



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Carlingview Drive and International Boulevard – U-Turn Prohibitions**

<b>Date:</b>	May 25, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Etobicoke York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 2 – Etobicoke-North
<b>Reference Number:</b>	eycc070080-to - 5250

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to propose a U-turn prohibition for eastbound traffic on International Boulevard between Carlingview Drive and a point 100.0 metres east of Carlingview Drive. Also proposed is a U-turn prohibition for northbound traffic on Carlingview Drive between International Boulevard/Renforth Drive and a point 100.0 metres north of International Boulevard/Renforth Drive.

To address safety concerns at the signalized intersection of Carlingview Drive and International Boulevard/Renforth Drive created by a very large number of U-turning vehicles in this congested area, it is recommended that U-turns be prohibited for eastbound motorists on International Boulevard and northbound motorists on Carlingview Road east and north of the intersection respectively.

The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) has service on streets involved in this report, therefore the matter must be approved by Toronto City Council. The TTC has been advised of the proposed U-turn prohibition and has not objected to the proposal.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Transportation Services recommends that:**

1. City Council approve a U-turn prohibition anytime for eastbound traffic on International Boulevard between Carlingview Drive and a point 100.0 metres east of Carlingview Drive; and
2. City Council approve a U-turn prohibition anytime for northbound traffic on Carlingview Drive between International Boulevard/Renforth Drive and a point 100.0 metres north of International Boulevard/Renforth Drive.

## Financial Impact

Type of funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Division Budget	\$600.00

## ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services received requests from employees of two area businesses regarding operational concerns at the intersection of Carlingview Drive and Renforth Drive/International Boulevard. The concerns include northbound left turn delays during the morning peak and safety concerns arising from a large volume of U-turns in the immediate vicinity of the intersection. A map of the area is Attachment No.1.

## COMMENTS

The intersection of Carlingview Drive and International Boulevard/Renforth Drive is located in the area just north of Highway No. 401 and immediately east of Highway No. 427. The south terminus of Carlingview Drive becomes Highway No. 401 on and off ramps. The signalized intersection of Renforth Drive and Silver Dart Drive is located approximately 160.0 metres to the west. The surrounding area is mainly comprised of commercial/industrial properties with Pearson Airport located to the west of Highway No. 427. The TTC provides bus service on Renforth Drive, Carlingview Drive and International Boulevard.

To address concerns regarding the number of U-turns occurring near the intersection, studies were conducted during the morning peak hour (8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.). A total of 180 U-turns were observed on International Boulevard immediately east of the intersection. One hundred seventy-four (174) of these turns were northbound vehicles destined for westbound Renforth Drive. The remaining 6 vehicles were eastbound lefts destined for northbound Carlingview Drive. We observed as many as five motorists performing these U-turns at a time, and the vehicles would block the left turn lane and delay motorists who were turning left into the business on the northeast corner of Carlingview Drive and International Boulevard/Renforth Drive.

In addition, 62 vehicles were observed making U-turns just north of the intersection on Carlingview Drive to proceed southbound and then to turn right heading west on Renforth Drive.

As these U-turns are being performed to avoid the northbound left turn delays during the morning peak, a left turn delay study was conducted between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on a typical weekday. The results indicated that 563 vehicles were able to clear in the allotted green time. However, a significant percentage of northbound left turning vehicles are experiencing one or more cycle delays despite the fact that additional time was recently added to this movement.

Although a total of 563 vehicles were able to clear during the allotted time, this volume does not accurately depict the demand for this movement. The total volume of vehicles wishing to turn left would exceed 800 vehicles when U-turns that were completed near the intersection are included. From our observations, most of these vehicles are exiting Highway No. 401 in an attempt to access either the airport, or the office towers south of the airport.

Currently, this movement receives 16 seconds of flashing advance green plus an additional 3 seconds of solid green prior to the southbound movement receiving the green indication. Although northbound left turns are experiencing significant delays, the eastbound left turn also has a significant volume. Any reduction in the time allocated to the northbound movement would increase delays for the eastbound left turning vehicles and would cause vehicles to queue beyond the adjacent intersection at Silver Dart Drive.

In addition, during our studies, pedestrians were observed crossing both International Boulevard and Carlingview Drive. To accommodate these pedestrians we must provide a minimum time for pedestrians to safely cross. At this intersection, both the north/south and east/west crossing times are set to the respective minimum values. As such, we are not able to allocate more time to the northbound left turn movement at this time.

To attempt to find a long term solution, we will be consulting with Ministry of Transportation staff to discuss options to improve access to the airport and businesses in Mississauga, west of Renforth Drive.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment No. 1: Map (Location Plan)