Eastbound Right-Turns-on-Red Prohibition: Cummer Avenue at Willowdale Avenue (North York Centre)

(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Works Committee recommends the adoption of the following report (November 12, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services:

Purpose:

To introduce an eastbound right-turns-on-red prohibition at the intersection of Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue to improve traffic safety.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

All costs associated with the installation of the right-turns-on-red prohibition, estimated at \$500.00, are included within the 1999 operating budget.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) eastbound right-turns-on-red be prohibited at all times at the intersection of Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue; and
- (2) the appropriate by-law(s) be amended accordingly.

Background:

The Transportation Services Division of the Works and Emergency Services Department received a concern from Councillor Norman Gardner, on behalf of the local residents, regarding safety at the Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue intersection.

Residents indicated that the alignment of Willowdale Avenue north and south of Cummer Avenue and the vegetation on the northwest corner of the Cummer Avenue/Willowdale intersection add to the collisions, which are occurring.

The intersection of Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue is controlled by traffic control signals. Both roadways are designated as minor arterial roadways.

Comments:

Our observations did conclude that sight lines for eastbound motorists of southbound vehicles are less than desirable. Sight lines are restricted due to the horizontal alignment of Willowdale

Avenue to the north of Cummer Avenue and the mature vegetation on the northwest corner of the intersection, on private property. Currently, eastbound right turn motorists have to edge their vehicles out beyond the stop bar, thereby placing their vehicles in a position which greatly increases the potential for a collision with southbound vehicles.

As it is not feasible to redesign Willowdale Avenue north and south of Cummer Avenue, to reduce the possibility of vehicular conflicts, due to the high costs associated with land acquisitions, it is recommended that eastbound right-turns-on-red be prohibited at all times.

Conclusions:

As it is not feasible to improve the alignment of Willowdale Avenue, north and south of Cummer Avenue or address the landscaping on private property to improve drivers' sight lines, the eastbound right-turns-on-red prohibition will improve the level of safety at the intersection.

Contact:

Allen Pinkerton, Manager, Traffic Operations, District 3 Telephone: (416) 395-7463; Facsimile: (416) 395-7482

Email: ajpinker@city.north-york.on.ca

Insert Map Cummer Avenue at Willowdale Avenue