

## **Weatherill, Tannis**

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**Subject:** FW: New Petition from residents of Donald Cousens Parkway  
**Attachments:** Signed Petition Oct 2016.pdf; 2015 Residents Survey result.pdf; Donald Cousens Pky Traffic data, noise level presentation.pdf

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**From:** Residents Donald Cousens [<mailto:donaIdcousensparkway@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2016 3:58 PM

**To:** [stephen.collins@york.ca](mailto:stephen.collins@york.ca); Mayor Frank Scarpitti - Markham; Deputy Mayor, Jack Heath - Markham; Regional Councillor, Jim Jones - Markham; Regional Councillor, Joe Li - Markham; Regional Councillor, Joe Li - Markham; Regional Councillor, Nirmala Armstrong - Markham

**Cc:** Councillor, Colin Campbell - Markham; Kelly, Denis

**Subject:** New Petition from residents of Donald Cousens Parkway

Dear ALL Markham Regional Councillors,  
Dear Commissioner Colins,

Please see the attached newly signed petition from residents on Donald Cousens Parkway (From Country Glen Rd to 16<sup>th</sup> Ave)

This signed petition represents 33 families which is a supermajority of the affected area. A petition that is signed by a supermajority should warrant an individual review of the case.

We, as citizens have done everything (as listed below) we could to engage the government.

- Residents have signed the first petition in 2014
- Residents have done a 12 hours heavy truck count in 2015
- Residents have collected indoor noise level data in 2015
- Residents have met with city and region officials in 2015
- Residents have conducted post meeting surveys in 2015
- Residents have signed the second petition in October 2016

We have been waited too long for some substantial improvement to happen. Some of the residents who signed the first petition in 2014 and also attended the 2015 meeting have already sold their properties and left mainly because the safety and noise concerns.

This time residents are demanding actions!

Please reach out to us. Any input from the city and region is welcome.

Thank you!

Items enclosed,  
2016 Signed petition  
2015 Traffic and noise data  
2015 Post-meeting survey result

A group of citizens that have been very patient since 2014

October 12, 2016

To: Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, Regional Councillor Joe Li, Regional Councillor Jim Jones, Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Commissioner Stephen Colins (Transportation Services),

CC: Councillor Colin Campbell (Ward 5), Regional Clerk,

Dear Markham Regional Councillors, Commissioner Colins,

In July 2014, Residents on Donald Cousens Parkway (between Country Glen Road and 16 Ave) signed and submitted a petition to York Region.

On Sept 16, 2014, Region acknowledged the petition and confirmed that Transportation and Community Planning Department will be undertaking traffic studies in the fall 2014 and will report to council with recommendations in early 2015. However, residents were never informed of any recommendations made to council in 2015.

After countless follow ups, Residents finally had a community meeting with Deputy Mayor Heath and York Region staff on July 15, 2015. It took a year to arrange that meeting. Around 50 residents attended that evening meeting. Traffic volume & noise level data and post-meeting surveys conducted by neighbours were passed onto staff.

The current posted speed limit of DCP is 70km with only two lanes with no emergency parking or road shoulder on the south bound direction. There were situations that EMS and Police service were delayed due to the fact that EMS and YRP officers worried about their own safety on that road. The YRP officer even recommended residents to file a complaint to the city. Stunt driving are also often observed by residents in this area. The posted speed limit 70km was in place when the area was still a vacant land and farm land. It has not changed since 2009 or even earlier. Today, this area on Donald Cousens Parkway is populated with townhomes and detached homes directly fronting DCP with less than 30ft setback. It is reasonable and sensible that the speed limit should lower to accommodate land use. Lowering the speed is the least expensive and most effective way to address safety and noise concern.

After years of promoting Donald Cousens Parkway, it has become a driving behaviour of heavy truckers to use DCP. The removal of the 9<sup>th</sup> Line truck ban hopefully will help to mitigate some problems in the long run; The Region often used the truck volume of 160 per day for its analysis. That data did not reflect the current reality. There are more than 600 heavy trucks using DCP daily at high speed that resulted in excessive noise and vibration.

After 27 months of wait and lack of substantial action, some residents who signed the first petition have sold their homes and left with disappointment. On behalf of the residents of Donald Cousens Parkway (between Country Glen Road and 16 Ave), we are requesting the following actions to be taken immediately:

1. *Speed limit be lowered from the current 70km to 50 km on Donald Cousens Parkway from 9<sup>th</sup> line to 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.*
2. *York Region Police be requested to provide traffic speed enforcement.*
3. *Region staff to study possibility of layby parking on where DCP has no road shoulder and emergency parking.*
4. *All adjacent Regional roads to open for all traffics, no more truck restrictions.*
5. *Region staff to work with the community in a more open and transparent manner with accountability.*

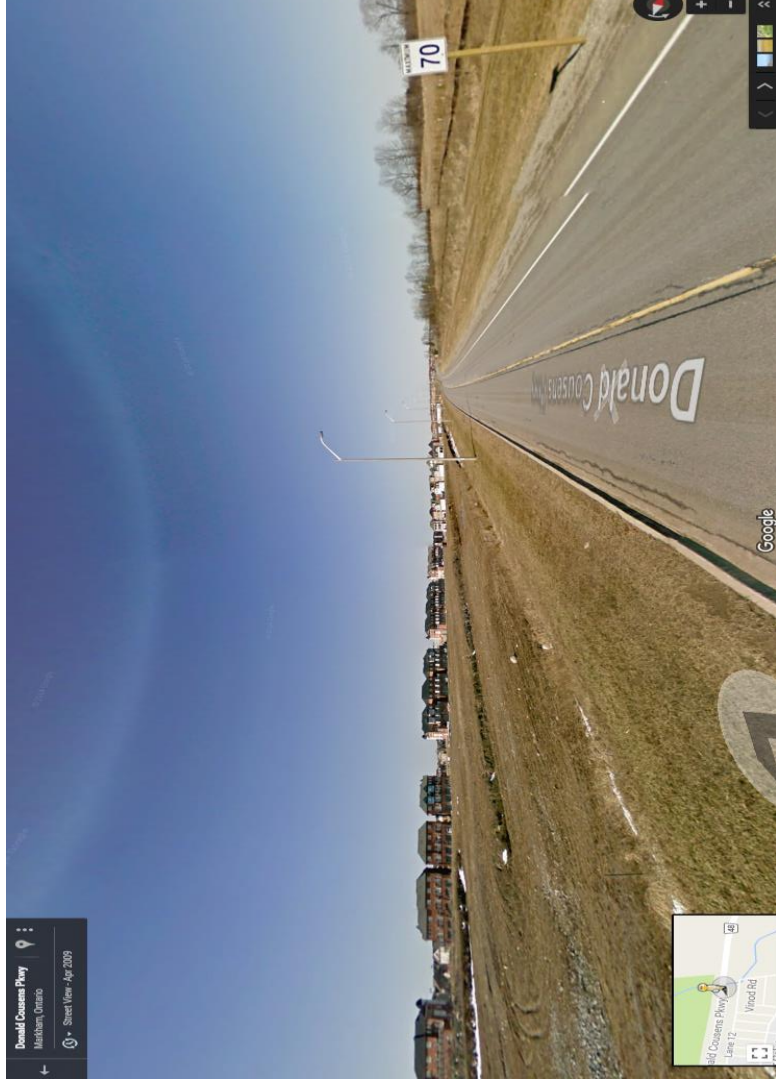
If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at [donaldcousensparkway@gmail.com](mailto:donaldcousensparkway@gmail.com)

Respectfully yours

Residents of Donald Cousens Parkway

# Posted speed limit never changes

**April 2009 70km/h**

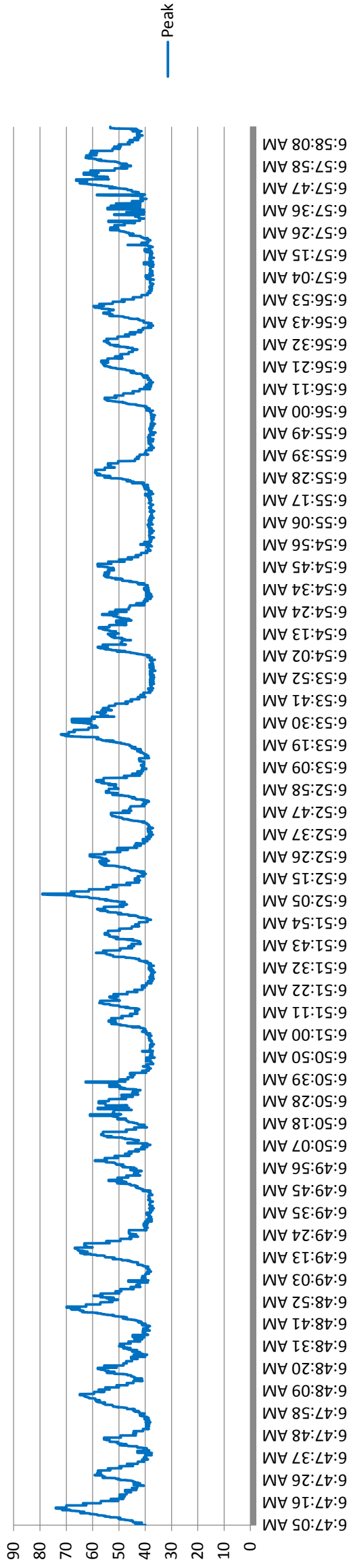


**Today 2016 70km/h**





## Indoor Noise Level Data April 9, 2015 6:47am to 6:58am (Duration 11 minutes)



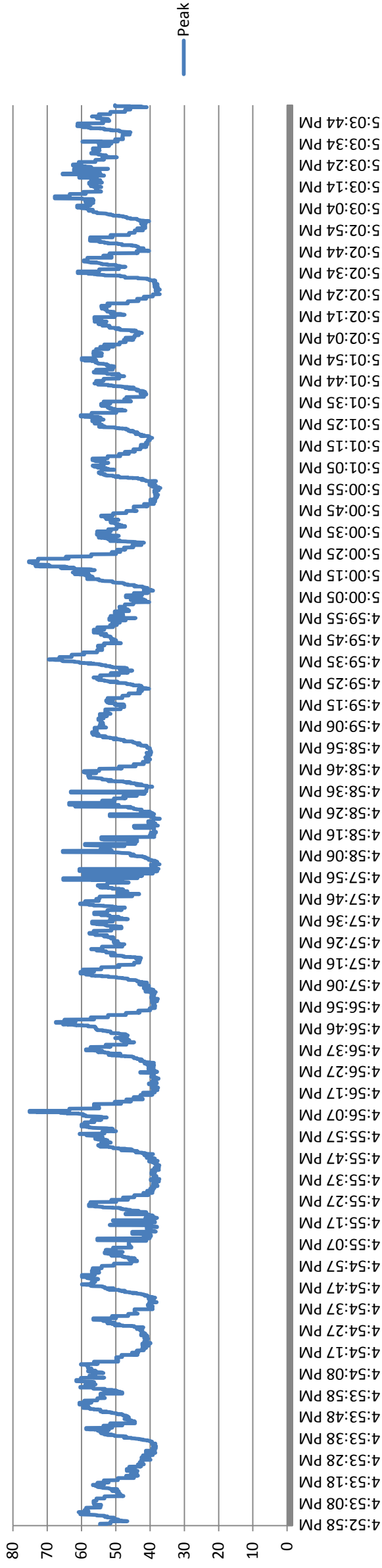
All tests were conducted in indoor environment, in a bedroom that is fronting onto Donald Cousens Parkway with all windows, door and air vents closed

**Table I: MOE Road Traffic Noise Criteria (dBA)**

Area	Daytime $L_{EQ}$ (16 hour) Road	Nighttime $L_{EQ}$ (8 hour) Road
Outside Bedroom Windows	--	50 dBA
Outdoor Living Area	55 dBA	--
Living/Dining Room	45 dBA	--
Bedroom	--	40 dBA



### Indoor Noise Level Data April 9 2015 4:52pm to 5:03pm (Duration 11 minutes)



All tests were conducted in indoor environment, in a bedroom that is fronting onto Donald Cousens Parkway with all windows, door and air vents closed

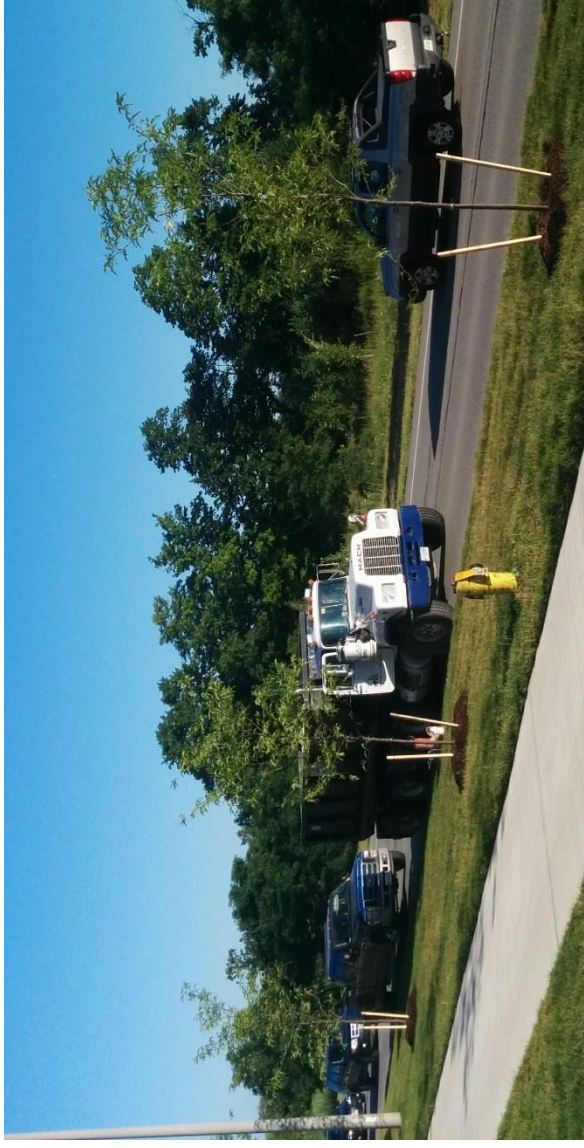
Table 1: MOE Road Traffic Noise Criteria (dBA)

Area	Daytime L <sub>EQ</sub> (16 hour) Road	Nighttime L <sub>EQ</sub> (8 hour) Road
Outside Bedroom Windows	--	50 dBA
Outdoor Living Area	55 dBA	--
Living/Dining Room	45 dBA	--
Bedroom	--	40 dBA

<b>Donald Cousens Pkwy July 9th 2015 Heavy Truck Count Statistics</b>					
<b>Start time</b>	<b>Finish Time</b>	<b>Heavy Truck #</b>	<b>Total minutes counted</b>	<b>Truck/min</b>	
6:32	7:21	18	49	0.37	
7:21	8:10	52	49	1.06	
8:10	8:59	49	49	1.00	
8:59	9:48	44	49	0.90	
9:48	10:37	44	49	0.90	
10:37	11:25	56	49	1.14	
11:25	12:14	47	49	0.96	
12:14	13:03	55	49	1.12	
13:03	13:52	55	49	1.12	
13:52	14:41	50	49	1.02	
14:41	15:29	44	49	0.90	
15:29	16:18	49	49	1.00	
16:18	17:07	29	49	0.59	
17:07	17:56	29	49	0.59	
		621	686		
<b>Total Heavy Truck counted</b>		621			
<b>Total Minutes</b>		686	<b>Heavy Truck/Minute</b>	0.91	



# How the affected area is being serviced without road shoulder and emergency parking



Post-Meeting Survey Result				
Lower speed limit	Front yard fence	Layby Parking Bays	Speed Enforcement	Noise Mitigation
1	1	1	1	1
3	4	5	1	2
1	3	1	1	1
1	2	3	4	5
3	5	2	4	1
2	5	1	3	4
1	2	5	3	4
2	4	1	5	3
2	5	1	3	4
1	5	3	4	2
3	2	1	4	5
1	5	3	4	2
2	5	3	1	4
<b>23</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>

\* 1 represents highest priority , 5 represents lowest priority