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Dear Chair and Members,

Re: Community Safety Zone - Kingston Road

## **BACKGROUND:**

Community groups and members have consistently raised concerns regarding traffic safety along Kingston Road, particularly in the stretch between Valhalla Boulevard and Birchmount Road. This corridor serves as a major arterial route with high vehicle volumes and speeds, while also functioning as an important pedestrian and cycling link for residents, schools, and local businesses.

The area is home to key community institutions, including the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 13 and Birch Cliff Public School. Both generate significant pedestrian activity, with seniors, veterans, students, and families frequently crossing Kingston Road. The mix of heavy traffic volumes with vulnerable road users creates a heightened safety risk. Residents have voiced concerns about speeding, aggressive driving, and the challenges faced by children and seniors navigating this section of the road.

Designating a Community Safety Zone provides an additional enforcement and deterrence tool, as it allows for increased penalties for traffic violations. This reinforces the City's commitment to protecting its most vulnerable road users and prioritizing safety over speed in high-risk areas.

Community Safety Zones are intended to safeguard locations where there is a demonstrated need for enhanced protection. Establishing a zone on Kingston Road between Valhalla Boulevard and Birchmount Road will help mitigate risks, support the safe operation of nearby community facilities, and align with the broader goals of the City's Vision Zero Road Safety Plan.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that:

1. City Council designate a Community Safety Zone in effect at all times on both sides of Kingston Road, between Valhalla Boulevard and Birchmount Road.

Sincerely,

Parthi Kandavel

City Councillor

Ward 20 - Scarborough Southwest