



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Kipling Avenue and St. Andrews Boulevard – Lane Designation

<b>Date:</b>	June 1, 2010
<b>To:</b>	Etobicoke York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 2 – Etobicoke North
<b>Reference Number:</b>	p:\2010\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc100107-to

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to designate the most easterly southbound lane on Kipling Avenue, between St. Andrews Boulevard to a point 100 metres north of St. Andrews Boulevard, as an exclusive left turn lane.

Since the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Kipling Avenue, City Council approval of this report is required. TTC staff has been consulted on the matter and have not objected to the proposal.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

**Transportation Services recommends that City Council approve:**

1. Designating the most easterly southbound lane on Kipling Avenue, between St. Andrews Boulevard and a point 100 metres north of St. Andrews Boulevard, as a one way traffic lane, anytime, for left turning traffic.

#### Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$1,000.00

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

At a meeting, attended by Councillor Rob Ford and an area resident, Transportation Services was asked to review the existing lane configuration for southbound traffic on Kipling Avenue approaching the intersection of St. Andrews Boulevard. Of particular concern was how motorists wishing to turn left from Kipling Avenue to St. Andrews Boulevard are utilizing the existing lane configuration. A map of the area is Attachment 1. Attachment 2 provides pictures of the subject intersection. Attachment 3 provides the proposed signs and pavement marking modifications.

## **COMMENTS**

Kipling Avenue and St. Andrews Boulevard are classified as major arterial and local roads, respectively. The subject intersection is located north of Dixon Road, south of Highway 401. Kipling Avenue, between St. Andrews Boulevard and Belfield Road, is a six lane cross section with three lanes for both northbound and southbound traffic. The most easterly southbound lane (i.e. the lane adjacent the raised centre median) currently ends just north of the north approach of the intersection of Kipling Avenue and St. Andrews Boulevard, requiring motorists in the most easterly southbound lane to merge into the centre lane. The termination of the most easterly southbound lane is currently delineated on the pavement by a tapered yellow painted hatching area. This hatched area then ends just prior to the introduction of an exclusive left turn lane at the north approach of the intersection of Kipling Avenue and St. Andrews Boulevard.

During our afternoon peak hour observation, we recorded a total of 71 vehicles turning left from Kipling Avenue to St. Andrews Boulevard. Of these, 38 vehicles did not move into the centre lane, choosing to travel over the painted median, an additional 9 vehicles moved partially into the centre lane, while 24 vehicles were recorded as travelling in the centre lane prior to completing the left turn. However, of the 24 vehicles recorded within the centre lane, some of these vehicles had travelled up the centre lane and moved over prior to the introduction of the left turn lane, partially crossing over the painted median.

Conflicts and potential conflicts were also noted during our study between two vehicles when one would merge into the left-turn lane at St. Andrews Boulevard from the centre lane while the other vehicle, travelling in the most easterly southbound lane, would not merge into the centre lane and continue straight over the painted median into the left-turn lane at St. Andrews Boulevard.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records over a three-year period ending December 31, 2009, did not reveal any southbound sideswipe type collisions in the area of Kipling Avenue and St. Andrews Boulevard.

Although the collision data does not indicate that the current lane configuration is operating in an unsafe manner, the study data and our observations indicate that the majority of motorists are not treating the current lane configuration as intended. Therefore, staff recommends designating the most easterly southbound lane on Kipling Avenue, between St. Andrews Boulevard and a point 100 metres north of St. Andrews Boulevard, as a one way traffic lane, anytime, for left turning vehicles. The proposed lane designation should improve traffic management on this section of St. Andrews Boulevard, mitigating the potential for conflicts.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Acting Director, Transportation Services-Etobicoke York District

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Map

Attachment 2: Streetview Pictures

Attachment 3: Proposed signs and pavement markings