



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street/Ordnance Street – traffic control signals

Date:	April 16, 2007
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Trinity-Spadina, Ward 19
Reference Number:	Ts07115te.top.doc

SUMMARY

This report is about a matter for which Toronto and East York Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services has reviewed a request to install traffic control signals at the intersection of Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street/ Ordnance Street. Traffic control signals are not technically warranted under existing conditions but will be warranted once the full development is reached in the surrounding area.

The installation of traffic control signals at Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street/Ordnance Street will provide safe and efficient access for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists wishing to cross Strachan Avenue. All costs will be borne by the developer (863880 Ontario Limited and Toronto Hanna Properties Limited).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that, subject to the receipt of funds from 863880 Ontario Limited and Toronto Hanna Properties Limited to cover all associated costs, Toronto and East York Community Council approve:

1. the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street/Ordnance Street.

Financial Impact

The adoption of the above-noted Recommendation will not result in any financial impact to the City. All costs associated with the proposed installation of traffic control signals at Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street/Ordnance Street, in the estimated amount of \$202,800.00, are the responsibility of the developer (863880 Ontario Limited and Toronto Hanna Properties Limited).

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services was requested by Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone to report on the installation of traffic control signals at Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street/Ordnance Street.

Funding to install traffic control signals at this intersection was secured by an agreement under Section 37 of the Planning Act with the owner of the adjacent lands (863880 Ontario Limited and Toronto Hanna Properties Limited). These funds were to be delivered prior to the registration of the first condominium on the adjacent development.

Further, City Council, at its meeting of June 27, 28, and 29, 2006, in adopting Clause No. 88 contained in Report No. 5 of the Toronto and East York Community Council, titled "Proposed Bicycle Lanes – Strachan Avenue, From Fleet Street to a Point Approximately 30 Metres North of King Street West", approved bicycle lanes on both sides of Strachan Avenue as well as the construction of an exclusive southbound right turn lane from Strachan Avenue to East Liberty Street. It would be advisable to install the signals in conjunction with this planned intersection construction, and thus the desire to accelerate signal work.

COMMENTS

Strachan Avenue is a minor arterial roadway, with a daily two-way traffic flow of approximately 16,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 40 km/h. Strachan Avenue consists of a single lane for general traffic and a lane reserved for cyclists in each direction. There are also left-turn lanes provided at East Liberty Street/Ordnance Street. As noted above, a southbound exclusive right turn lane is to be constructed in the near future.

East Liberty Street forms the west leg of the intersection and is a two-lane roadway, with a daily two-way traffic flow of approximately 1,700 vehicles and a speed limit 40 km/h. East Liberty Street was extended to Strachan Avenue in the spring of 2004 but has yet to be assumed by the City of Toronto. Ordnance Street forms the east leg of the intersection and is a dead-end street that provides access to Toronto Police Service property. East Liberty Street and Ordnance Street are controlled by "Stop" signs at their intersection with Strachan Avenue. There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service running through this intersection.

Collision statistics provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year time period ending December 31, 2006 disclosed that two collisions had occurred at this intersection. Neither of these collisions was potentially preventable by the installation of traffic control signals or involved a pedestrian.

Transportation Services took the opportunity to secure funding to install traffic control signals at this intersection, with the provision that the signals are to stay in place only until such time as the Front Street extension and/or the Front Street local road are constructed. A Traffic Impact Study, submitted by a traffic consultant, to the satisfaction of Transportation Services staff, has determined that traffic control signals will be warranted at this intersection once the area is fully developed.

The developers have indicated their agreement to provide funding for traffic control signals at this time. Due to the proximity of this intersection to the at-grade rail crossing on Strachan Avenue to the north, for safety reasons it will be necessary to install a “pre-empt” system by connecting the traffic control signals to the rail system, which will need the approval of the rail company.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

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