

SAHRA Information – Nov 17, 2017

Traffic Calming – Elm Road

Residents in the Elm/Dunblaine area have expressed concern dating back to Oct, 2014 with speeding between Haddington and Joicey, sliding stops at Dunblaine and concerns re safety as there are no sidewalks. A Transportation Services request was initiated by the Councillor. 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on Elm Road between Joicey Blvd and Felbrigg Avenue on Oct 16 and Dec 14, 2016. The results of the vehicle speed studies confirmed that operating speeds, the speeds at which 85% of the motorists are travelling at or below, is 43 km/h and the average vehicle speeds are at or below 36 km/h.

The Report to Action dated March 29, 2017 stated that the results of the assessment indicated that the minimum requirements of the traffic calming warrant have not been achieved and they recommended to DENY the installation of speed humps on Elm Road between Joicey Blvd and Felbrigg Avenue.

The North York Community Council chose to reject the DENY recommendation and instead directed Transportation Services to poll eligible households on Elm Rd between Joicey Blvd and Felbrigg Ave to (1) determine whether residents support the installation of traffic calming and to report back to the NYCC on the results (2) to develop a Traffic Calming Speed Hump plan (3) and investigate the feasibility of reducing the speed limit to 30 km/h.

Elm Road is a major secondary street running north from Lawrence up to a junction at Ridley Blvd. Sidewalks exist on both west and east sides from Lawrence to Brooke / no sidewalks exist north of Brooke up to Ridley Blvd. Many commuters turn onto Elm Road at Lawrence to avoid the traffic on Avenue Road, taking the route all the way up to Ridley and then returning to Avenue Road to access the 401. The posted speed limit is 40 km/h, which is in keeping with the other inner streets in the area. Elm Rd is used by many SAHRA residents/there are other streets with similar situations of speed and volume with no sidewalks.

SAHRA is not convinced that installing Speed Humps and/or reducing the speed limit in the specific blocks from Joicey to Felbrigg is an appropriate solution, for that area itself as well as for the *Neighbourhood*. We have the following questions/concerns:

- a) If speed humps are to be considered for this 3-block area, would other inner streets which are also being used as alternate routes for Yonge, Yonge Blvd and Avenue Road also be appropriate for speed humps?
- b) Shouldn't the study cover Ridley Blvd down to Brooke Avenue, as these streets also do not have sidewalks?
- c) What criteria would call for a 30 km/h speed limit in the specific section from Felbrigg to Joicey whereas 40km/h is the speed limit for the inner streets in this area? It is not a school area.
- d) What is the possible success rate of adherence to a 30 km/h speed limit between Felbrigg to Joicey when Lawrence up to Felbrigg (including the Brooke to Felbrigg block which has no sidewalks) and the Joicey to Ridley block (which has no sidewalks) are at 40 km/h?
- e) SAHRA feels that the speed calming measures that are adopted would need to be applied to the entire stretch of no-sidewalks area from Brooke Ave to Ridley Ave.
- f) Has the use of Speed Limit Flashing Signs been considered, rather than Speed Humps?

- g) Has the possibility of installing sidewalks from Brooke Ave to Ridley Ave been considered? If Elm Rd is a secondary north/south route for traffic diverting off Avenue Road, perhaps the appropriate safety measure is to install sidewalks. Perhaps a very expensive and likely controversial solution.
- h) There have been many reviews/articles on the pros/cons/success rate of Speed Humps. Is this really the best approach for 3 blocks within the entire Elm Rd stretch from Lawrence to Ridley? Some articles:

<http://www.radarsign.com/why-municipalities-are-moving-away-from-speed-humps/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speed_bump
<https://beta.theglobeandmail.com/globe-drive/culture/commuting/toronto-get-ready-for-even-more-speed-humps/article20332471/?ref=http://www.theglobeandmail.com&>

We have asked Transportation Services and the North York Community Council in our Nov 14th letter (attached) to consider these questions/concerns when they consider the best way to deal with the safety concerns on the Brooke to Ridley section of Elm Rd.

If you have concerns about the proposed Traffic Calming measures, please send an email to Transportation Services (gopa.pal@toronto.ca) and Councillor Carmichael Greb (councillor_carmichaelgreb@toronto.ca).

Armour Heights Christmas Bazaar

*Armour Heights Presbyterian Church
105 Wilson Avenue
(Between Yonge Blvd. & Avenue Rd.)
On Saturday, November 18, 2017
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.*

Come support the many wonderful artisans; shop for treasures at our collectibles table; enjoy a delicious home cooked lunch; be entertained by our own carolers led by Bruce Nasmith. Our famous apple pies, mincemeat tarts and tourtieres are legendary in addition to beautiful home decor, tree ornaments, handmade quilts and delicious maple syrup. Finally, our spectacular silent auction is not to be missed e.g. sports/theatre tickets; gift certificates - the list is endless.

Lytton Park Residents' Organization

SAHRA works closely with other Ward 16 Residents' Associations to jointly deal with issues that are of concern to all of us within Ward 16. A copy of the Lytton Park Residents' Organization (LPRO) Newsletter to their members is attached to give you information on their activities and the issues that LPRO, OOGRA and SAHRA are jointly involved with.

Free Admission to Toronto History Museums Through November

(compliments of Councillor Josh Matlow)

Until November 30, general admission to 9 of the City's historic museums will be free courtesy of Mackenzie Investments in celebration of its 50th anniversary. During the five-week period, visitors can explore Toronto history museums through ongoing tours during regular hours and discover memorable and moving exhibits such as "Eaton's Goes to War: Family, Memory & Meaning" at Mackenzie House, "Maple Leaf Forever: Toronto's Take on a National Symbol" at the Market Gallery and "Gibson House Preserves" at Gibson House.

The City of Toronto operates 10 history museums which annually produce over 300 programs and events, including the annual Gatsby Garden Party and the Indigenous Arts Festival, that are attended by more than 410,000 residents and visitors. More information is available [here](#). The public can also interact with the sites on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/tohistoricsites> and Twitter @TOHistoricsites.