



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Road Alteration and Lane Designation – Eglinton Avenue West and W.R. Allen Road

Date:	August 12, 2011
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	St. Paul's, Ward 21
Reference Number:	Ts2011168te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council for a road alteration by-law to widen W. R. Allen Road (northbound on-ramp), from Eglinton Avenue West to a point 147.6 metres north. Also, Eglinton Avenue West would be narrowed from a point 5.0 metres east of W. R. Allen Road (northbound on-ramp) to a point 40.0 metres further east.

The proposed road construction and lane designation will provide for a double westbound right-turn lane from Eglinton Avenue West to the northbound W.R. Allen Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the widening of W. R. Allen Road (northbound on-ramp) from Eglinton Avenue West to a point 147.6 metres north, and the narrowing of Eglinton Avenue West from a point 5.0 meters east of W. R. Allen Road (northbound on-ramp) to a point 40.0 metres further east, generally as shown on Drawing Nos. 421G -0329 and 421G-0330, dated April 2011, attached to this report from the Acting Director of Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District, dated August 12, 2011.
2. City Council rescind the designation for the northerly westbound lane on Eglinton Avenue West, between the W.R. Allen Road northbound Ramp and the west curb line of Glenarden Road, for westbound right-turning vehicles (buses excepted).

3. City Council approve the designation of the two northerly westbound lanes on Eglinton Avenue West, between W.R. Allen Road Northbound Ramp and a point 85 metres east, for right-turning vehicles only.

Financial Impact

The costs for the construction of the road widening, installation of signs, associated pavement markings and modification to the traffic control signals in the estimated amount of \$600,000.00 are contained in the Transportation Services 2011 Capital Budget (Contract No. 11TE-18RD).

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Since the installation of an exclusive pedestrian signal phase at the intersection of W.R. Allen Road (northbound on-ramp) and Eglinton Avenue West, there have been complaints about the congestion that it created for westbound traffic destined from westbound Eglinton Avenue West to northbound W.R. Allen Road. Transportation Services conducted a review in order to reduce traffic congestion at this intersection while still proving the same level of service and safety for pedestrians.

COMMENTS

The intersection of W.R. Allen Road (northbound on-ramp) and Eglinton Avenue West is controlled by traffic signals. Currently, one westbound right-turn lane and two westbound through lanes are provided on Eglinton Avenue West on the approach to the northbound on-ramp to the W.R. Allen Road. Approximately 2/3 of the westbound traffic approaching this intersection is destined to northbound W.R. Allen Road, while the remaining 1/3 is destined to westbound Eglinton Avenue West. To improve operations, the northerly westbound through lane should be converted to a westbound right-turn lane. As a result, two westbound right-turn lanes and one westbound through lane will be provided at this intersection. This will reduce the westbound traffic congestion and it will provide for better access to northbound W.R. Allen Road. A third on-ramp lane will have to be constructed on W.R. Allen Road north of Eglinton Avenue West to accommodate this proposal. The westbound through movement can be accommodated in one through lane. The TTC 32 Eglinton West bus route travels westbound through this intersection.

The existing pedestrian level of service and safety will be maintained as the exclusive pedestrian signal phase at the intersection will function as it does today. Also, existing sidewalk widths in this area will be maintained.

In order to improve the safety for cyclists the existing westbound right turn lane will be slightly narrowed and the increased boulevard space will be allocated to cyclists. This 40-metre long section of the boulevard will be paved in asphalt, it will be clearly marked for cyclists and it will be at the same level as the sidewalk. The cyclists will cross the northbound on-ramp under their own exclusive signal phase.

If approved, this proposed project will be constructed in the fall of this year. Councillor Mihevc is in full support of this proposal.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Angie Antoniou
Acting Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

(1) Drawing Nos. 421G-0329 and 421G-0330, dated April 2011

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