



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Williamson Road – Road Alteration

Date:	January 22, 2008
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York
Wards:	Beaches-East York, Ward 32
Reference Number:	Ts08034te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is seeking authority to allow the construction of a lay-by on the north side of Williamson Road, between Hambly Avenue and Wineva Avenue. This proposal is intended to reduce traffic congestion during student pick up/drop off times at Glen Ames and Williamson Road Schools, which are located on the north side of the road.

The construction of the proposed lay-by will result in the loss of two parking spaces in the student pick-up/drop-off area but will not affect the school bus loading zone. There are no significant impacts on the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) #64 Main route.

The Toronto District School Board will facilitate the design and construction of the proposed lay-by to City of Toronto standards. Upon construction the City of Toronto will assume ownership and maintenance responsibilities of the lay-by.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. approve the alteration of Williamson Road, between Hambly Avenue and Wineva Avenue, to allow for the construction of a lay-by, generally as shown in the attached Drawing No. 421F-9148, dated December 2007.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to the City. All costs associated with the construction of the proposed lay-by are the responsibility of the Toronto District School Board.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

For the past several years Transportation Services has been working with School Principals, parents, Toronto District School Board officials, Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher and Councillor Sandra Bussin to address student safety and traffic congestion in front of Glen Ames and Williamson Road Schools during student pick-up/drop-off times. Various options to modify the school entrances and relocate pick-up/drop-off areas were considered. A preferred solution, which includes a lay-by on Williamson Road, was chosen. As a short term measure, Transportation Services modified the existing student pick-up/drop-off area and school bus loading zone in front of both schools in September 2007 (Item TE8.88 of Toronto and East York Community Council Report No. 8, approved by City Council on September 26 and 27, 2007). These changes provided approximately twice as many pick-up/drop-off parking spaces. However, the Toronto District School Board has indicated that they would like to proceed with construction of the preferred option to further address student safety and traffic congestion issues.

COMMENTS

Existing Conditions

Williamson Road is a 7.3 metre wide collector roadway, with a 40 km/h speed limit, that runs east from Lee Avenue to Glen Manor Drive. Glen Ames and Williamson Road Schools are located on the north side of Williamson Road, between Hambly Avenue and Wineva Avenue. The existing student pick-up/drop-off area and school bus loading zone in front of Glen Ames and Williamson Road Schools are 101.7 metres long and 29 metres long, respectively. Parking is allowed for up to 3 hours outside the times of the student pick-up/drop-off area and school bus loading zone, on the north side of the roadway. Stopping is prohibited at all times on the south side of the roadway. The Toronto Transit Commission #64 Main route operates on Williamson Road.

Proposed Lay-By

The north side boulevard of Williamson Road, between Hambly Avenue and Wineva Avenue, is grassed and about six metres wide. The proposed lay-by, as shown in Drawing No. 421F-9148 dated December 2007, would be 2.7 metres wide and 78.7 metres long, and would extend from Wineva Avenue to Hambly Avenue. The existing sidewalk would be relocated around the lay-by. The proposed lay-by will include the entire length of the existing school bus loading zone and approximately half (52 metres) of the student pick-up/drop-off area.

The existing parking regulations on both sides of Williamson Road would be maintained. A loss of two student pick-up/drop-off parking spaces is expected due to the tapers at the east and west end of the lay-by. The TTC #64 Main route would not be significantly affected. There should be an improvement to the flow of traffic during school arrival and dismissal times, as stopped vehicles would no longer be in the westbound curb lane of Williamson Road.

The Toronto District School Board has retained Victor Ford and Associates Inc. to design and construct the proposed lay-by to City of Toronto standards. Upon construction, the City of Toronto will assume ownership and maintenance responsibilities of the lay-by.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Drawing No. 421F-9148 dated December 2007

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