

TORONTO STAFF REPORT

June 8, 2006

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District

Subject: Proposed "Buses Excepted" tab to be Added to the Existing Westbound Left-Turn Prohibition on Renforth Drive at Silver Dart Drive (Ward 2 - Etobicoke North)

Purpose:

To propose the introduction of a "Buses Excepted" tab to the existing westbound left-turn prohibition on Renforth Drive at Silver Dart Drive.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

The funds associated with the introduction of the appropriate regulatory signage are contained in the Transportation Services Division Operating Budget.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) buses be excepted from the westbound left turn prohibition on Renforth Drive at Silver Dart Drive; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction in Council of any bills that may be required.

Background:

Staff from Transportation Services received a request from TTC staff to allow buses to turn left when travelling westbound on Renforth Drive at Silver Dart Drive during emergency situations. Currently all left turns are prohibited in this direction at this location. A map of the area is Attachment No. 1.

Comments:

Renforth Drive is classified as a major arterial road. Silver Dart Drive is under the jurisdiction of Transport Canada. Traffic control signals exist at this intersection. Although a dedicated left turn lane exists for eastbound traffic on Renforth Drive, a corresponding westbound left turn lane does not exist. This was not included in the design of the intersection as there is not enough room for this lane due to the close proximity of the traffic control signals to the east at Carlingview Drive (approximately 160.0 metres). As this lane does not exist, westbound left turns are prohibited at this location.

Often TTC buses are exempted from turn prohibitions where there is a desire to provide bus service onto a road, however, it is not desirable to allow all motorists to perform the movement. At this location, TTC staff has advised that, on rare occasions or in emergency situations, they would like the opportunity for their buses to perform this movement. By turning left onto Silver Dart Drive, they could reconnect with Renforth Drive further south at Convair Drive and attempt to keep on schedule.

Conclusions:

Based on the existing traffic conditions in the area, we support the request of the TTC for their buses to perform this westbound left turn movement on Renforth Drive and Silver Dart Drive on rare occasion. As such, we recommend the installation of a "TTC Buses Excepted" tab below the left turn prohibitions signs at this intersection.

Contact:

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List of Attachments

Attachment No. 1: Map