



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Durant Avenue – “No U-Turn” regulation**

<b>Date:</b>	September 18, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Toronto - Danforth, Ward 29
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts07202te.top.doc

**SUMMARY**

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This staff report is about a matter for which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services is requesting Community Council’s authority to prohibit U-turns on Durant Avenue, between Plains Road and Cosburn Avenue in front of Cosburn Middle School. The investigation indicates drivers making U-turns on this street create a safety hazard for children walking to/from the school. Transportation Services is requesting Community Council’s authority to prohibit U-turns on this section of the street.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:**

1. prohibit U-turns at all times by northbound and southbound vehicles on Durant Avenue, between Plains Road and Cosburn Avenue.

**Financial Impact**

Type of funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Toronto Transportation Services 2007 operating budget	\$500.00

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Councillor Case Ootes and Transportation Services' staff met with representatives of the O'Connor Traffic Management Group to discuss several traffic issues in their neighbourhood. Traffic activity on Durant Avenue, near Cosburn Middle School, and its impact on safety for children attending the school was one of the concerns.

## **COMMENTS**

### **Site Description**

Durant Avenue, from Plains Road to Cosburn Avenue, is a two-way local street, with a pavement width of about 9 metres. The speed limit is 40 km/h. Parking is prohibited on the east side of the street. Parking is allowed on the west side with a 10-minute maximum parking restriction during school hours to allow parents to drop off or pick up children. A school bus loading zone is located in front of the main doors leading to the school. Cosburn Middle School extends the entire length of the block on the west side of the street. The east side of the street is residential, made up of bungalow-type homes, most with private driveways. There is no TTC service on this street.

### **Traffic Activity**

Drivers bringing children to Cosburn Middle School in the morning and returning to pick them up either at noon or afternoon dismissal, is an ongoing issue throughout the school year. There is competition for the parking spaces on the west side of the street. If all parking spaces are occupied, drivers turn around using private driveways on the east side, or make three-point turns so they can park illegally on the east side of the street. Also, drivers who stop on the west side of the street then turn around to travel back in the direction from which they came, instead of circling back by way of a neighbouring street.

The frequent U-turning activity is a concern and creates a hazard for children on the sidewalks or crossing the road on Durant Avenue. School staff has brought this to the attention of parents but incidents persist. Residents along the east side of Durant Avenue also are upset because their driveways are being used by drivers to turn around.

### **Resolution**

Under the terms of the Ontario Highway Traffic Act a U-turn is considered any movement made by a driver within the public roadway, which includes the public sidewalk and boulevard area, so as to turn the vehicle around and travel in the opposite direction.

The O'Connor Traffic Management Group is still discussing other options to deter unsafe driving/parking practices on Durant Avenue. However, there is agreement amongst the group, City staff and Councillor Case Ootes to prohibit U-turns on Durant Avenue, between Plains Road and Cosburn Avenue as an initial means of improving safety.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Drawing No. 421F-9079, dated September 2007

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