



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Left-Turn Prohibition Regulation Housekeeping – Lawrence Avenue East and Ellington Drive

Date:	March 25, 2009
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards:	Ward 37 – Scarborough Centre
Reference Number:	P:\2009\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\sc09024 D09-3139847 Lawrence Ellington housekeeping

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the Community Council does not have delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The purpose of this report is to advise on the need to enact southbound and eastbound No Left Turn regulation amendments at the intersection of Lawrence Avenue East and Ellington Drive in order to resolve signage conflicts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Scarborough District, recommends that Scarborough Community Council recommend that City Council:

1. Rescind the “Prohibited Turns” regulation, as identified in Appendix 1 of this report.
2. Enact the “Prohibited Turns” regulations, as identified in the Appendix 2 of this report.
3. Pass or amend the appropriate by-law(s) accordingly.

Financial Impact

The financial cost of installing the necessary signs is approximately \$2,000.00. The funding for these stop controls is available in the Transportation Services 2009 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TP0397.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Prior to 1997, both eastbound and southbound left-turns were prohibited from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays under Metropolitan Toronto By-law No. 32-92. Signs were posted to that effect.

In 2000, City Council enacted By-law No. 544-2000 amending the prohibitions so that eastbound and southbound left-turns were prohibited anytime due to a safety concern at the time about off-peak period left-turn collisions.

Under Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 27, this matter is not delegated to Scarborough Community Council since TTC Bus Route 54 runs along Lawrence Avenue East.

COMMENTS

It has recently come to the attention of staff that the signs for the older pre-2000 left-turn prohibitions are still in place, despite the enacting of By-Law No. 544-2000. It is unknown why the signs were never updated to reflect the amendments.

One of the signs has since gone missing and the Signs & Markings Unit is unable to replace the signage reflecting the pre-2000 regulation language. As there is always at least a pair of signs for any left-turn prohibition, the installation of a sign as per the in-force regulation would not match the other existing signage.

Due to the passing of more than eight years since the passing of the amendments, staff conducted a collision review of this intersection to determine if the in-force regulation is still technically necessary, or if any further amendments are required.

Eastbound Left-Turns

Staff found no appreciable collision history for eastbound left-turns from Lawrence Avenue East to Ellington Drive outside of the posted days and hours. Therefore, the by-law can be reverted back to its original form prohibiting such left-turns from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, except Public Holidays, as the current signage indicates.

Southbound Left-Turns

Staff determined that there is a serious southbound left-turn collision history (eleven) occurring outside of the weekday peak periods throughout the day for southbound left-turns from Ellington Drive to Lawrence Avenue East. However, there was no notable collision history during week-ends.

Therefore, the by-law can be amended to prohibit southbound left-turns anytime Monday to Friday, but to allow them on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. This will require posting new signs.

It is necessary to resolve the conflicts between the in-force regulations and the posted left-turn prohibition signs in order to allow the signage to be enforceable by the Toronto Police Service while enhancing public safety and minimising the City's liability.

The recommended amendments and sign changes will clearly assign liability to any motorists who may cause collisions at this location by making unsafe left-turn movements.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix 1 – By-law Amendment (rescind)
2. Appendix 2 – By-law Amendments (enact)
3. Location Map (Left-Turn Prohibitions – Lawrence Avenue East and Ellington Drive)

Appendix 1

“Prohibited Turns” Regulation to be Rescinded

(In Column 1) Intersection or Portion of Highway	(In Column 2) Direction	(In Column 3) Turns Prohibited	(In Column 4) Times or Days
Lawrence Avenue East and Ellington Drive (M.T. 22)	Eastbound and Southbound	Left	Anytime

Appendix 2

“Prohibited Turns” Regulations to be Enacted

(In Column 1) Intersection or Portion of Highway	(In Column 2) Direction	(In Column 3) Turns Prohibited	(In Column 4) Times or Days
Lawrence Avenue East and Ellington Drive (M.T. 22)	Eastbound	Left	7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri., except public holidays
Lawrence Avenue East and Ellington Drive (M.T. 22)	Southbound	Left	Mon. to Fri., except public holidays