



Toronto Police Service

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Mark Saunders
Chief of Police

File Number:

2019 May 23

City Councillor Paul Ainslie
City of Toronto
Scarborough-Guildwood Ward 24
Scarborough Civic Center
150 Borough Drive
Scarborough, Ontario
M1P 4N7

Re: Traffic Safety Concerns

Dear Councillor Ainslie:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 14th.

I appreciate that you sent a similar letter to Deputy Chief Yuen and I have been in communication with his office. Please kindly accept this response on behalf of both Deputy Chief Yuen and 43 Division.

The traffic safety concerns of Toronto residents and its visitors is of the utmost importance. As you quite rightly point out, the Toronto Police Service is a strong supporter and active participant in the City's comprehensive 5-year Vision Zero plan. It is also true that the Toronto Police Service is looking to modernize and improve the approach to traffic related matters and there are a number of Service wide initiatives currently led by the centralized Traffic Services Unit.

Here in 43 Division, which obviously encompasses Scarborough-Guildwood's Ward 24, we are very engaged, in a number of ways, with directly addressing the local traffic safety concerns to which you refer.

One of the ways we do this is to comprehensively analyze, on a week-to-week basis, all of the traffic collisions/accidents and all of the traffic enforcement that has taken place. At the meetings where we do this we strategically plan where

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we will direct *all* of our 43 Division frontline officers to focus their traffic enforcement (patrol officers are also able to perform enforcement elsewhere as opportunities permit).

Moreover, while it is true that frontline officers have other pressing duties that engage their time, they definitely do find the time to perform traffic enforcement and their annual performance evaluations take this activity into account.

Another measure we have in place, and this is where many Ward 24 residents may take interest, if not actual participation, is in our traffic complaints "tracker" program. This program is updated and maintained by our Community Safety Response Unit and it tracks traffic-related concerns that are communicated to us directly from residents. We make sure to follow up on every single complaint and it is in this manner that our one Traffic Enforcement specialist, Constable Papadopoulos, performs the bulk of his duties.

Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) meetings are another way for residents to directly communicate their traffic related concerns to us. We see to it that every such concern is followed up on as well.

One small point that may bear noting is that we occasionally receive local complaints about speeding but when we follow up on the matter with precise speed measuring equipment we find that the complaint is unsubstantiated. Sometimes perceptions, while nevertheless important, are not borne out by actual metrics.

In any case, thank you again for your letter. This response is, in many respects, just the beginning of a larger, more fulsome conversation that I hope we can have in person. I have communicated to your Chief of Staff an invitation for us to meet and I look forward to doing that in the near future.

Best regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Barredo', with a stylized, cursive script.

Frank Barredo
Superintendent (4101)
43 Division

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Cc: Deputy Chief Peter Yuen, Communities and Neighbourhoods Command.