

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 4, 2010

TO: Chair and Members of the Public Works and
Infrastructure Committee

Toronto Police are presently evaluating traffic enforcement of bicycle lanes and diamond lanes. Motorists do not respect our diamond lane system because it is largely not enforced. Part of the reason is that diamond lanes are often confusing. Some of them permit buses, taxis and vehicles with more than two passengers.

Others permit only buses and taxis and still others are exclusively for the use of buses. Some permit bicycles as well. Apart from the lack of enforcement this is often confusing for motorists.

I am writing to ask the Committee to evaluate the designation of diamond lanes to make them less confusing for motorists and to assist with enforcement.

One suggestion might be to make them exclusively for buses and taxis. One might be to consider another category that is exclusive to buses. These might be separated before other traffic by a rolled curb or specific pavement markings. Perhaps exclusive bus lanes should be called something other than diamond lanes.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this matter be referred to staff with a report back to Council within three months.



HOWARD MOSCOE
Ward 15 Councillor
Eglinton-Lawrence
Ids/Public Works & Infrastructure/Diamond Lanes