

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SEPTEMBER 18, 2006**

### **JUDITH AVENUE – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

#### **Recommendation**

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommends:

1. That staff investigate the feasibility of installing a raised crosswalk on Judith Avenue, either between properties #71 & #73, or between #77 & #81;
2. That staff follow through with the proper reviews and Ministry of Environment requirements in investigating the feasibility of the raised crosswalk; and
3. That staff report to a future Committee of the Whole meeting with respect to their findings as soon as possible.

#### **Economic Impact**

To be determined upon analysis.

#### **Purpose**

To control traffic issues on Judith Avenue.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

Several residents have indicated that there is a problem with speeding traffic on Judith Avenue on the stretch of road in front of the park entrance. Residents have also indicated that several minor collisions have occurred around the curved portion of the roadway between Briarcliff Crescent and Westcroft Avenue due to speeding traffic. A raised crosswalk would reduce speeds on Judith Avenue, thereby improving community safety for residents and pedestrians.

Staff investigated the feasibility of installing a raised crosswalk in front of Wade Gate Park entrance in 2004, as per resident requests, and it was discovered that a raised crosswalk in front of the park entrance was not feasible. However, staff did confirm that a raised crosswalk would be feasible further north between properties #71 and #73 or between properties #77 and #81.

Following a recent minor collision at the intersection of Judith Avenue and Chelwood Drive, residents have again inquired into the possibility of having a raised crosswalk to control traffic issues in the area.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

A-2 Promote Community Safety, Health & Wellness

This report is consistent with priorities previously set by Council.

#### **Conclusion**

In response to concerns outlined by area residents, and in order to maintain community safety, it is recommended that staff review the feasibility of installing the above-mentioned raised crosswalk at the specified locations, and that staff conduct the proper reviews, public notification process and other requirements prior to installing such a crosswalk.

**Attachments**

1. Extract from Council Minutes of November 22, 2004, Item 2

**Report prepared by:**

Cindy Furfaro-Benning, Council Administrative Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco  
Councillor, Ward 4

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2004

Item 2, Report No. 82, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on November 22, 2004.

2

**JUDITH AVENUE  
TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That staff provide a report with alternative traffic calming measures;
- 2) That the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, dated November 15, 2004, be received; and
- 3) That the deputation of Mr. Cesare Urlando, 167 Judith Avenue, Thornhill, L4J 7G3, be received.

**Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. That a parking prohibition not be installed on the south/east side of Judith Avenue between Briarcliffe Crescent and Westcroft Avenue.
2. That a raised crosswalk not be installed on Judith Avenue in front of the entrance pathway to Wade Gate Park.

**Purpose**

To review the feasibility of implementing 'No Parking' signs on Judith Avenue on the south/east side between Briarcliffe Crescent and Westcroft Avenue, and to investigate the feasibility of installing a raised crosswalk in front of the entrance to Wade Gate Park, in response to direction from Council.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

At its meeting on September 13, 2004 Council directed:

1. "That staff be requested to investigate the need for and the feasibility of installing a No Parking restriction on the south side of Judith Avenue between Briarcliffe Crescent and Westcroft Avenue; and
2. That staff investigate the need for and the feasibility of installing a raised crosswalk on Judith Avenue in front of the entrance pathway to Wade Gate Park."

Judith Avenue is a local residential road with an 8.5 metre pavement width. The posted speed limit on Judith Avenue is 40 km/h. Wade Gate Park is located at the northwest corner of Judith Avenue and Chelwood Drive. The area is shown on Attachment No. 1.

Staff conducted parking observations on October 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-8:30am, and on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:30-1:30pm, and from 4:00-5:00pm to determine the extent of on-street parking on Judith Avenue. A total of one, zero, and one vehicles were recorded during the three observation periods, respectively. As a result of the observations, 'No Parking' signs on Judith Avenue are not recommended.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2004**

Item 2, CW Report No. 82 – Page 2

Staff also investigated the feasibility of a raised crosswalk in front of the entrance pathway to Wade Gate Park. A raised crosswalk in this location will not be possible as the location is in front of the driveway at #57 Judith Avenue. Additionally, as this section of Judith Avenue is curved, the installation of a raised crosswalk is not recommended, as vehicles should traverse the crosswalk on a straight section of roadway.

Should Council wish to consider an alternate location, the installation of a raised crosswalk would be possible further north at either of two locations on Judith Avenue - between properties #71 and #73 or between #77 and #81 Judith Avenue where the roadway is straight. Also, at both locations there are 7.0 metres of boulevard to accommodate a crosswalk. Prior to approval from Council, support in favour of the crosswalk from the affected residents at these properties would be required.

Should Council wish to install the proposed raised crosswalk, the cost would be approximately \$9,000. Funds for the implementation of the raised crosswalk can be set aside from the 2004 Capital Budget (Project No. 1204.0).

Radar speed studies were conducted on October 19, 2004 from 7:00am to 9:00am and from 4:00pm to 6:00pm on Judith Avenue south of Briarcliffe Crescent. The following table summarizes the results of this investigation.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DIRECTION	AVERAGE SPEED
October 19, 2004	7:00am – 9:00am	South of Briarcliffe Crescent	Northbound	30.1
	7:00am – 9:00am	South of Briarcliffe Crescent	Southbound	29.6
October 19, 2004	4:00pm – 6:00pm	South of Briarcliffe Crescent	Northbound	31.7
	4:00pm – 6:00pm	South of Briarcliffe Crescent	Southbound	29.6

The average speeds on Judith Avenue range from 29 to 32 km/h indicating a high level of compliance with the existing speed limit.

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/h or less, and the average speed is measured to be 10 km/h greater than the speed limit. Based on the above criteria, the warrant for the installation of speed humps on Judith Avenue is not met.

**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 Council approve traffic calming measures for installation on Judith 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 in editions of the Vaughan Citizen, Lo Specchio and Vaughan Weekly newspapers.

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

CITY OF VAUGHAN

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2004**

Item 2, CW Report No. 82 – Page 3

**Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

This traffic study is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 as to identify and implement innovative traffic management alternatives to improve general traffic safety (1.1.3).

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 No Parking signs not be installed on Judith Avenue on the south/east side between Briarcliffe Crescent and Westcroft Avenue. It is also recommended that a raised crosswalk be not installed in front of the entrance to Wade Gate Park, due to an existing driveway on the other side of Judith Avenue, and curvature of the road.

**Attachments**

1. Location Map

**Report prepared by**

Mark Ranstoller, Senior Transportation Technologist, ext. 8251  
Mike Dokman, Supervisor, Traffic Engineering, ext. 8031

:MR

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)