Proposed Installation of Traffic Control Signals Dundas Street West and Easterly Access Driveway to Kingsway Mills Plaza (Kingsway - Humber)

(City Council on November 23, 24 and 25, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Works Committee recommends the adoption of the following report (October 26, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services:

Purpose:

To obtain approval for the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Dundas Street West and the easterly access driveway to the Kingsway Mills plaza located at No. 4242 Dundas Street West.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

Fifty percent of the capital costs associated with the subject work are to be borne by the owner of Kingsway Mills plaza. The remaining costs will be borne by the Transportation Services Division, from its 1999 Capital Budget. The plaza owners are also making a \$15,000.00 lump sum contribution towards the future operation and maintenance of the signals.

The estimated total cost of installing traffic control signals at this location is \$72,000.00.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) traffic control signals be approved at the intersection of Dundas Street West and the easterly access driveway to the Kingsway Mills plaza located at No. 4242 Dundas Street West;
- installation of the traffic control signals be subject to the receipt of 50 percent funding from the owner of Kingsway Mills plaza, for the capital cost and a lump sum payment of \$15,000.00 for their contribution to the future operation and maintenance of the signals, with the remaining installation portion to be funded by the Transportation Services Division from its 1999 Capital Budget; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be requested to take whatever action is necessary to give effect to the foregoing, including the introduction in Council of any bills that may be required.

Background:

Transportation Services staff investigated a request to install pedestrian crossing protection on Dundas Street West immediately east of The Kingsway.

Comments:

In the vicinity of the subject site, Dundas Street West is a five-lane arterial road with a two-way 24-hour traffic volume of 33,100 vehicles per day. The nearest traffic control signals are located approximately 340 metres to the east at Prince Edward Drive.

The results of the pedestrian crossing study revealed that the technical requirements to warrant the installation of either a Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) or a Traffic Control Signal were not met. However, the recorded pedestrian crossing demand was sufficient to warrant the installation of a pedestrian refuge island (PRI).

The results of the aforementioned study were discussed at a meeting held in November 1998 with Councillor Lindsay Luby, and various community representatives, including the (former) owner(s) of the Kingsway Mills plaza. During the course of the meeting, other vehicular traffic and pedestrian crossing concerns on Dundas Street West in this vicinity were also discussed. These included residents' concerns about safe access to Kingsway Mills Plaza, as well as the future crossings by senior citizens related to the future 130-unit retirement complex, which is presently being constructed on the south-west corner of Dundas Street West and The Kingsway.

As a result of the concerns raised, staff did a future projection analysis, including senior pedestrian traffic from the retirement complex. This resulted in a Pedestrian Crossover being warranted. However, a PXO at this location would not satisfy environmental factors for traffic volume on Dundas Street, entrance locations and the width of Dundas Street. Therefore, under these circumstances, the installation of traffic control signals at this location is justified.

It should be noted that in order to facilitate safer access and egress to the Kingsway Mills plaza, pay-duty police officers are utilized to direct traffic during peak weekend hours at the easterly access driveway to the plaza.

Kingsway Mills have agreed to pay half of the actual costs for the City of Toronto to install these traffic control signals, as well as a one-time signal operation and maintenance fee.

The subject primary access driveway will form a "T" intersection on the north side of Dundas Street West.

The estimated total cost of installing traffic control signals at this location is \$72,000.00. However, since half of the cost of this installation is to be borne by Kingsway Mills, the estimated signal installation cost to Kingsway Mills is \$36,000.00. In addition to this cost, Kingsway Mills is required to pay a one-time fee of \$15,000.00 as their contribution, for the future operation and maintenance of the signals. Accordingly, the total costs, to be borne by Kingsway Mills, for the installation, operation and maintenance of the subject traffic control signals would be approximately \$51,000.00.

The installation of traffic control signals will not have a significant impact on the operation of the roads in the immediate area.

Staff have contacted the Ward Councillors, and both Councillors Gloria Lindsay Luby and Mario Giansante support the recommendations of this report.

Conclusions:

With completion of the retirement complex in this area resulting in additional seniors wanting to cross Dundas Street West at this location, a PXO would be warranted. However, based on a PXO not satisfying the environment criteria, a traffic signal is warranted.

Contact:

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Proposed Traffic Control Signals
Dundas Street West
and Kingsway Mills Plaza