

Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Virginia Avenue

Date: June 19, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 19, Beaches-East York

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 Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood Avenue. Staff's assessment indicates the criteria as set out in the Traffic Calming Policy has been satisfied. Therefore, speed humps should be installed on Virginia Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize the installation of speed humps on Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood Avenue.
2. Toronto and East York Community Council direct the City Solicitor to prepare a by-law to alter the roadway for the installation of four speed humps on Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood Avenue, generally as shown on Attachment 2, Drawing No. TC-535, dated May 2025, attached to the report entitled "Traffic Calming (Speed Humps) - Virginia Avenue" from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing four speed humps on Virginia Avenue is \$16,000.00. Funding is subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2026 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 Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood Avenue. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on Virginia Avenue.

Existing Conditions

Virginia Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, local roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 7.4 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 220 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. This subject section of Virginia Avenue is not within a designated Community Safety Zone.

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

Study Results

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, a vehicle speed and volume study was conducted on Virginia Avenue from March 25, 2025 to March 27, 2025.

The study results on Virginia Avenue disclosed the following:

- 24-hour total average vehicle volume is 220 vehicles
- The block length from Fairside Avenue to Binswood Avenue is 254 metres
- The operating speed, which is the speed at which 85 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 39 km/h
- The 95th percentile speed, which is the speed at which 95 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 44 km/h

Based on the study results, Virginia Avenue 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 30 km/h.

The overall investigation concluded that the eligibility and warrant criteria as outlined in the Traffic Calming Policy has been satisfied. Therefore, staff recommend the installation of speed humps on Virginia Avenue.

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 person cycling
- 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. Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood Avenue, scored 13 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

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 have provided their comments and advised of potential delays in emergency responses but expressed support for initiatives that enhance community safety. Toronto Police Service responded and advised that the installation of speed humps would not impact their emergency response or access. A copy of their full responses is included in Attachment 3 and Attachment 4, respectively. Comments have not been received back at the time of writing this report from Toronto Fire Services. 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
416-396-3226, Dan.Clement@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE



for

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

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Virginia Avenue
- Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Virginia Avenue, Fairside Avenue - Binswood Avenue
- Attachment 3: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated May 9, 2025
- Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Police Service, dated May 9, 2025

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Virginia Avenue

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	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 (254m)
	85th percentile speed	Minimum 85th percentile speed of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit OR	Yes (9km/h)
	95th percentile speed	Minimum 95th percentile speed of 15 km/h over the warranted speed limit	No (14km/h)

Attachment 2: Speed Hump Locations Plan - Virginia Avenue, Fairside Avenue - Binswood Avenue



Attachment 3: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated May 9, 2025

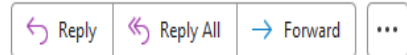
RE: TRAFFIC CALMING Virginia Avenue



EMS Planning

To: Arshad Nazir

Cc: Jennifer Chung; Atif Sharif; EMS Planning



Fri 05/09/2025 8:10 AM

The installation of speed humps on Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood 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 Virginia Avenue, between Fairside Avenue and Binswood 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.



Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Police Service, dated May 9, 2025


[External Sender] RE: Service Request Receipt Acknowledgment - TRAFFIC CALMING (multiple locations)



Marcus Georgeff <Marcus.Georgeff@tps.ca>
To: Paul Qureshi; Arshad Nazir; Brian Spade; Murray Campbell
Cc: Atif Sharif; Carmine Vaccaro; Hadi Khavarian



Fri 05/09/2025 7:18 AM

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Good Morning all,

On Thursday May 8th 2025 myself & P.C. Spade assessed the stretch of roadway on Virginia Ave. between Fairside Ave. & Binswood Ave. in the old City of East York in our assessment the addition of speed-bumps would not affect the access to or slow in any way, the response of first responders (Police, Fire or Ambulance)

Respectfully Submitted

M. Georgeff

From: Paul Qureshi <Paul.Qureshi@tps.ca>
Sent: Wednesday May 7, 2025 09:14
To: 'Arshad Nazir' <Arshad.Nazir@toronto.ca>; Marcus Georgeff <Marcus.Georgeff@tps.ca>; Brian Spade <Brian.Spade@tps.ca>; Murray Campbell <Murray.Campbell@tps.ca>
Cc: Atif Sharif <Atif.Sharif@toronto.ca>; Carmine Vaccaro <Carmine.Vaccaro@toronto.ca>; Hadi Khavarian <Hadi.Khavarian@toronto.ca>
Subject: RE: Service Request Receipt Acknowledgment - TRAFFIC CALMING (multiple locations)

Good morning Arshad,

I have included our MTO/Construction Liaison Team on this e-mail. We will do an assessment and advise you of our recommendations.

Regards,
Paul Q

Paul Qureshi | Acting Inspector #99877

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