



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Prohibition of U-turns – Merton Street

<b>Date:</b>	June 13, 2008
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	St. Paul's, Ward 22
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts080112te.top.doc

#### **SUMMARY**

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

Residents of Merton Street, from Mount Pleasant Road to Cleveland Street, are concerned about the number of vehicles picking up or dropping off children at Sunnybrook School, 469 Merton Street, then making U-turns by way of private driveways in the area.

This activity presents a potential hazard for pedestrians and moving traffic on Merton Street. Implementation of a "No- U-turns" regulation is advisable to deter this practice.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. Prohibit U-turns by eastbound and westbound traffic at all times on Merton Street, from Mount Pleasant Road to Cleveland Street.

## Financial Impact

Type of funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services 2008 operating budget	\$500

## ISSUE BACKGROUND

Councillor Michael Walker has requested staff of Transportation Services to investigate and report on prohibiting U-turns on the section of Merton Street, from Mount Pleasant Road to Cleveland Street to enhance pedestrian safety in proximity to Sunnybrook School, 469 Merton Street.

## COMMENTS

### Roadway characteristics

Merton Street, between Mount Pleasant Road and Cleveland Street is a local street operating two-way (eastbound/westbound) on a pavement width of about 8.5 metres. Parking is prohibited at all times on the north side and is allowed on the south side with certain restrictions. Speed humps are located on this section of Merton Street and the speed limit is 30 kilometres per hour. There is no TTC service on this street.

### Investigation

The section of Merton Street, between Mount Pleasant Road and Cleveland Street is made up of mainly single family residential homes. Sunnybrook School is located on the south side of Merton Street, about 350 metres east of Mount Pleasant Road. Merton Street is a typical two-way residential street in the central area of the City, with curbside parking and a moderate volume of traffic. At nearly 800 metres in length, this block is unusually long. This could contribute to motorists making U-turns near the school to avoid traveling nearly a ½ kilometre before they can potentially turn around by means of another street to travel back in the direction from which they came.

Parents picking up or dropping off children at the school often want to return along Merton Street in the direction from which they came. To accomplish this they turn around by using the driveways of nearby homes, to the displeasure of residents. Any movement that reverses a motorists' direction on the same street is considered a U-turn and in some circumstances creates a potentially hazardous situation for pedestrians and moving traffic.

## **Resolution**

Prohibiting U-turns should discourage this practice and enhance safety for pedestrians and other road users. Transportation Service recommends prohibiting U-turns by eastbound and westbound traffic on Merton Street, between Mount Pleasant Road and Cleveland Street.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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## **ATTACHMENTS**

Drawing No. 421F-9326, dated June, 2008.

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