



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

St. Clair Avenue West and Christie Street – Lane designations

Date:	February 23, 2007
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	St. Paul's, Ward 21
Reference Number:	Ts07069te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services has evaluated a request to designate exclusive northbound left-turn and right-turn lanes at the intersection of St. Clair Avenue West and Christie Street. Safety concerns have been raised due to a recent collision in which a northbound vehicle lost control and mounted the north side sidewalk.

Designating exclusive northbound turn lanes on Christie Street at St. Clair Avenue West, in conjunction with other measures, will provide better guidance to motorists and reinforce that Christie Street ends at St. Clair Avenue West.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council approve:

1. the designation of the westerly northbound lane on Christie Street, from St. Clair Avenue West to a point 30.5 metres south thereof, for left turns only; and
2. the designation of the easterly northbound lane on Christie Street, from St. Clair Avenue West to a point 30.5 metres south thereof, for right turns only.

Financial Impact

Type of funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Division 2007 Operating Budget interim appropriations	\$ 500.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Councillor Joe Mihevc requested that Transportation Services review measures to improve safety, including the installation of exclusive northbound left-turn and right-turn lanes at the intersection of St. Clair Avenue West and Christie Street.

COMMENTS

The intersection of St. Clair Avenue West and Christie Street is a T-configuration controlled by traffic signals. St. Clair Avenue West is an east-west, six-lane major arterial roadway, with a daily, two-way traffic flow of approximately 28,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 50 km/h. Streetcar tracks on St. Clair Avenue West currently operate on a shared right-of-way with the median lanes and there are near-side streetcar platforms at the intersection with Christie Street. Christie Street is a north-south, four-lane minor arterial roadway, with a daily, two-way traffic flow of approximately 11,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 40 km/h. Eastbound right-turns-on-red are prohibited at all times. TTC bus service (Route 126) operates on this section of Christie Street.

Collision statistics provided by the Toronto Police Service for the five-year period ending September 30, 2006 disclosed that 92 collisions had occurred at this intersection. Nine of these collisions involved a pedestrian and one involved a northbound motorist losing control. Further review of the nine pedestrian collisions did not disclose a pattern with respect to the time of day/day of week that they occurred. The one collision involving a northbound motorist losing control occurred on icy road conditions and resulted in no injuries. A report on the latest collision involving the northbound vehicle which lost control is currently not available.

The northbound approach on Christie Street at St. Clair Avenue West presently consists of two lanes that are separated by a broken white line. Due to concerns of northbound motorists losing control and striking objects on the north side of the intersection, Transportation Services will undertake the following improvements when weather permits:

- install a checkerboard sign on the north side of the intersection;
- install two sets of advisory lane designation signs (black/yellow);
- install two sets of lane designation pavement marking arrows; and
- install a solid lane line separating the two northbound lanes.

To improve the safety at this intersection, the northbound lanes should be by-lawed and the appropriate regulatory signage (black/white) should be installed to replace the advisory signage. This will provide better guidance to motorists that Christie Street ends at this intersection.

In addition to the above-noted improvements, we will also be installing devices on the north side of the intersection to physically prevent northbound motorists from mounting the sidewalk. The type and locations of these devices is currently under review and will be confirmed with Councillor Mihevc and area businesses prior to final installation.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Drawing No. 421F-8683, dated January 2007

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