and Volume Study Results

Road section	Daily Traffic Volume	85th percentile speed criteria		95th percentile speed criteria	
		Results	Warrant Requirement	Results	Warrant Requirement
White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Longsword Drive	2,050	48 km/h	48 km/h	53 km/h	55 km/h
White Heather Boulevard, between Longsword Drive and Sandhurst Circle	2,500	41 km/h	48 km/h	45 km/h	55 km/h

Based on the study results, the section of White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Longsword Drive, has satisfied the warrant criteria for both minimum block length and minimum vehicle speed. The block length was greater than 120 metres and the operating speed is 8 km/h over the warranted speed of 40 km/h.

However, the section of White Heather Boulevard, between Longsword Drive and Sandhurst Circle, does not meet the overall warrant for traffic calming for the following reason:

- Minimum speed: The operating speed must be a minimum of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit. The operating speed of 41 km/h is 7 km/h under the required speed of 48 km/h. The 95th percentile speed must be a minimum of 15 km/h over the warranted speed limit. The 95th percentile speed of 45 km/h is 10 km/h under the required speed of 55 km/h.

Notwithstanding, White Heather Boulevard, between Longsword Drive and Sandhurst Circle, is a designated Community Safety Zone. As noted, Percy Williams Junior Public School is located within the subject section. Furthermore, as part of the Community Safety Zone, automated speed enforcement (ASE) was installed on the east side of the street in the vicinity of the school during the speed and volume studies, which may have resulted in lower vehicular speeds.

As such, the overall investigation concluded that the eligibility and warrant criteria as outlined in the updated Traffic Calming Policy has been satisfied. Therefore, staff

recommended the installation of speed humps over the entire length of White Heather Boulevard.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

In the event that the number of approved requests for roadway traffic calming measures exceed the budget allocated for installation, funding for approved installations will be prioritized using a Prioritization Score. This score is made up of a Quantitative Score and a Qualitative Score.

The Quantitative Score is based on the results of the data collection, including travel speeds and traffic volumes to prioritize locations with higher vehicle speeds and volumes.

The Qualitative Score includes:

- Collision history to prioritize locations with a history of serious injury or fatal collisions and those involving a pedestrian or cyclist
- Equity to prioritize equity-deserving communities with a high-concentration of priority populations and those that are transportation disadvantaged
- Expected presence of vulnerable road users (elderly population, school children and pedestrians, including transit riders) to prioritize locations with a higher risk of fatal and serious injury collisions

The Quantitative and Qualitative Scores are averaged to provide the complete Prioritization Score. White Heather Boulevard, between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle, scored 28 ranking points out of a possible 100.

No alterations to parking regulations will be 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.

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.

Toronto Fire Services responded and advised 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 in Attachment 3. Toronto Paramedic Services have also provided their comments. A copy of their full response is included in Attachment 4. 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 recommendations in this report.

CONTACT

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

SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - White Heather Boulevard, McNicoll Avenue - Longsword Drive

Attachment 2: Traffic Calming Warrant - White Heather Boulevard, Longsword Drive - Sandhurst Circle

Attachment 3: Letter from Toronto Fire Services, dated April 15, 2024

Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated April 4, 2024

Attachment 5: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - White Heather Boulevard - TC-264

Attachment 6: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - White Heather Boulevard - TC-265

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - White Heather Boulevard, McNicoll Avenue - Longsword Drive

Criteria		Requirement	Warrant Satisfied?
Community Support		A direct request from the Ward Councillor OR identified by Transportation Services in consultation with the Ward Councillor	Yes
Eligibility Criteria	Road Classification	Classified as a local or collector roadway, according to the Toronto Road Classification System	Yes
	Sidewalks	Presence of a sidewalk on at least one side of a local roadway and both sides of a collector roadway is preferred but not required	Yes
	Traffic Volume	Maximum average daily traffic volume of less than 8,000 vehicles per day	Yes
	Road Grade	Maximum roadway grade of up to 5%, can be considered in locations where the road grade is between 5% and 8% with additional review	Yes
	Emergency Services	No significant impacts on emergency services, including Toronto Fire, Paramedic and Police Services	No
	Transit Services	No significant impacts to regularly scheduled Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) services	N/A
Warrant Criteria	Minimum Block Length	Minimum block length of 120 metres based on the measured distance from centre to centre of controlled intersections AND	Yes (392 m)
	85th percentile speed	Minimum 85th percentile speed of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit OR	Yes (48 km/h)
	95th percentile speed	Minimum 95th percentile speed of 15 km/h over the warranted speed limit	No (53 km/h)

Attachment 2: Traffic Calming Warrant - White Heather Boulevard, Longsword Drive - Sandhurst Circle

Criteria		Requirement	Warrant Satisfied?
Community Support		A direct request from the Ward Councillor OR identified by Transportation Services in consultation with the Ward Councillor	Yes
Eligibility Criteria	Road Classification	Classified as a local or collector roadway, according to the Toronto Road Classification System	Yes
	Sidewalks	Presence of a sidewalk on at least one side of a local roadway and both sides of a collector roadway is preferred but not required	Yes
	Traffic Volume	Maximum average daily traffic volume of less than 8,000 vehicles per day	Yes
	Road Grade	Maximum roadway grade of up to 5%, can be considered in locations where the road grade is between 5% and 8% with additional review	Yes
	Emergency Services	No significant impacts on emergency services, including Toronto Fire, Paramedic and Police Services	No
	Transit Services	No significant impacts to regularly scheduled Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) services	N/A
Warrant Criteria	Minimum Block Length	Minimum block length of 120 metres based on the measured distance from centre to centre of controlled intersections AND	Yes (450 m)
	85th percentile speed	Minimum 85th percentile speed of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit OR	No (41 km/h)
	95th percentile speed	Minimum 95th percentile speed of 15 km/h over the warranted speed limit	No (45 km/h)



Matthew Pegg
Fire Chief and General Manager

Paul Raftis
Deputy City Manager
Community & Social Services

Fire Services
4330 Dufferin Street
Toronto, Ontario M3H 5R9

Email: OfficeoftheFireChief@toronto.ca

April 15, 2024

Ghamdan Al-Mukardi
Engineering Technologist Technician 1
Traffic Operations
City of Toronto

RE: White Heather Boulevard (Between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle) Speed Hump Investigative Summary

We are in receipt of and have reviewed the proposal for installation of traffic calming measures (speed humps) on White Heather Boulevard (Between McNicoll Avenue and Sandhurst Circle) and provide the following comments.

Toronto Fire Services does not support this proposed speed hump installation as it may negatively impact service delivery. The physical restrictions imposed by speed humps have a greater impact on fire vehicles. Response time increases with every obstacle encountered responding to any emergency incident and the cumulative impact of several speed humps can increase responses times.

Toronto 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,

Claudio Gloazzo
Acting District Chief

for

Joseph Del Vasto
District Chief
Emergency Planning
Toronto Fire Services
(416) 338-9136



Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated April 4, 2024

From: [Atif Sharif](#)
To: [Ghamdan Al-mukardi](#)
Subject: RE: Speed Humps _ White Heather Boulevard
Date: April 4, 2024 10:48:59 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Good morning Ghamdan,

No issues.

Thanks,

Atif

From: Ghamdan Al-mukardi <Ghamdan.Al-mukardi@toronto.ca>
Sent: April 4, 2024 10:36 AM
To: Atif Sharif <Atif.Sharif@toronto.ca>
Subject: RE: Speed Humps _ White Heather Boulevard

Good morning Atif,

The installation of speed humps along White Heather Blvd has been decided to extend throughout the entire street, between McNicoll Ave and Sandhurst Circle. Any comments on that?

Thank you,
Ghamdan

From: Atif Sharif <Atif.Sharif@toronto.ca>
Sent: March 4, 2024 10:35 AM
To: Ghamdan Al-mukardi <Ghamdan.Al-mukardi@toronto.ca>
Subject: RE: Speed Humps _ White Heather Boulevard

Good morning,

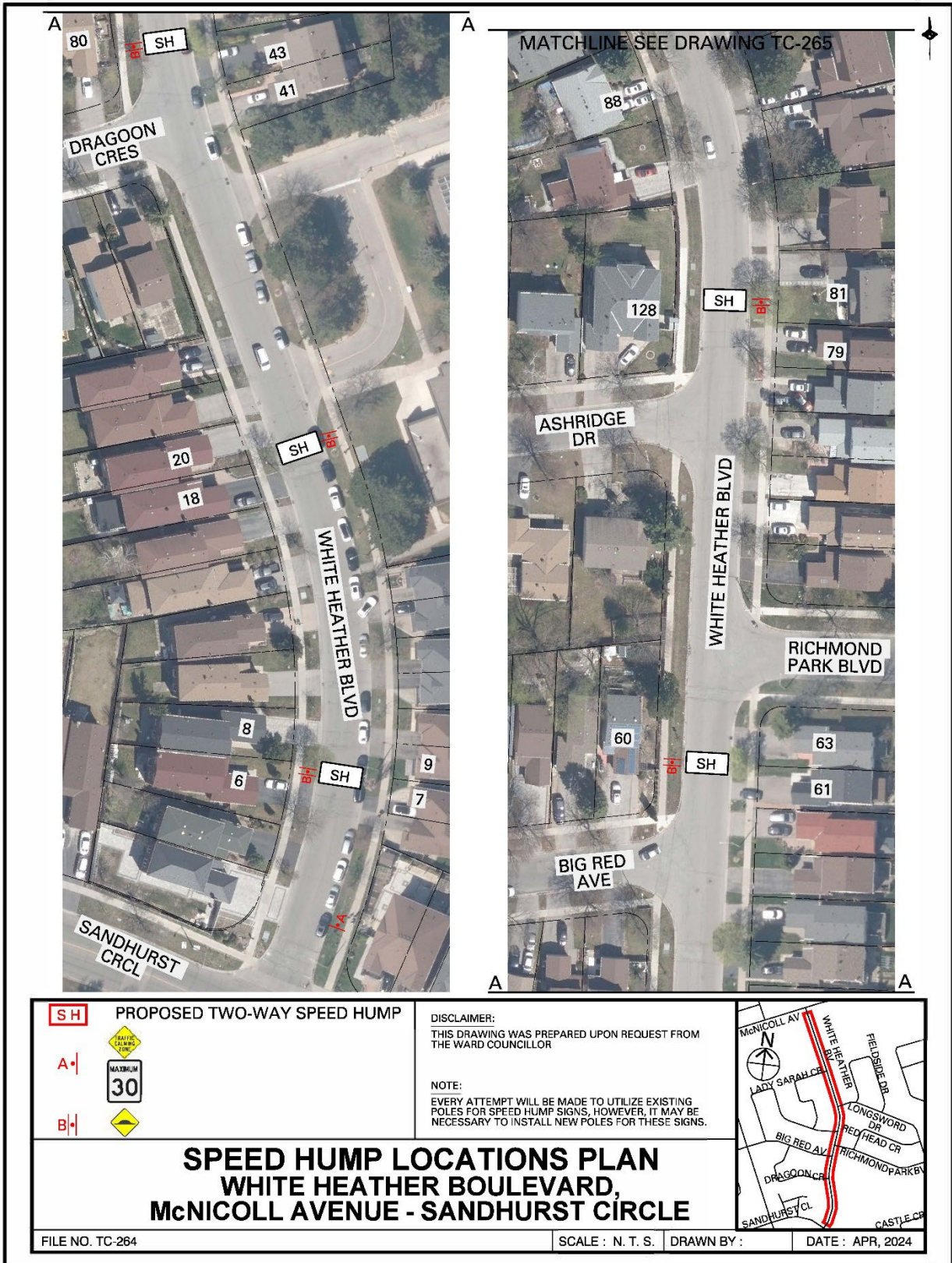
From Paramedic Services point of view, there are no concerns with the installation of speed humps on White Heather Blvd between McNicoll and Longsword Dr.

Thanks,

Atif Sharif
A/Commander - Policy, Projects & Process Improvement
Office of the Chief
Toronto Paramedic Services
Tel: 416-397-7493



Attachment 5: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - White Heather Boulevard- TC-264



Attachment 6: Map - Speed Hump Locations Plan - White Heather Boulevard- TC-265

