

February 16, 2010

To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Subject: Pedestrian Collision Summary Report

Recommendations:

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommends to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee that:

- 1. the General Manager, Transportation Services, be requested to take those actions to enhance pedestrian safety, as soon as possible, that can be implemented within the current budget, which may include accelerating the implementation of the zebra crossings program and re-launching the "We Are All Pedestrians" public education media campaign.**
- 2. Whereas the Highway Traffic Act (S. 144; clause 27) states that "no pedestrian approaching a solid or flashing sign shall enter the roadway" and because the current use of the flashing 'Don't Walk' signal is synchronized with the onset of the countdown it provides less legal crossing time for pedestrians;**

Therefore, be it resolved that the Toronto Pedestrian Committee request the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee to consider a request to the Province of Ontario to amend the Highway Traffic Act (S. 144; clause 27) so that, in the presence of countdown signals, a pedestrian is permitted to cross lawfully once the countdown has begun as long as they complete the crossing by the time the countdown has reached "0".

Committee Decision:

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- 1. Requested the Co-Chairs to prepare a draft letter to the Toronto Police Services Board with Roger Brook's input regarding pedestrian safety for review by the Toronto Pedestrian Committee at its next meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2010.**

2. Requested the Co-Chairs to forward a letter to the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board asking what the schools are doing about pedestrian safety and the implementation of a more complete and on-going program of pedestrian safety education for students.
3. Invited Bruce Zvaniga, Manager, Traffic Control and Safety Systems, Transportation Services, to the next meeting of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, to discuss traffic control signals.
4. Requested that the Policy and Research Paper (January 11, 2010) by Dr. Barry Wellar, Policy and Research Advisor, Federation of Urban Neighbourhoods, entitled "Careless Driving and Public Safety: Curtail the Pandemic by Raising the Bar" be referred to Bruce Zvaniga, Manager, Traffic Control and Safety Systems, Transportation Services, for comment.

Decision Advice and Other Information:

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee noted the following:

1. that Mike Brady, Manager, Traffic Safety Unit, Transportation Services, offered to analyze and report on the data on pedestrian collisions according to parameters suggested by the committee. Dylan Reid agreed to gather suggested parameters to be sent to the Manager, Traffic Safety Unit; and
2. that Sergeant Tim Burrows, Toronto Police Service, offered to consider locations for pedestrian safety campaigns where pedestrians are at significant risk and where police emphasis on pedestrian safety can focus on the actions of drivers as well as pedestrians. Dylan Reid offered to gather suggested locations to be sent to Sergeant Burrows.

Background:

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee on February 16, 2010, considered a presentation by Mike Brady, Manager, Traffic Safety Unit, Transportation Services, regarding the Pedestrian Collision Summary Report – January 1 to March 31, 2009.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee also considered:

- (a) Policy and Research Paper (January 11, 2010) by Dr. Barry Wellar, Policy and Research Advisor, Federation of Urban Neighbourhoods, entitled "Careless Driving and Public Safety: Curtail the Pandemic by Raising the Bar"; and
- (b) Letter (February 8, 2010) from Councillor Paula Fletcher, Toronto-Danforth, Ward 30

The following persons addressed the Toronto Pedestrian Committee:

- Sergeant Tim Burrows, Toronto Police Service
- Bill Brown
- Helen Riley
- Andrea Charisse

- Joan Myles
- Bruce Zvaniga, Manager, Traffic Control and Safety Systems, Transportation Services
- Councillor Paula Fletcher, Toronto-Danforth, Ward 30

City Clerk

Maria Kolominsky
Item 1

Attachment

Sent to: Sergeant Timothy Burrows, Toronto Police Service
Bruce Zvaniga, Manager, Traffic Control and Safety Systems, Transportation
Services
Mike Brady, Manager, Traffic Safety Unit, Transportation Services