



Date: October 21, 2025
To: Members of Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Councillor Stephen Holyday
Subject: Strathdee Drive - Traffic Calming (Speed Humps)

Dear Members of the Etobicoke York Community Council:

I have prepared this memorandum as an update to you on the evolving situation regarding traffic calming on Strathdee Drive.

Last week I submitted a letter of urgent new business to the Etobicoke York Community Council. As outlined in the letter, I was in receipt of an urgent petition dated October 14, 2025, from local residents opposing the immanent installation of speed humps on Strathdee Drive and seeking an area study. This was in spite of an earlier supportive petition in 2023, and following the adoption by Community Council of a positive staff report in 2024. The petition, as communicated to me, was from 21 of the homes; a very compelling ratio, and signalling a problem. As does happen from time to time, people can and do change their minds.

In anticipation of Community Council on October 21, 2025, I personally delivered letters to the residents of Strathdee Drive, letting them know that I had their petition, and that I had submitted a new urgent item of business to the Etobicoke York Community Council intended to recommend cancellation of the speed humps.

What has transpired since then is nothing short of amazing, and is a symptom of Council's flawed revised traffic calming policy. Over the course of the weekend and Monday, six residents have reached out to let me know that they have changed their mind again and rescinded their petition signature of October 14, 2025. This has narrowed the margin to one signature, with 15 of 29 opposing installation of traffic calming.

I have retained copies of the two petitions and recent letters to me, and will show them to anyone who wishes to see them. Given all of the second and third thoughts of the signatories, none of the documents are credible enough to submit to the Committee as an appendix to this memo. There are 29 households with property on Strathdee Drive. They may be summarised as follows:

- In May 2023 – 21 Households signed in favour of the speed humps

- On October 14, 2025 – 21 Households signed to oppose the installation and asked for further study. Of the 21 signatories, 15 households had previously indicated support.
- By October 21, 2025 – 6 of the 21 Households withdrew their signature, leaving 15 households in opposition.

As Members may recall, Council chose to update the Traffic Calming Policy in November 2023. This was a decision that I vigorously opposed. Among the changes were a more permissive warrant criteria, including the use of 30 km/hr as the baseline for speed operating conditions, regardless of posted speed on local streets in residential areas. Also, there was the elimination of the ability to conduct a Clerk's Poll of households. Together these have diminished the objectivity of these decisions, and left Community Councils to sort through the opinions and political divisions of the affected residents. As demonstrated in the case of Strathdee Drive, these have proven to be a moving target.

Given that the majority of residents, by one signature, are in opposition to the installation of traffic calming today, I recommend that Committee consider the motion contained in my letter, intended to cancel the installation. I hope that that this memo will be added as an explanatory note to the record of the Community Council item in support of transparency, and to document an extraordinary situation. I hope that this matter may be taken as a lesson learned by others, and as a caution on the flaws and imperfections of the City's new approach to locating traffic calming measures.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Holyday', with a stylized, flowing script.

Stephen Holyday
Councillor, Ward 2
Etobicoke Centre