

Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Elfreda Boulevard

Date: December 18, 2024

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 20, Scarborough Southwest

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 speed humps on Elfreda Boulevard, between St. Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue. The assessment indicates the warrant criteria as set out in the updated Traffic Calming Policy has been satisfied. Therefore, speed humps should be installed on Elfreda Boulevard.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Scarborough Community Council authorize the installation of speed humps on Elfreda Boulevard, between St. Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue.
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 Elfreda Boulevard, between St. Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue, generally as shown on Attachments 2 and 3, Drawings TC-420 and TC-421, dated November 2024, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Elfreda Boulevard" from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing ten speed humps on Elfreda Boulevard is \$40,000.00. Funding is subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2025 Interim 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 Elfreda Boulevard, between St. Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on Elfreda Boulevard.

Existing Conditions

Elfreda Boulevard is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, north-south, local roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 8.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 1,100 vehicles
- The speed limit is 30 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service provided
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

The land use in the area consists of single-family residential dwellings. Elfreda Boulevard is not within a designated Community Safety Zone.

A map of the area and proposed locations of the speed humps is included in Attachments 2 and 3.

Study Results

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, a vehicle speed and volume study was conducted on Elfreda Boulevard from October 8 to 10, 2024.

The study results on Elfreda Boulevard disclosed the following:

- 24-hour total vehicle volume is 1,112 vehicles
- The block length from St. Clair Avenue East to Newlands Avenue is approximately 500metres
- The operating speed, which is the speed at which 85 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 48 km/h
- The 95th percentile speed, which is the speed at which 95 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 53 km/h

Based on the study results, Elfreda Boulevard has satisfied the warrant criteria for both minimum block length and minimum vehicle speed. The total block length was greater than 120 metres and the operating speed is 18 km/h over the warranted speed of 30 km/h and the 95th percentile speed is 23 km/h over the warranted speed of 30 km/h.

The overall investigation concluded that the eligibility and warrant criteria as outlined in the updated Traffic Calming Policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, staff recommend the installation of speed humps on Elfreda Boulevard.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

In the event that the number of approved requests for roadway traffic calming measures (speed humps) 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. Elfreda Boulevard, between St. Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue, scored 65 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 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. Toronto Paramedic Services has also provided their comments. A copy of their full response is included in Attachment 4 and 5. Toronto Police Service has not provided comments 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

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 - Elfreda Boulevard

Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Elfreda Boulevard, St. Clair Avenue East -
Newlands Avenue (Matchline, see drawing TC-421)

Attachment 3: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Elfreda Boulevard, St. Clair Avenue East -
Newlands Avenue

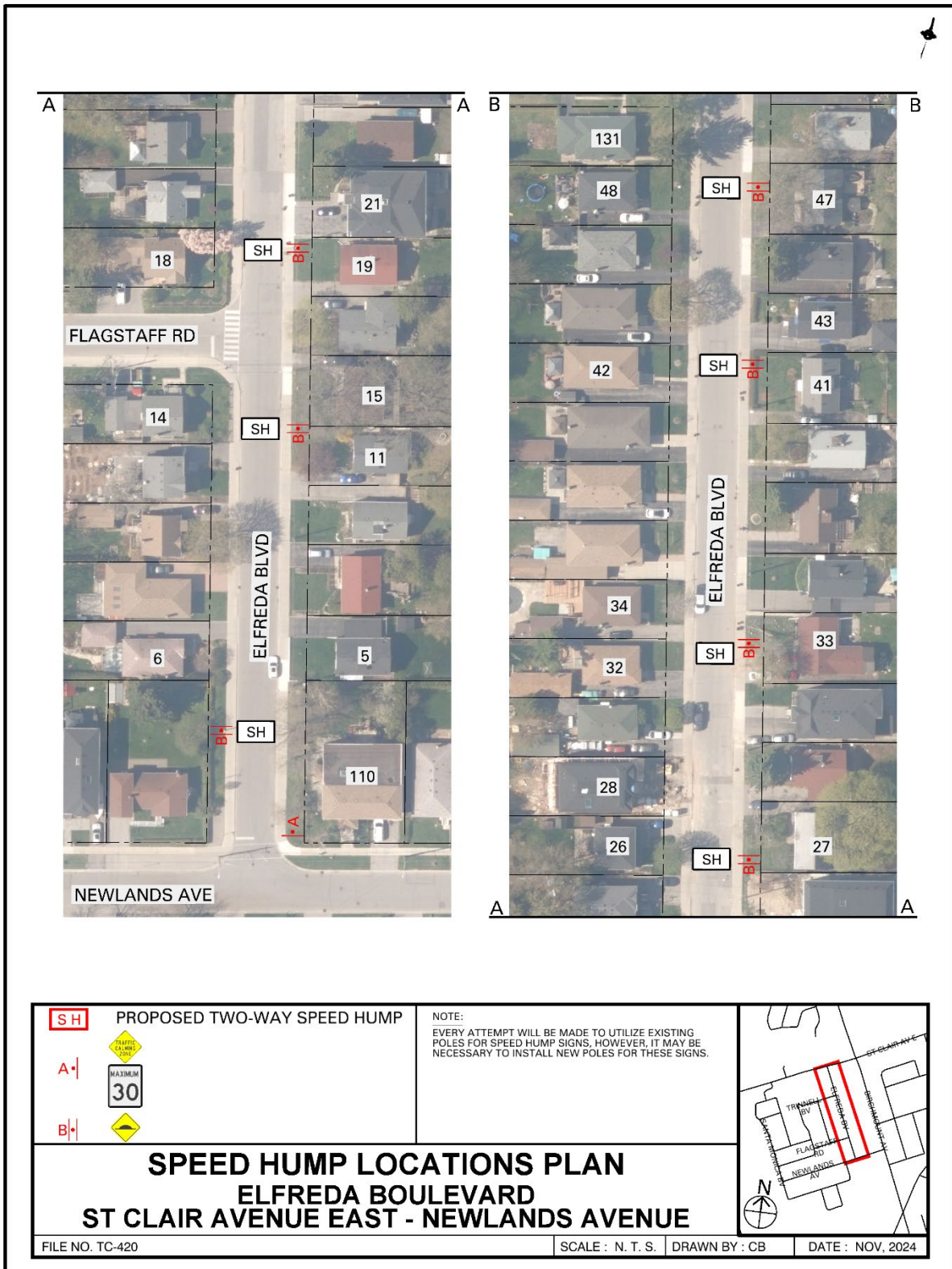
Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Fire Services, dated November 19, 2024

Attachment 5: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated November 19, 2024

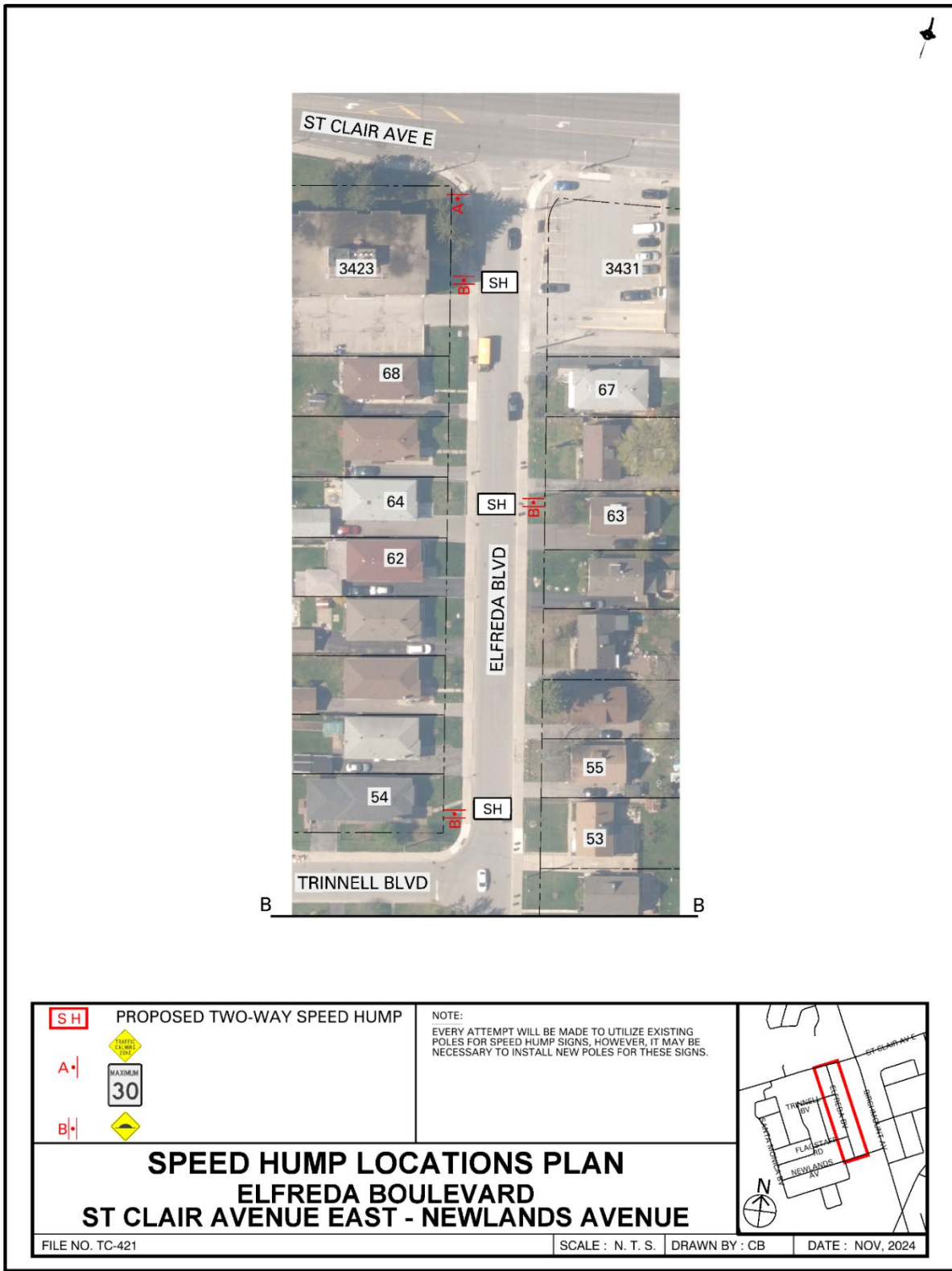
Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Elfreda Boulevard

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	Yes
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 (500 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	Yes (53 km/h)

Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Elfreda Boulevard, St. Clair Avenue East - Newlands Avenue (Matchline, see drawing TC-421)



Attachment 3: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Elfreda Boulevard, St. Clair Avenue East - Newlands Avenue



Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Fire Services, dated November 19, 2024



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

November 19, 2024

Arshad Nazir
Engineering Technologist Technician 1,
Traffic Operations,
Transportation Services
City of Toronto

RE: Elfreda Boulevard (Between St Clair Ave E and Newlands Avenue) Speed Hump Investigative Summary

We are in receipt of and have reviewed the proposal for installation of traffic calming measures (speed humps) on Elfreda Boulevard (Between St Clair Ave E and Newlands Avenue) 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 5: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated November 19, 2024

From: EMS Planning <emsplanning@toronto.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:25 PM
To: Arshad Nazir <Arshad.Nazir@toronto.ca>
Cc: Atif Sharif <Atif.Sharif@toronto.ca>; Jennifer Chung <Jennifer.Chung@toronto.ca>; EMS Planning <emsplanning@toronto.ca>; EMS Planning <emsplanning@toronto.ca>
Subject: Elfreda Boulevard - Traffic Calming study

We have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of speed humps on Elfreda Boulevard, between St Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue, with the following comments:

The installation of speed humps on Elfreda Boulevard, between St Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue, will impact response and transport times for residents that reside on the roadway speed humps are installed. Impacts may extend to community members if Elfreda Boulevard, between St Clair Avenue East and Newlands Avenue, serves access to other roadways. It is important that the applicant understands that the installation of traffic calming devices will reduce the speed that emergency vehicles travel when responding to emergencies on roadways where they are installed.

Toronto Paramedic Services is supportive of community initiatives that improve the safety of all citizens of, and visitors to, the City of Toronto. Traffic and pedestrian safety are key components of a healthy neighbourhood, and we endeavour to support the wishes of the community to implement measures to improve upon these components.