

Traffic Calming (Speed Cushions) and Heavy Vehicle Prohibition - Nightstar Road

Date: March 17, 2026

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 25, Scarborough-Rouge Park

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Nightstar Road, and the report includes non-delegated matters, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services has reviewed the need for speed cushions on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent. The assessment indicates the warrant criteria as set out in the updated Traffic Calming Policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, staff do not recommend the installation of speed cushions on Nightstar Road.

During the course of the investigation, it was noted that there is discrepancy between the by-lawed heavy vehicle prohibition and the posted sign on Nightstar Road. Recommendation 2 will correct this inconsistency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council not authorize the installation of speed cushions on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent.
2. City Council prohibit heavy vehicles at all times on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report.

If City Council amends the recommendation in this report and authorizes the installation of speed cushions on Nightstar Road, the estimated cost of installing four speed cushions is \$16,000.00. Funding would be subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services 2026 Capital Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

Scarborough Community Council, at its meeting on November 27, 2025, adopted Item - SC27.20 (Nightstar Road - Request for Traffic Calming Investigation and Reporting), requesting Transportation Services to investigate the feasibility of installing traffic calming measures on Nightstar Road, between Wharnsby Drive and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent, and report back to Scarborough Community Council with the review of findings and recommendations in third quarter of 2026. The Scarborough Community Council decision can be found at:

[Agenda Item History - 2025.SC27.20](#)

COMMENTS

Transportation Services received a request from the Ward Councillor, on behalf of area residents, to investigate the feasibility of installing speed cushions on Nightstar Road, between Wharnsby Drive and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent. The residents are concerned that motorists travel at a high rate of speed on Nightstar Road. To ensure consistency in the application of potential traffic calming along the street, staff also reviewed the segment of Nightstar Road between Morningside Avenue and Wharnsby Drive.

Existing Conditions

Nightstar Road is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, collector roadway, with the cross section increasing to five lanes approaching Morningside Avenue
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 9.5 metres, except for the section between Morningside Avenue and Wharnsby Drive, where the pavement widens to approximately 19 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 2,700 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h

- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service provided by the 116, 133 and 939C bus routes
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street
- There is an active School Crossing Guard provided at Knotwood Crescent

The land use in the area consists of single-family residential dwellings, Nightstar Park and Thomas Lester Wells Public School. The section of Nightstar Road between Wharnsby Drive and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent falls within a designated Community Safety Zone.

A map of the area and locations of the requested speed cushions is included in Attachments 2 and 3.

Study Results

In order for speed cushions to be recommended on a street, the eligibility and warrant criteria as set out in the City of Toronto's updated Traffic Calming Policy must be satisfied. The eligibility criteria include the road classification, the presence of sidewalks, maximum traffic volume, the road grade and the impacts to emergency services and transit. The warrant criteria include the block length and the operating speeds. Details of the eligibility and warrant criteria are included in Attachment 1.

As part of the assessment of the warrant criteria, a three-day speed and volume study was conducted on Nightstar Road, from October 21 to 23, 2025.

The study results on Nightstar Road disclosed the following:

- 24-hour total vehicle volume is 2,700 vehicles
- The block length from Morningside Avenue to Mantis Road / Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent is 600 metres
- The operating speed, which is the speed at which 85 percent of traffic is travelling at or below, was observed at 43 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, the warrant for traffic calming was not met for the following reasons:

- Minimum speed: In order to meet the minimum speed warrant, the operating (85th percentile) speed must be a minimum of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit or the 95th percentile speed needs to be a minimum of 15 km/h above the warranted speed limit. The operating speed was recorded at 43 km/h, which is 5 km/h under the required speed of 48 km/h. The 95th percentile speed of 49 km/h is 6 km/h under the required speed of 55 km/h.

The overall investigation concluded that the eligibility and warrant criteria as outlined in the Traffic Calming Policy has not been satisfied. Therefore, staff do not recommend the installation of speed cushions on Nightstar Road.

Alternate Recommendations

If, despite the findings above, Scarborough Community Council decides to proceed with installing speed cushions on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent, the City Council approval of alternative recommendations will be required as they include non-delegated matters.

Scarborough Community Council may approve the following:

1. City Council authorize the installation of traffic calming (four speed cushions) on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent, generally as shown in Attachments 2 and 3, Drawing Nos. TC-671 and TC-671-1, dated March 2026 from the Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services.
2. Subject to approval of Part 1 above and in conjunction with the installation of traffic calming (four speed cushions) on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent:
 - a. City Council reduce the speed limit from 40 km/h to 30 km/h on Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent
 - b. City Council amend the existing maximum 30-minute parking regulation, in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the south side of Nightstar Road between a point 13 metres west of Pogonia Street and a point 24 metres east of Knotwood Crescent (west intersection), to be in effect between a point 13 metres west of Pogonia Street and Knotwood Crescent (west intersection)
 - c. City Council prohibit standing as generally described in Attachment 5 to the report (March 16, 2026) from the Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services, in conjunction with the installation of speed cushions on Nightstar Road.

During the investigation, Transportation Services discovered a discrepancy between the by-lawed regulations and the posted signage on Nightstar Road. This discrepancy will be rectified with the approval of Recommendation 2 of this report.

Relative Priority and Other Impacts

In the event that the number of approved requests for roadway traffic calming measures (speed cushions) 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, people cycling 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. Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent, scored 22 ranking points out of a possible 100.

Speed cushions require standing to be prohibited within the vicinity. Parking amendments on Nightstar Road are required in conjunction with the installation of proposed speed cushions in order for TTC vehicles to be able to navigate the route. No standing at any time is required at the locations itemized in Attachment 5. It should be also noted that in the event of adopting alternative recommendations, one short term 30-minute parking spot in front of the Thomas Lester Wells Public School will be eliminated.

Installation of speed cushions would 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 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 4. Toronto Police Service and Toronto Fire Services have not provided comments at the time of writing this report. Installing speed cushions 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

Mike Barnet, P. Eng.
Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent

Attachment 2: Speed Cushion Locations Plan - Nightstar Road, Morningside Avenue - Knotwood Crescent/Mantis Road (Matchline, see drawing TC-671-1)

Attachment 3: Speed Cushion Locations Plan - Nightstar Road, Morningside Avenue - Knotwood Crescent/Mantis Road

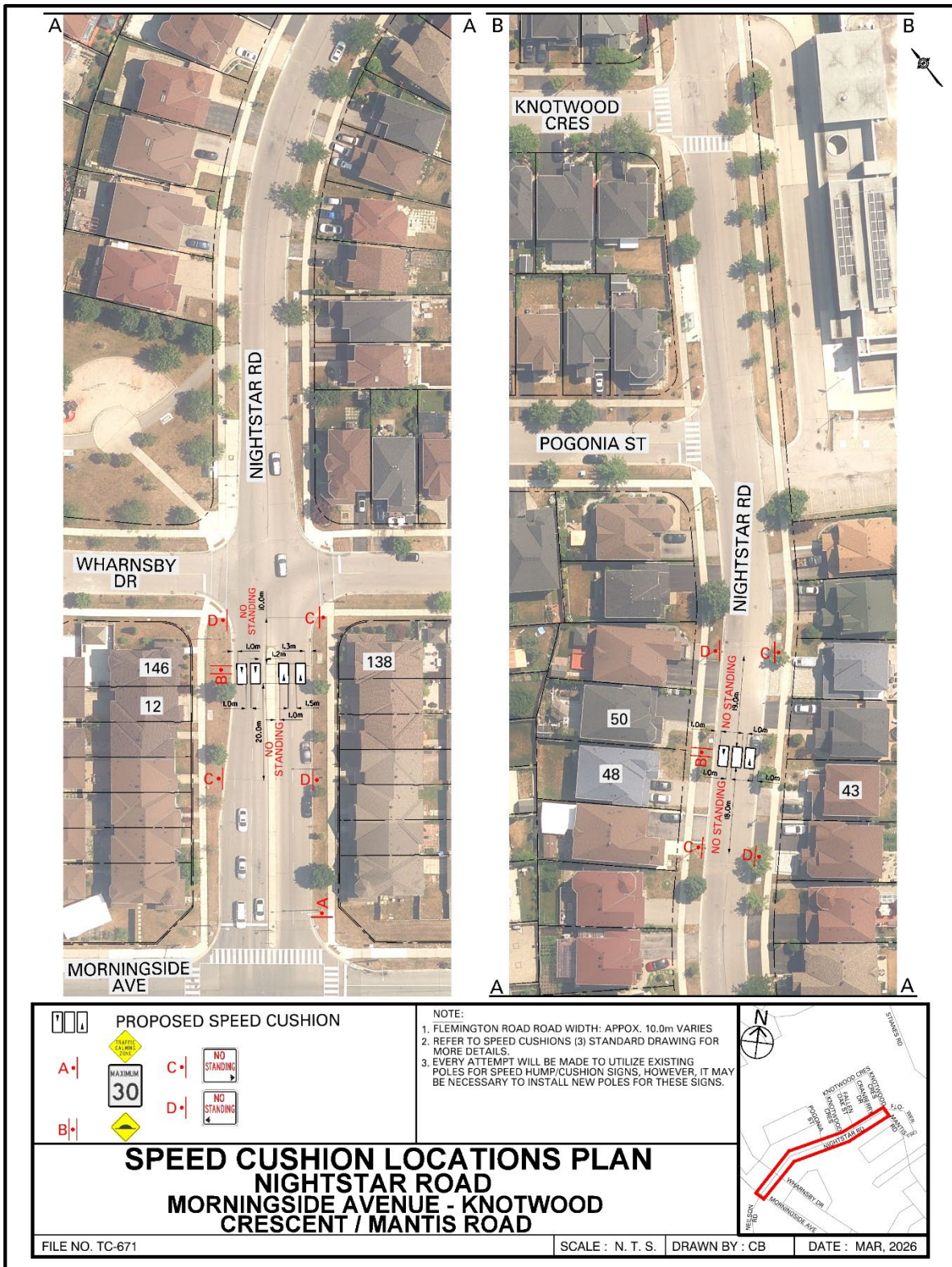
Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated February 11, 2026

Attachment 5: Proposed Standing Prohibitions Related to Speed Cushion Installation - Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent

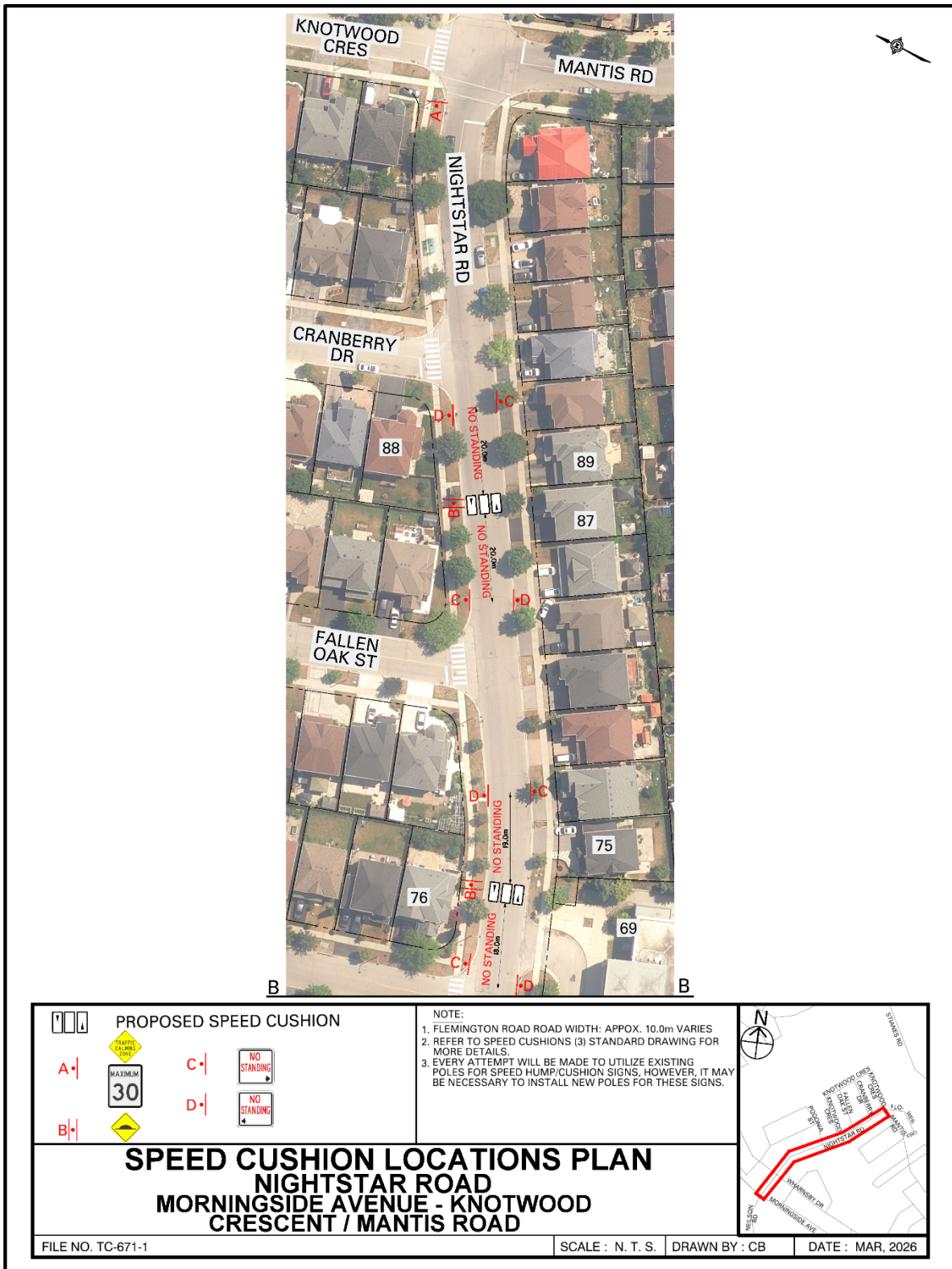
Attachment 1: Traffic Calming Warrant - Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood Crescent/Flower Crescent

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	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 (600 m)
	85th percentile speed	Minimum 85th percentile speed of 8 km/h over the warranted speed limit OR	No (43 km/h)
	95th percentile speed	Minimum 95th percentile speed of 15 km/h over the warranted speed limit	No (49 km/h)

Attachment 2: Speed Cushion Locations Plan - Nightstar Road, Morningside Avenue - Knotwood Crescent/Mantis Road (Matchline, see drawing TC-671-1)



Attachment 3: Speed Cushion Locations Plan - Nightstar Road, Morningside Avenue - Knotwood Crescent/Mantis Road



Attachment 4: Letter from Toronto Paramedic Services, dated February 11, 2026

From: EMS Planning <emsplanning@toronto.ca>
Sent: February 11, 2026 9:19 AM
To: Alena Suslina <Alena.Suslina@toronto.ca>
Cc: EMS Planning <emsplanning@toronto.ca>
Subject: RE: Traffic Calming - Nightstar Road

Hi Alena,

We have received and reviewed the proposal for installation of speed humps on Nightstar Road, between Wharnsby Drive and Mantis Road / Knotwood Crescent / Flower Crescent, with the following comments:

The installation of speed humps on Nightstar Road, between Wharnsby Drive and Mantis Road / Knotwood Crescent / Flower Crescent, will impact response and transport times for residents that reside on the roadway speed humps are installed. Impacts may extend to community members if Nightstar Road, between Wharnsby Drive and Mantis Road / Knotwood Crescent / Flower Crescent, 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 5: Proposed Standing Prohibitions Related to Speed Cushion Installation -
 Nightstar Road, between Morningside Avenue and Mantis Road/Knotwood
 Crescent/Flower Crescent

Chapter 950 – Schedule 16: No Standing

Highway	Side	Between	Prohibited Times and/or Days
Nightstar Road	Both	Wharnsby Drive and a point 35 metres west	Anytime
Nightstar Road	Both	A point 132 metres east of Wharnsby Drive and a point 44 metres further east	Anytime
Nightstar Road	North	Knotwood Crescent (west intersection) and a point 25 metres east of Knotwood Crescent (west intersection)	Anytime except 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday
Nightstar Road	North	A point 25 metres east of Knotwood Crescent (west intersection) and a point 19 metres further east	Anytime
Nightstar Road	South	Knotwood Crescent (west intersection) and a point 44 metres east of Knotwood Crescent (west intersection)	Anytime
Nightstar Road	Both	A point 10 metres east of Fallen Oak Street and a point 44 metres further east	Anytime