

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MAY 12, 2009

HAWKVIEW BOULEVARD PROPOSED SPEED CUSHION WARD 3

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. That a speed cushion be installed on Hawkview Boulevard between properties #212 and #214; and
2. That funding for this traffic calming measure be drawn from the approved 2009 Traffic Calming Budget (EN-1760-09) in the amount of \$4,000.00.

Economic Impact

The cost of approximately \$4,000 to install the speed cushion, pavement markings and signs can be incorporated in the approved 2009 Capital Budget. The on-going costs to maintain the pavement markings and warning signs would be incorporated in future Operating Budgets.

Communications Plan

Staff will advise the members of the Traffic Calming Committee of Council's direction. Staff will follow with construction notices at the time of construction. The Traffic Calming Committee members desire a speed hump however, staff believe a speed cushion is more appropriate.

Purpose

To review the feasibility of installing a speed hump or cushion on Hawkview Boulevard between properties #212 and #214, in response to a request received through the Traffic Calming Committee.

Background - Analysis and Options

A request was received through the Traffic Calming Committee to determine the feasibility of installing a speed hump on Hawkview Boulevard near #226. The initial complaint was received from the home owner at #226 who had expressed concerns regarding the vehicle speeds and pedestrian safety as there are no sidewalks on Hawkview Boulevard.

Hawkview Boulevard is a local roadway with a 17.5 metre right-of-way and an 8.0 metre pavement width. The existing speed limit is a statutory 50 km/h. Hawkview Boulevard is not considered to be an emergency response route. There is an existing speed hump located between #376 and #380 Hawkview Boulevard which was installed in December 2008. The area is shown on Attachment No. 1.

Traffic Engineering Services staff reviewed this area of Hawkview Boulevard and determined that the location between #212 and #214 is the most appropriate location for the installation of a vertical traffic calming measure. The Traffic Committee is in agreement with the location as it will assist to slow down drivers before they reach the curve on Hawkview Boulevard. The available distance of 8.0 metres between the driveways of properties #212 and #214 Hawkview Boulevard is sufficient for installation of the proposed measure.

Engineering Services staff sent out a survey to eight homes on Hawkview Boulevard between properties #206 to #228 for their feedback of the requested speed hump. Staff received a total of five responses and all five supported the proposed speed hump location between properties #212 and #214.

Fire & Rescue Services/Transit Routes

Hawkview Boulevard is not considered a primary response route. However, the Vaughan Fire & Rescue Service is opposed to the installation of an additional speed hump on Hawkview Boulevard. Speed humps have a negative impact on emergency response and the cumulative delays resulting from installation of speed humps has an adverse impact on services.

Hawkview Boulevard is not a transit route.

Through discussions with the Fire Chief, this location was identified as a good location to install a speed cushion as an appropriate traffic calming measure. Speed cushions are traffic calming devices designed as a series of small speed humps installed across the width of the road with spaces between them. The design of the speed cushions force vehicles to slow down as they travel with one or both wheels on the small humps. However, the wider axle spacing of an emergency vehicle and buses allows them to pass through the speed cushion without slowing down. For fire vehicles, this means that response time is not increased, damage to fire vehicles and injury to fire fighters riding in the trucks are not incurred. Attachment No. 2 illustrates a fire truck traversing a speed cushion. Although the measure shown is Attachment No. 2 is a temporary, rubber speed cushion, the measure proposed for Hawkview would be constructed from asphalt.

Staff note that the Town of Aurora installed a speed cushion in 2008 and have now experienced a winter season with the measure in place. Aurora staff have not received any negative feedback on the installation and are satisfied with its performance.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This project is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2020, particularly "Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness."

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

Based on this review, it is recommended that the proposed speed cushion be installed on Hawkview Boulevard between properties of #212 and #214. The estimated cost to build the measure is \$4,000 and is proposed to be drawn from the approved 2009 Traffic Calming Budget (EN-1760-09).

Attachments

1. Location Map
2. Speed Cushion

Report prepared by:

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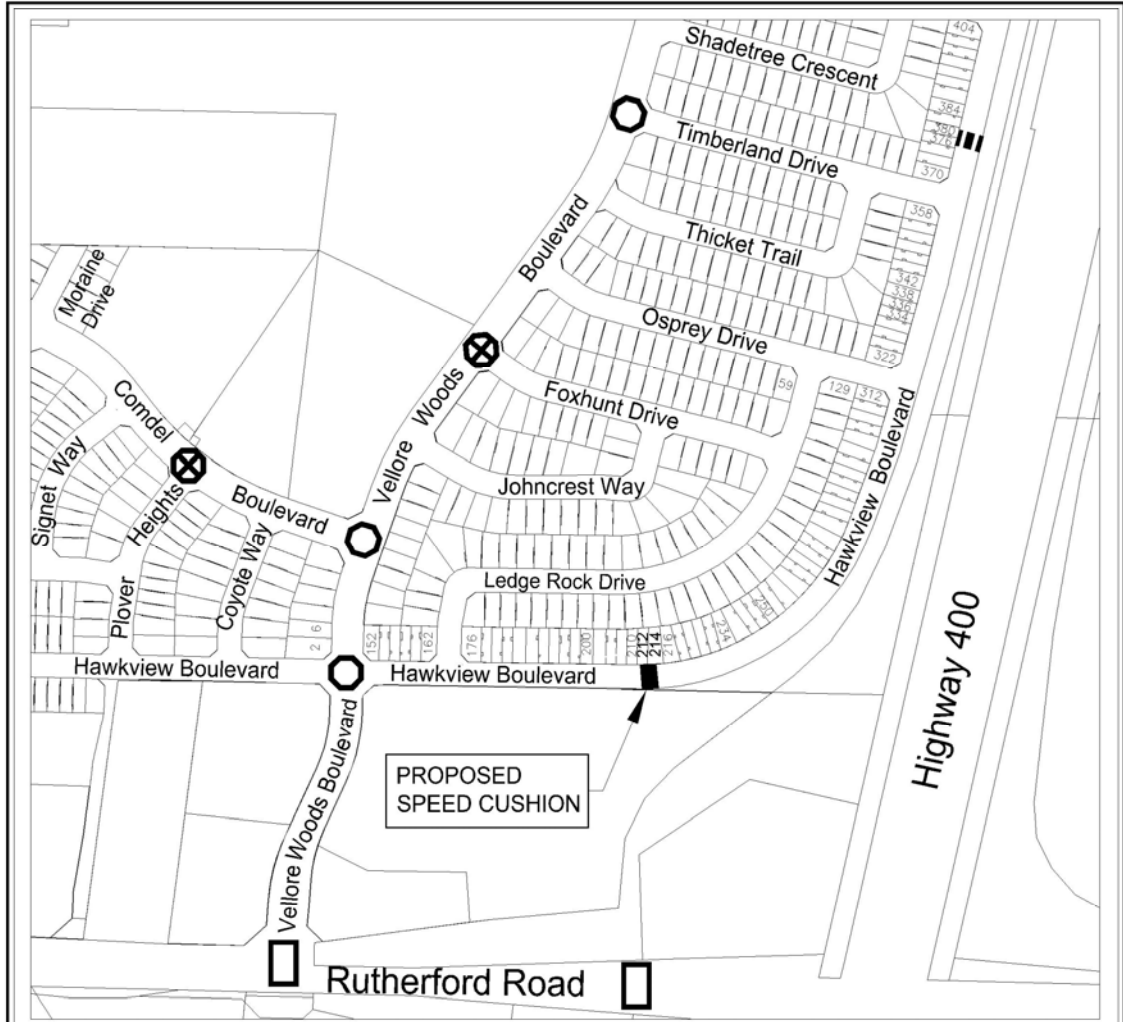
Mike Dokman, Supervisor, Traffic Engineering, ext. 3118

Respectfully submitted,

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






Mike Dokman, C.E.T.,
Supervisor, Traffic Engineering

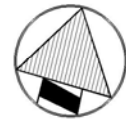
ATTACHMENT No. 1



HAWKVIEW BOULEVARD PROPOSED SPEED CUSHION LOCATION

LEGEND

-  EXISTING ALL-WAY STOP CONTROL
-  EXISTING SUPERVISED SCHOOL CROSSING
-  EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNALS
-  EXISTING SPEED HUMPS
-  PROPOSED SPEED CUSHION



NOT TO SCALE



ATTACHMENT NO. 2 SPEED CUSHION