

---

**SUBJECT:** John Street Speed Limit Reduction (from Don Mills Rd. to Woodbine Ave.)  
- Wards 1 & 8

**PREPARED BY:** David Porretta, Manager, Traffic Engineering, ext. 2040

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1) That the report entitled “John Street Speed Limit Reduction (from Don Mills Rd. to Woodbine Ave.) – Wards 1 & 8” be received; and
- 2) That Schedule “B” of Speed Limit By-law 2017-104, pertaining to a 50 km/h maximum rate of speed, be amended to include John Street, between Don Mills Road and Woodbine Avenue; and
- 3) That Schedule “C” of Speed Limit By-law 2017-104, pertaining to a 60 km/h maximum rate of speed, be amended to rescind John Street, between Don Mills Road and Woodbine Avenue; and
- 4) That the existing regulatory speed limit signs be updated accordingly to reflect the speed limit change; and
- 5) That York Region Police be requested to enforce the revised speed limit upon installation of the regulatory signs and passing of the By-law; and further
- 6) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

**PURPOSE:**

This report recommends that the existing speed limit of 60 km/h on John Street, between Don Mills Road and Woodbine Avenue, be reduced to 50 km/h to achieve a consistent speed limit, while also reflecting operational safety impacts of increased traffic volume along the corridor.

**BACKGROUND:**

The primary reason for a speed limit revision is the result of a change in operating conditions, such as an increased presence of driveway connections, turning movements, pedestrian/cycling and transit activity, or reduced sightlines. These conditions may require increased driver attention and a narrower margin of error as traffic volumes increase. Traffic Engineering staff have received concerns from area residents and local businesses about the frequency of collisions occurring along this corridor and difficulties in accessing/egressing private driveways.

**DISCUSSION:**

John Street, between Don Mills Road and Woodbine Avenue, is a 4-lane major collector road, with a posted speed limit of 60 km/h and an average daily traffic volume of 20,000 vehicles per day. John Street is one of the busiest municipal transportation corridors in the City, providing the only east-west crossing of Highway 404 between Highway 7 and Steeles Avenue.

**High frequency of mid-block collisions is occurring**

Between Woodbine Avenue and Highway 404 (a distance of 1 km), John Street includes no fewer than 16 private accesses to commercial properties. Just west of Woodbine Avenue, there is a change in the horizontal alignment of John Street, in the form of a reverse curve (or “S” bend). Notwithstanding the signalized intersection of John Street and Steelcase Avenue, there have been 10 mid-block collisions reported to York Regional Police between 2015 and 2017, for this section of John Street. A majority of these were rear-end and turning movement collisions.

Between Don Mills Road and Highway 404, John Street has three driveway accesses: to a commercial plaza, R.J. Clatworthy Arena and Bishops Cross Park. A mid-block pedestrian traffic signal is provided on John Street to facilitate safe pedestrian crossings between Bishops Cross Park, which flanks the north side of John Street, and a residential neighbourhood to the south. Between 2015 and 2017, 9 mid-block collisions have been reported to police within this section of John Street, with the majority being rear-end type collisions.

**A speed limit reduction is recommended to reduce collision frequency & severity**

Due to the prevalence of rear-end collisions along the John Street corridor, a review of existing vehicular operating speeds was conducted. The review concluded that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile vehicular operating speed was 62 km/h. While not significantly higher than the posted speed limit (60 km/h), the frequency of collisions occurring is an indicator that a lower speed limit may be necessary.

To reduce the frequency and severity of collisions occurring on John Street, it is recommended that the existing speed limit of 60 km/h on John Street, between Don Mills Road and Leslie Street, be reduced to 50 km/h. A 50 km/h speed limit would also provide consistency with the existing speed limits along remaining portions of the John Street/Esna Park Drive/Alden Road corridor that have similar operating characteristics.

Following implementation of the 50 km/h speed limit, Traffic Engineering staff will continue to monitor traffic operations along this section of John Street in coordination with ongoing enforcement efforts by York Regional Police. If operational concerns persist, a comprehensive review of this transportation corridor may be required, with consideration given to the safe movement of all modes of transportation, including active transportation, and to facilitate safe access and egress to private properties.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Not applicable. Because existing regulatory signs will be revised, there are no additional operating budget or life cycle impacts.

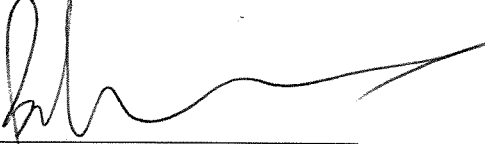
**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

The recommendations identified within this report align with the strategic focus for a Safe & Sustainable Community, through the ongoing management of the City’s transportation network.

**DEPARTMENTS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:**

Not applicable.

**RECOMMENDED BY:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brian Lee', written over a horizontal line.

Brian Lee, P.Eng  
Director, Engineering

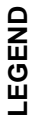
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Arvin Prasad', written over a horizontal line.

Arvin Prasad, MPA, RPP, MCIP  
Commissioner, Development Services

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment "A" – Speed Limit Revision Map

Attachment "B" – Speed Limit By-Law Amendment



Existing  
50 km/h

Existing  
60 km/h

**John Street**

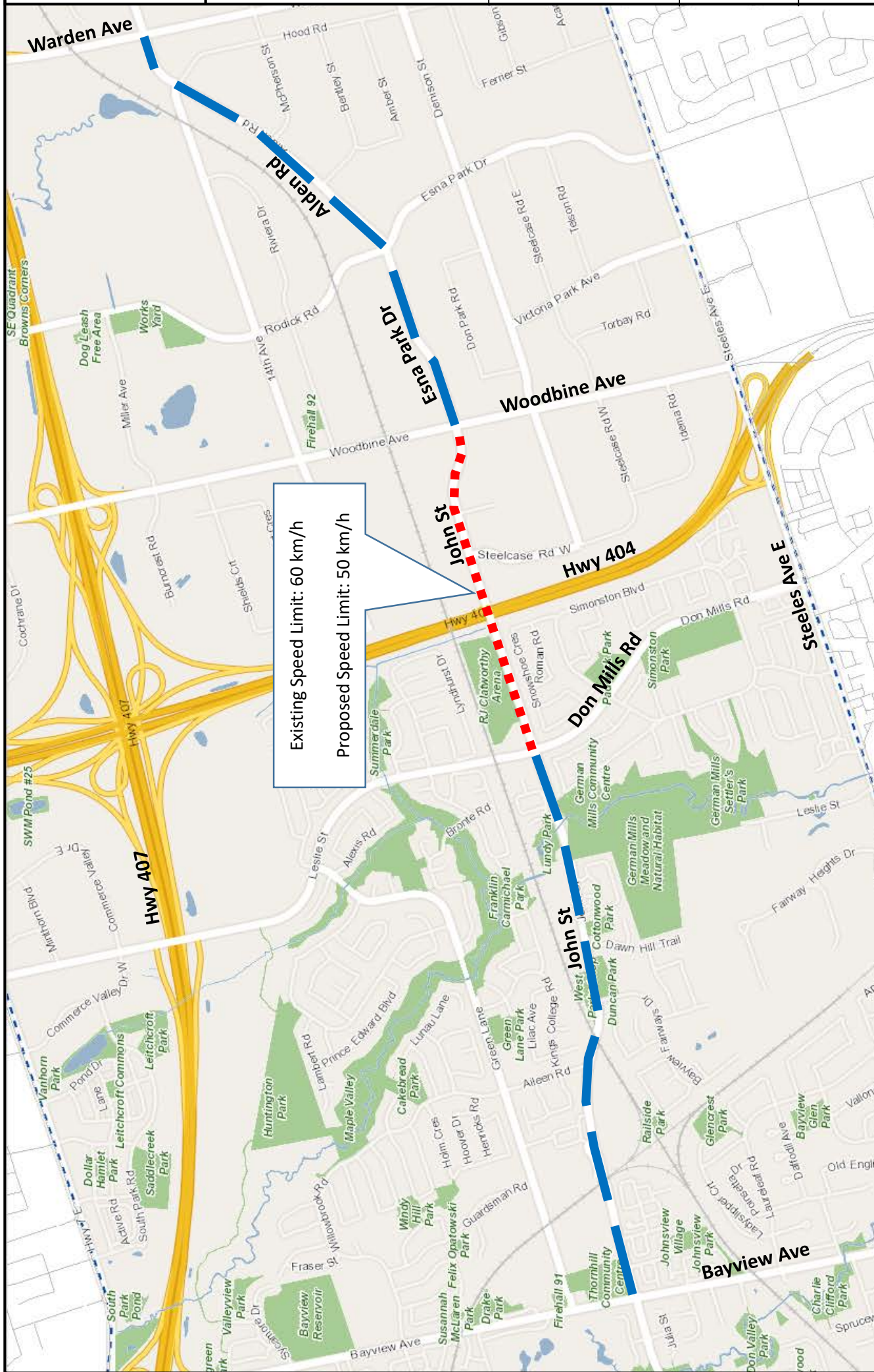
**Speed Limit**  
**Revision**

**(Don Mills Rd to  
Woodbine Ave)**



Engineering Dept.  
November 2018

# ATTACHMENT A





**BY-LAW NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_**

**TO AMEND BY-LAW 2017-104**

---

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MARKHAM THAT SPEED LIMIT BY-LAW 2017-104 BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Schedule “B” of Speed Limit By-law 2017-104, pertaining to a 50 km/h maximum rate of speed, be amended to include the following:

<u>COLUMN 1</u>	<u>COLUMN 2</u>	<u>COLUMN 3</u>
<u>HIGHWAY</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
John Street	Don Mills Road	Woodbine Avenue

2. That Schedule “C” of Speed Limit By-law 2017-104, pertaining to a 60 km/h maximum rate of speed, be amended to rescind the following:

<u>COLUMN 1</u>	<u>COLUMN 2</u>	<u>COLUMN 3</u>
<u>HIGHWAY</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
John Street	Don Mills Road	Woodbine Avenue

3. The By-Law shall come into force and effect upon receiving the third reading by the Council of the City of Markham and also when authorized signs have been erected.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS \_\_\_\_\_

DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
KIMBERLY KITTINGHAM  
CITY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
FRANK SCARPITTI  
MAYOR