

Pedestrian Crossing Restrictions: Alness Street and York University Busway

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| Date: | July 20, 2010 |
| To: | North York Community Council |
| From: | Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District |
| Wards: | Ward 8 – York West |
| Reference Number: | <i>ny10103</i> |

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Alness Street and on the York University Busway, City Council approval of this report is required.

To obtain approval to rescind the existing by-law prohibiting the east/west pedestrian crossings at this intersection and to amend the by-law to permit pedestrian crossings on the north leg of the intersection.

The amendment to the above noted pedestrian crossing restrictions will facilitate the implementation of a pedestrian crossing and cycling crossing area on the north leg of the intersection in conjunction with the construction of the multi-use path along the Finch Hydro Corridor from Norfinch Drive to Yonge Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services Division, North York District, recommends that City Council:

1. Rescind the existing pedestrian crossing prohibition on Alness Street, from a point 30.5 metres south of the south curb line of the York University Busway (Finch Hydro Corridor) to a point 30.5 metres north of the north curb line of the York University Busway (Finch Hydro Corridor); and

2. Prohibit pedestrian crossings on Alness Street, from a point 30.5 metres south the of the south curb line of the York University Busway (Finch Hydro Corridor) to the north curb line of the York University Busway (Finch Hydro Corridor).

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the modifications to the pedestrian crossing restrictions are included within the Transportation Services Division's 2010 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services, North York District, was requested by the Cycling Infrastructure Unit to review the current operations of the existing by-law and traffic operations at the intersection of Alness Street and the York University Busway with regards to the pedestrian crossing restriction at this location. The request stems from the need to permit pedestrian and cycling crossings at this location as part of the approved multi-use path which is being constructed along the Finch Hydro Corridor from Norfinch Drive to Yonge Street.

COMMENTS

Alness Street is a minor arterial roadway with a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h and operates with one lane per direction. The roadway width along this section of roadway is approximately 11.0 metres wide. Currently, the intersection of Alness Street and the York University Busway is controlled by a traffic control signal and the east/west pedestrian crossings are prohibited.

It should be noted that when the busway was being constructed there was no need to permit pedestrian crossings at this intersection as there are no north/south transit stops and there is a sidewalk only on the east side of the roadway.

At its meeting of June 8 and 9, 2010, City Council approved the construction of the Bike Network Trail Project (multi-use path) through the Finch Hydro Corridor. The multi-use path will be located to the north of the busway and the cycling and pedestrian crossings of Alness Street will occur on the north leg of the existing traffic control signal. Therefore the existing pedestrian crossing prohibition needs to be amended.

Staff of this division has reviewed the proposed traffic operations at this location and have indicated that rescinding the existing pedestrian crossing prohibition and permitting pedestrian crossing on the north leg of the intersection would not result in any negative impact on the traffic operations at this intersection.

The proposed pedestrian crossing amendment will thereby legally permit cyclist and pedestrians to cross the roadway at the traffic control signal.

As such, this division supports the amendments to permit pedestrian crossings on the north leg of the intersection.

Councillor Anthony Perruzza has been advised of the recommendations of this report.

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SIGNATURE

Myles Currie, B.A.
Director

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Map – Overview; Alness Street and York University Busway
(*ny10103_map1*)
- Attachment 2: Map – Cyclist/Pedestrian Crossing; Alness Street and York University
Busway (*ny10103_map2*)