

## **Left Turn Prohibition: Tolman Street at Yonge Street**

<b>Date:</b>	January 14, 2010
<b>To:</b>	North York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District
<b>Wards:</b>	<b>Ward 23 - Willowdale</b>
<b>Reference Number:</b>	<i>ny10020</i>

### **SUMMARY**

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To obtain approval to prohibit eastbound left turns at anytime on Tolman Street at Yonge Street.

The implementation of left turn prohibitions on Tolman Street at Yonge Street will improve both the traffic operations and the pedestrian environment at the intersection.

Since the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Yonge Street, City Council approval of this report is required.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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Transportation Services Division recommends that City Council:

1. Prohibit eastbound left turns at anytime on Tolman Street at Yonge Street.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

All costs associated with the installation of the turn restrictions are included within the Transportation Services Division's 2010 Operating Budget estimates.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Transportation Services, North York District, was requested by Councillor Filion, on behalf of area residents to review the feasibility of prohibiting eastbound left turns on Tolman Street at Yonge Street in order to improve traffic operations at the intersection.

Residents have indicated that eastbound left turns exiting Tolman Street are particularly dangerous at this location due to restricted sight lines created by vehicles parked on the west side of Yonge Street, north of Tolman Street, combined with high rate of speed of vehicles travelling southbound on Yonge Street.

## **COMMENTS**

Tolman Street intersects the west side of Yonge Street approximately 90 metres south of Finch Avenue. Tolman Street is a two-lane local road with a speed limit of 50 km/h. Eastbound traffic on Tolman Street is required to stop at Yonge Street. Currently, on the west side of Yonge Street, parking is prohibited at any time for a distance of 15 metres north of Tolman Street. Parking is permitted on the west side of Yonge Street in the area designated for pay and display outside of the 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. peak periods.

Tolman Street, constructed in 2007, provides secondary access to the Beecroft Road Extension south of Finch Avenue.

Our investigation has verified concerns that it is particularly difficult to conduct eastbound left turns from Tolman Street due to restricted sight lines caused by vehicles parked on the west side of Yonge Street combined with a high volume of vehicles on Yonge Street. In addition, due to the close proximity to the intersection of Yonge Street and Finch Avenue left turns from Tolman Street often interfere with northbound left turning vehicles and pedestrians crossing Tolman Street on the west side of Yonge Street. It has been observed that eastbound left turning vehicles continually obstruct the pedestrian crosswalk on the west side of Yonge Street often forcing pedestrians to cross Tolman Street from either between queued vehicles or from the curb lane on Yonge Street.

As Tolman Street was constructed in 2007 there is an insufficient data in Toronto Police Service's collision record for incidents involving left turns.

The prohibition of eastbound left turns at Tolman Street and Yonge Street would improve both the traffic operations at the intersection and the pedestrian environment on the west side of Yonge Street.

Councillor Filion has indicated his support of the recommendations contained within this report.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Myles Currie, B.A.  
Director

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Map – Tolman St and Yonge St: Eastbound Left Turn Prohibition  
(*ny10020\_map*)