

No Right Turn on Red Prohibition: Steeles Avenue East at Townsend Road

Date:	July 22, 2010
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District
Wards:	Ward 24 – Willowdale
Reference Number:	<i>ny10106</i>

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Steeles Avenue East, City Council approval of this report is required.

To obtain approval to prohibit eastbound right turns on a red signal indication at the intersection of Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road.

The prohibition of a no right turn on red signal indication on Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road will increase the level of safety for pedestrians.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Amend the existing by-law to prohibit eastbound right turns on a red signal indication at all times from Steeles Avenue East to Townsend Road.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the installation of the right turns on red signal indication prohibition are included within the Transportation Services Division's 2010 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Transportation Services Division, North York Division, have been requested by residents to investigate their concerns regarding pedestrian safety when crossing Steeles Avenue East at Townsend Road.

COMMENTS

The intersection of Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road is controlled by a traffic control signal. Currently, north-south pedestrian crossings at this intersection is permitted on the west side only. The eastbound lane configuration at Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road consists of an exclusive left turn lane, two through lanes and a designated right turn lane, buses excepted.

The vehicle and pedestrian volumes at Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road are as follows:

Traffic Volumes	Steeles Avenue and Townsend Road
Daily east/west traffic	46,000
Daily north/south traffic	5,600
Eight-hour right turn volume	240 (eastbound)
Pedestrian Volume Eight hour or hourly	402 (west side)

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records for the period of January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2009, disclosed that 46 collisions have occurred at the intersection of Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road. Pedestrian collisions accounted for 5 of the incidents. It should be noted that these incidents were not the direct result of eastbound right turns on red signal indications.

When considering the concentration of the north-south pedestrian crossings on the west side of the intersection, combined with the high volume of traffic on Steeles Avenue East, staff recommends the prohibition of eastbound right turns on red signal indication at this intersection in order to mitigate the potential for vehicle/pedestrian collisions.

In addition, the implementation of a no right turn on a red signal indication requirement at this location would be consistent with the City's Walking Strategy Policy to install and evaluate different measures and design options to improve the pedestrian environment including the introduction of no right turn on a red signal indication.

As such, this division recommends the prohibition of eastbound right turns on a red signal indication at the intersection of Steeles Avenue East and Townsend Road.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Myles Currie, B.A.
Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Location Map: Finch Av E at Au Large Blvd/Seneca Hill Dr
(*ny10106_map*)