

Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Colonel Danforth Trail

Date: April 11, 2025

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 25, Scarborough-Rouge Park

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 Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail. 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 Colonel Danforth Trail.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Scarborough Community Council authorize the installation of speed humps on Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail.
2. Scarborough Community Council direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter the roadway for the installation of 17 speed humps on Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail, generally as shown on Attachments 2, 3, and 4, Drawings TC-477, TC-478, and TC-479, dated April 2025, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Colonel Danforth Trail" 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 Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail, in conjunction with the installation of speed humps.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing 17 speed humps on Colonel Danforth Trail is \$68,000.00. Funding is subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2025 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 Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on Colonel Danforth Trail.

Existing Conditions

Colonel Danforth Trail is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane local roadway
- It runs, north-south and east-west, with a curve located mid-block that is designated with a 30 km/h advisory speed
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 6.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 450 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h. Transportation Services advises that the speed limit is planned to be reduced to 30 km/h on this street by 2026+, consistent with Item 2019.IE6.8 (Vision Zero 2.0 – Road Safety Plan Update)
- 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 north section only on this street

The land use in the area consists of single-family residential dwellings and Colonel Danforth Park. This subject section of Colonel Danforth Trail 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, 3, and 4.

Study Results

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, a three-day speed and volume study was conducted on Colonel Danforth Trail from March 5 to 7, 2024.

The study results on Colonel Danforth Trail disclosed the following:

- 24-hour total vehicle volume is approximately 450 vehicles
- The block length from Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail is 1,250 metres
- The operating speed, which is the speed at which 85 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 44 km/h
- The 95th percentile speed, which is the speed at which 95 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 49 km/h

Based on the study results, Colonel Danforth Trail 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 14 km/h over the warranted speed of 30 km/h and the 95th percentile speed is 19 km/h over the warranted speed of 30 km/h.

The overall investigation concluded that the eligibility and warrant criteria outlined in the updated Traffic Calming Policy have been satisfied. Therefore, staff recommend the installation of speed humps on Colonel Danforth Trail.

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. Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail, scored 35 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 Paramedic Services responded and advised of potential delays in emergency responses but expressed support for initiatives that enhance community safety. A copy of their full response is included in Attachment 5. Toronto Police Service and Toronto Fire 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 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 - Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail

Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Colonel Danforth Trail - Lawson Road, southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail (Matchline, see drawing TC-478)

Attachment 3: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Colonel Danforth Trail - Lawson Road, southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail (Matchline, see drawing TC-479)

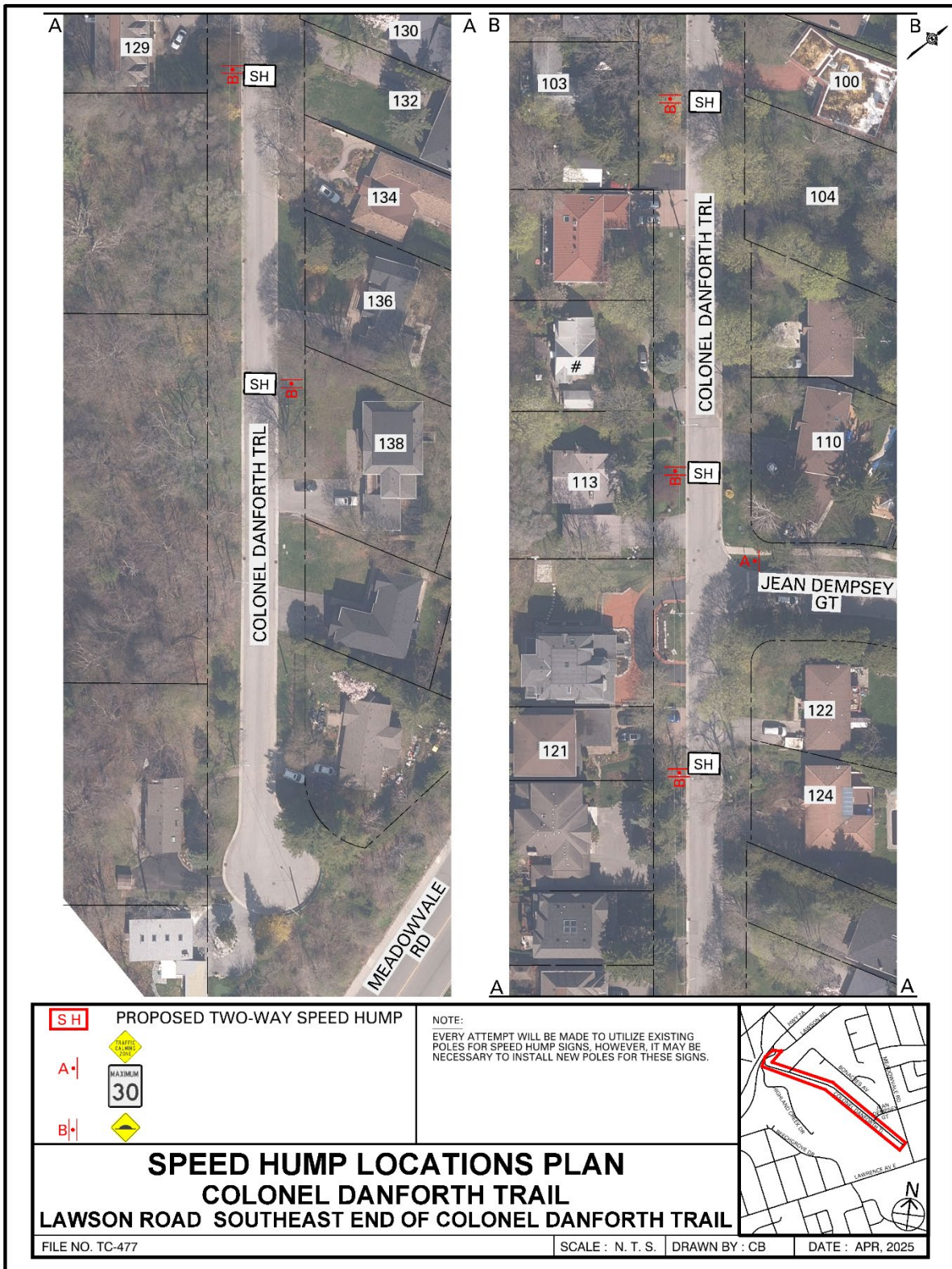
Attachment 4: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Colonel Danforth Trail - Lawson Road, southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail

Attachment 5: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated March 21, 2025

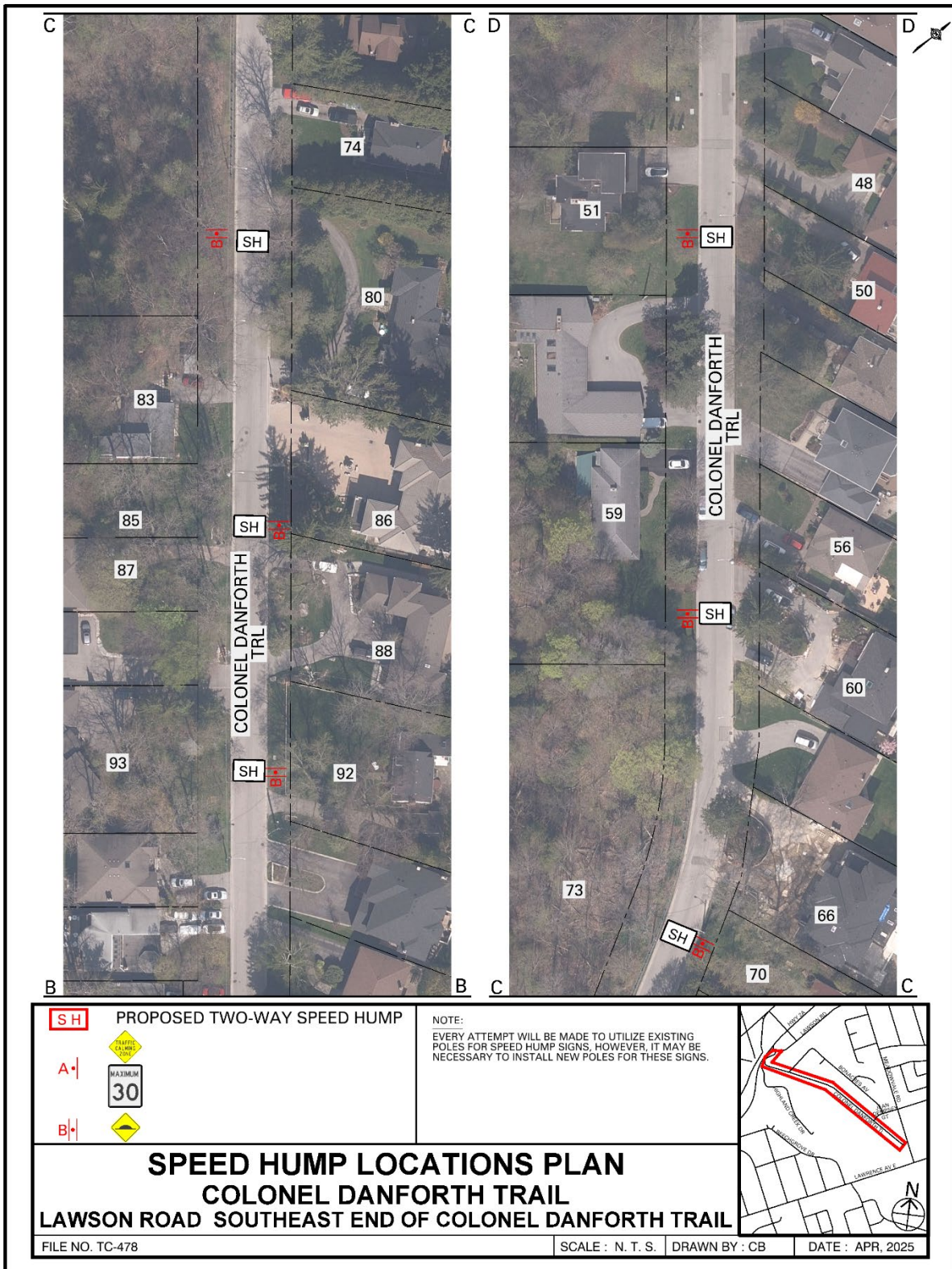
Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail

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	No
	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	Yes
	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 (1,250 m)
	85th percentile speed	Minimum 85th percentile speed of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit OR	Yes (14 km/h)
	95th percentile speed	Minimum 95th percentile speed of 15 km/h over the warranted speed limit	Yes (19 km/h)

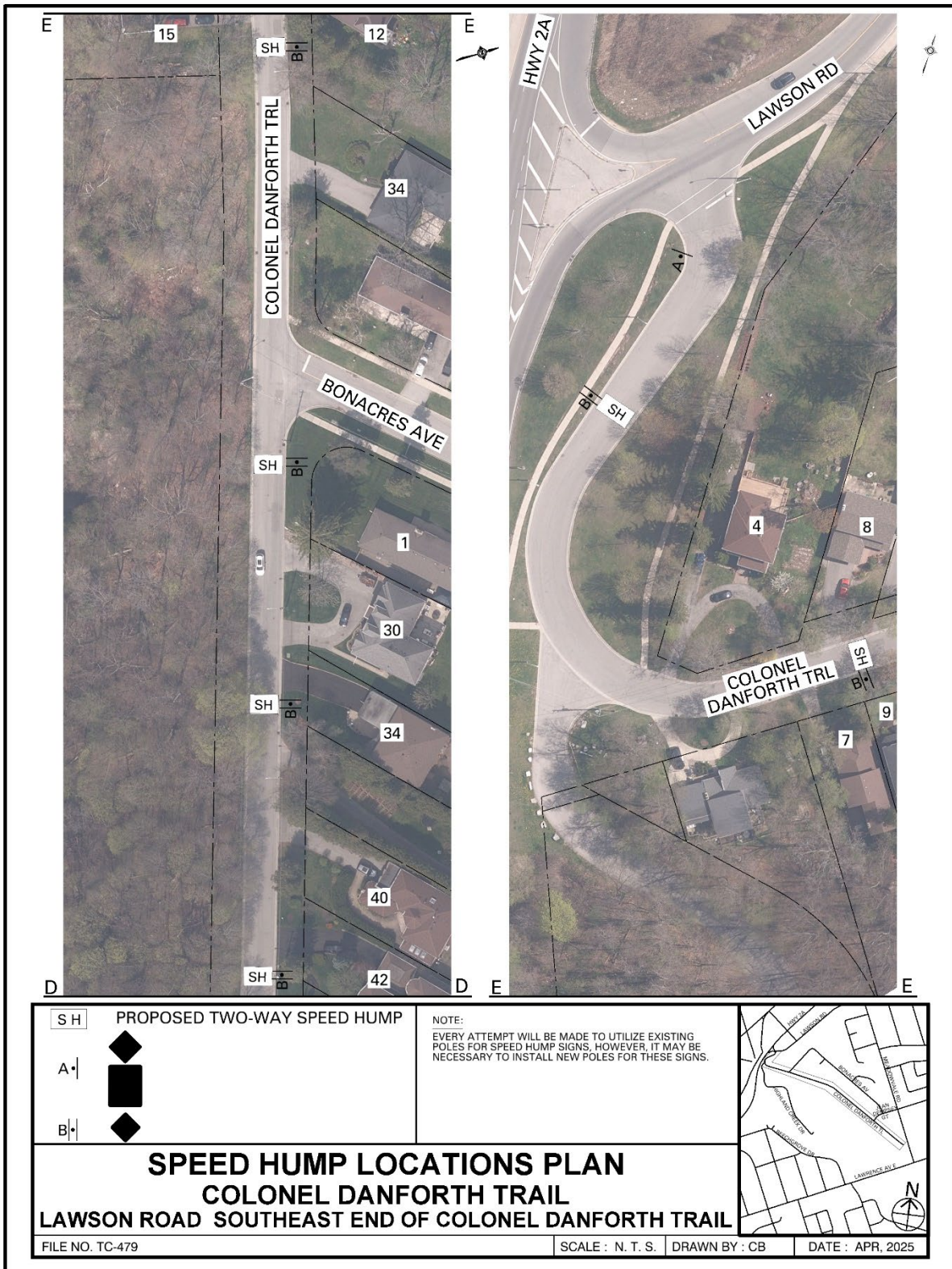
Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Colonel Danforth Trail - Lawson Road, southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail (Matchline, see drawing TC-478)



Attachment 3: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Colonel Danforth Trail - the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail (Matchline, see drawing TC-479)



Attachment 4: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Colonel Danforth Trail - Lawson Road, southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail



Attachment 5: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated March 21,2025

From: [EMS Planning](#)
To: [Omar Omar](#)
Cc: [Jennifer Chung](#); [Atif Sharif](#); [EMS Planning](#)
Subject: RE: Speed humps - Colonel Danforth Trail between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail
Date: March 21, 2025 1:36:15 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

We have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of speed humps on Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail, with the following comments:

The installation of speed humps on Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail, will impact response and transport times for residents that reside on the roadway speed humps are installed. Impacts may extend to community members if Colonel Danforth Trail, between Lawson Road and the southeast end of Colonel Danforth Trail, 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.

