



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**U-Turn Prohibition – Weston Road at the Highway 401
Eastbound Exit Ramp**

Date:	February 20, 2014
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 11 – York South-Weston
Reference Number:	p:\2014\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc140044-to

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to prohibit southbound U-turns on Weston Road at the Highway 401 eastbound exit ramp.

The prohibition of U-turns on Weston Road at the Highway 401 eastbound exit ramp will eliminate conflicts for vehicle traffic movements and improve the operation at this intersection.

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates transit service on Weston Road, City Council approval of this report is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto City Council approve:

1. prohibiting southbound U-turns on Weston Road at the Highway 401 eastbound exit ramp.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the implementation of the U-turn prohibitions are included within the Transportation Services 2014 Operating Budget.

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Operating Budget	\$500.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services staff received a request from the area Councillor to review the feasibility of prohibiting southbound U-turns on Weston Road at the Highway 401 eastbound collector ramp. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

COMMENTS

Weston Road is a 23 metre wide five-lane road. It operates two-way with a north-south alignment. The stretch of roadway from Oak Street (to the south) to Albion Road/Walsh Avenue (to the north) is classified in the City's Road Classification System as a "Major Arterial" roadway. Sidewalks are located on both sides of the street. The legal speed limit on this stretch of the road is 50 km/h.

The intersection of Weston Road and the Highway 401 eastbound exit ramp/private driveway contains traffic control signals. Southbound left turns as well as westbound right turns move simultaneously under the signal operation, thus making the U-turns particularly dangerous as these movements can conflict with each other.

Southbound motorists have been observed conducting U-turns around the centre median at this intersection to proceed in the opposite direction of travel. As such, westbound right turn motorists are unexpectedly encountering southbound U-turns on Weston Road. This unexpected encounter is also experienced by northbound motorists when southbound vehicles are making a U-turn while the green signal is activated for north/south through and permissive left turn traffic. On occasion, motorists have been observed having to perform a quick lane change to avoid the U-turn vehicle.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision history over a three year period indicates that there has been one reported incident where a southbound vehicle attempting to make a U-turn was struck by a vehicle from behind. However, staff observations have identified that the potential for serious collisions do exist when U-turns are attempted.

To address the concerns, staff recommends a 24-hour southbound U-turn prohibition on Weston Road and the Highway 401 eastbound off ramp/private access. This proposed prohibition will help deter southbound U-turn manoeuvres, enhancing traffic operation at this intersection.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Map