

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 19, 2004

**TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURE REQUEST - UPDATED
ARNOLD AVENUE (WEST OF ATKINSON AVENUE)**

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

That this report regarding an assessment of traffic operations on Arnold Avenue west of Atkinson Avenue be received.

Purpose

To report on the results of a further traffic assessment undertaken on Arnold Avenue west of Atkinson Avenue. Further speed studies were conducted for comparison with those conducted earlier in 2003.

Background

At its meeting of September 22, 2003, Council directed:

- “1. That staff reassess the need for traffic calming and conduct a further traffic study in early Spring 2004;**
- 2 That staff be directed to contact the homeowners to further trim the tree located at the corner of Arnold Avenue and Campbell Avenue; and**
- 3. That the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, dated September 15, 2003, be received.”**

The existing speed limit on Arnold Avenue is 40 km/h. Refer to Attachment No. 1.

Staff collected speed data from Automatic Traffic Recorders installed on Arnold Avenue west of Campbell Avenue from March 1, 2004 to March 3, 2004. The recorders collected speed data over a 24 hour period and are shown below.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DIRECTION	AVERAGE SPEED
March 1-3, 2004	24 hour data collection	East of Campbell	Eastbound	43
March 1-3, 2004	24 hour data collection	East of Campbell	Westbound	44

As reported to Committee of the Whole on September 2, 2003 and on September 15, 2003, radar speed studies were conducted in March, July, and September 2003. The results of the studies are shown below. These results are similar to the latest speed data collected in March 2004.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DIRECTION	AVERAGE SPEED
Sept. 10, 2003	16:15-18:00 pm	East of Campbell	Eastbound	46
Sept. 10, 2003	16:15-18:00 pm	East of Campbell	Westbound	47
Sept. 11, 2003	7:45-9:00 am	East of Campbell	Eastbound	40
Sept. 11, 2003	7:45-9:00 am	East of Campbell	Westbound	45

July 18, 2003	7:30-9:00 am	East of Campbell	Eastbound	37
July 18, 2003	7:30-9:00 am	East of Campbell	Westbound	43
July 22, 2003	16:45-18:00 pm	East of Campbell	Eastbound	42
July 22, 2003	16:45-18:00 pm	East of Campbell	Westbound	43
Mar. 3, 2003	7:30-9:00 am	East of Campbell	Eastbound	37
Mar. 3, 2003	7:30-9:00 am	East of Campbell	Westbound	43

In accordance with Council's Neighbourhood Traffic Committee Policy and Procedure, speed humps shall be considered only when the following three warrants are met: the street is not a primary emergency response route, the speed limit is 50 km or less, and the average speed is measured to be 10 km/h greater than the speed limit.

The average collected speed data are similar to the speed data collected in 2003. The data collected to date indicate that the speeds do not exceed the posted speed limit by 10 km/h. Based on the above, the warrant for the installation of speed humps on Arnold Avenue west of Atkinson Avenue is not met. As well, this section of Arnold Avenue is considered a primary emergency response route to the surrounding residential homes in the area.

The installation of medians, curb extensions or road narrowings shall be considered in existing areas only where the following two warrants are met: the speed limit is 50 km/h or less and the average speed on the street is measured to be 10 km/h greater than the speed limit. Based on the above, the warrant for the installation of medians, curb extensions or road narrowings on Arnold Avenue west of Atkinson Avenue is not met.

Staff corresponded with the homeowners at Arnold Avenue and Campbell Avenue and have received written permission from them to remove an evergreen tree and hedges at the subject intersection. Engineering Staff requested the Forestry Department on February 4, 2004 to proceed with the removal.

Environmental Assessment Act Requirements

As required under the Environmental Assessment Act, whenever traffic calming measures are installed or removed a Schedule B Environmental Assessment process must be followed. This process requires public notification and consultation, the identification of alternates, and the filing of a Notice of Completion with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and publication in local media.

Should traffic calming measures be approved by Council for installation on Arnold Avenue, then the City would be required to publish a Notice of Commencement, develop a plan for review by the public and publish a Notice of Completion. The notices would also have to be filed with the Ministry of the Environment and published on the City Page, editions of the Vaughan Citizen, Lo Specchio and the Vaughan Weekly newspapers.

Prior to construction, the City's normal practice is to mail letters to the residents of Arnold Avenue should traffic calming measures be approved informing them of their installation.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This traffic study is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 as to ensure that the enhancement of safety standards are adhered to (1.1.2) and that effective traffic calming measures meet the City's Neighbourhood Policy and Procedures and Warrants for traffic calming (3.3.1).

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

Based on staff's review, it is recommended that traffic calming measures not be installed on Arnold Avenue west of Atkinson Avenue as they do not meet the warrants adopted by Council.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by

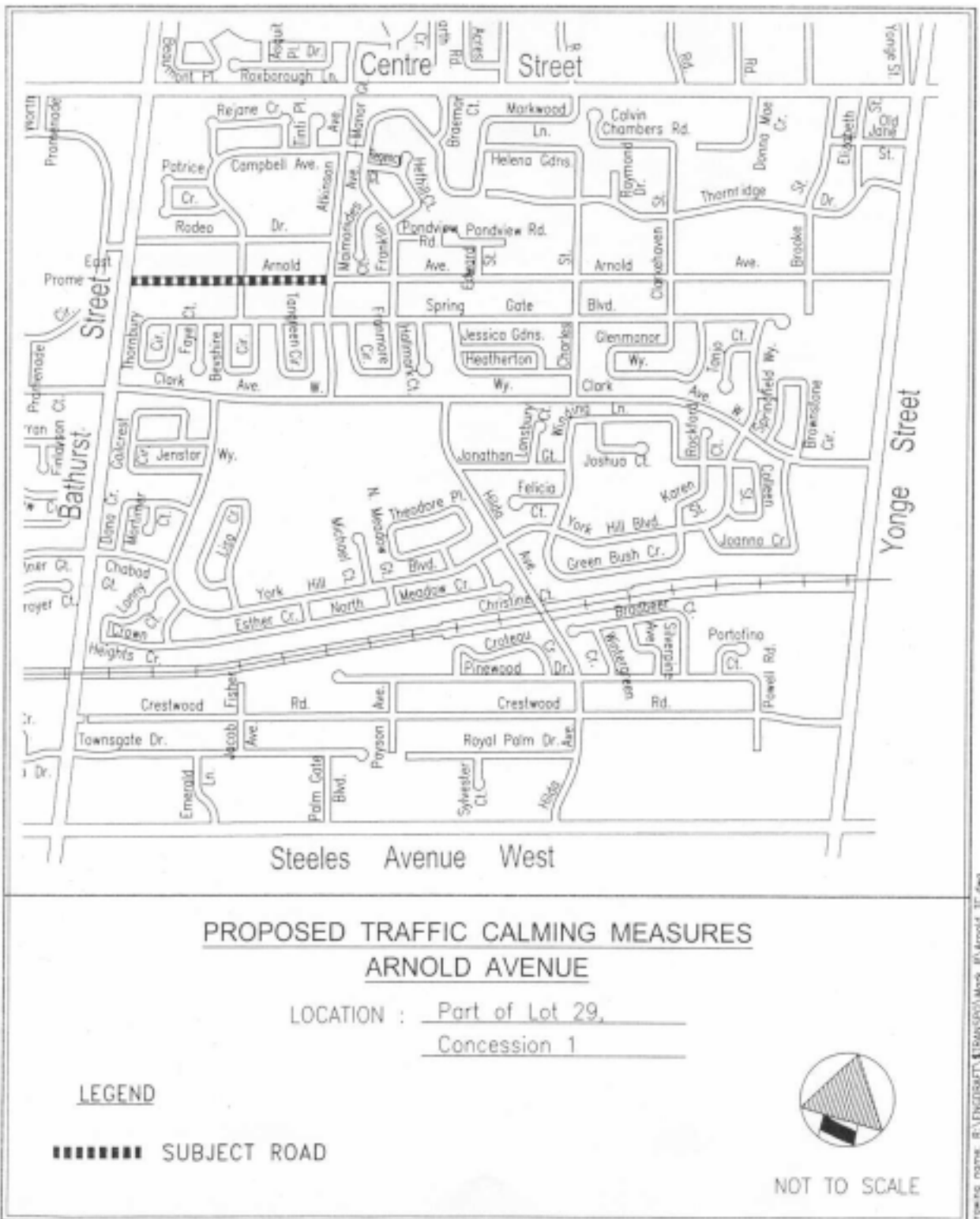
Mark Ranstoller, Transportation Analyst, ext. 8251
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Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P. Eng.
Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

Michael Won, P. Eng.
Director of Development/ Transportation
Engineering

ATTACHMENT No. 1



CITY OF VILHJAN - ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Drawing name: R:\D\CDRAFT\1164530\Mark R\Arnold TC.dwg