



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Southbound Right-Turn Prohibition – Victoria Park Avenue and Bracken Avenue

Date:	March 6, 2014
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards:	Beaches-East York, Ward 32 Scarborough Southwest, Ward 36
Reference Number:	pw2014030.te.top.docx

SUMMARY

Transportation Services staff reviewed the feasibility and impacts of rescinding the 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, southbound right-turn prohibition at the intersection of Victoria Park Avenue and Bracken Avenue. Our assessment revealed that rescinding the prohibition would result in increased traffic on Bracken Avenue. As a result, we cannot recommend rescinding the prohibition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council not rescind the 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, southbound right-turn prohibition at the intersection of Victoria Park Avenue and Bracken Avenue.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

On November 20, 2013, the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee directed the General Manager of Transportation Services to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the feasibility and impacts of removing the 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, southbound right-turn prohibition at the intersection of Victoria Park Avenue and Bracken Avenue (PW27.20).

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.PW27.20>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Victoria Park Avenue is a collector roadway at the all-way stop-controlled intersection with Bracken Avenue, just south of Kingston Road. Bracken Avenue is a two-way local road that runs west from this intersection. The TTC does not operate service on this section of Victoria Park Avenue or Bracken Avenue.

In 1993, westbound left turns were prohibited from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, from Kingston Road to all streets between Fallingbrook Road (three blocks east of Victoria Park Avenue) and Haslett Avenue (one block east of Woodbine Avenue). The rerouting of traffic caused by these prohibitions resulted in a significant increase of traffic from southbound Victoria Park Avenue to westbound Bracken Avenue.

In May 1994, a 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. weekday traffic count was undertaken that revealed that of the 522 southbound vehicles counted on Victoria Park Avenue, 328 turned right onto Bracken Avenue. Due to the turn prohibitions on Kingston Road westbound volumes on Bracken Avenue had doubled during the morning rush hour.

Therefore, in order to reduce cut-through traffic on Bracken Avenue, southbound right turns were prohibited from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, at the intersection of Victoria Park Avenue and Bracken Avenue in July 1994 (see Attachment 1).

COMMENTS

In 2013, a capital project to replace TTC track and fully reconstruct Kingston Road was completed from Queen Street East to Victoria Park Avenue. During this project, only one lane of eastbound traffic was available. As a result, westbound traffic was diverted south on Victoria Park Avenue to Queen Street East. The request to review the southbound right-turn prohibition from Victoria Park Avenue to Bracken Avenue came during this period. The Kingston Road project in this area is now complete and traffic patterns have returned to their usual levels.

A recent 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. weekday traffic count recorded 219 southbound vehicles on Victoria Park Avenue approaching Bracken Avenue. Of these 219 vehicles, 22 made right turns in violation of the turn prohibition.

Removal of the southbound right-turn prohibition would result in non-local traffic using Bracken Avenue during the morning peak period, as was the case in 1994.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Stephen Buckley
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ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-1347: Victoria Park Ave & Bracken Ave Existing Southbound Right Turn Prohibition
2. Road Classifications in the Vicinity of Victoria Park Avenue and Bracken Avenue