

## **Road Alteration – Laird Drive and Millwood Road**

**Date:** March 7, 2017

**To:** North York Community Council

**From:** Director, Transportation Services, North York District

**Wards:** Ward 26 – Don Valley West

### **SUMMARY**

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As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates bus service on Laird Drive and Millwood Road, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Service is requesting approval to alter the roadway at Laird Drive and Millwood Road by replacing the eastbound right-turn channel with a dedicated eastbound right-turn lane.

Removal of the right-turn channel will allow for the installation of audible pedestrian signals at the intersection and address a pattern of rear-end collisions within the channel. The dedicated eastbound right-turn lane will provide a comparable level of service to this movement.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Director, Transportation Services, North York District recommends that:

1. City Council approve the alteration of the intersection of Laird Drive and Millwood Road, including the removal of the eastbound right-turn channel and the designation of an eastbound right-turn lane, generally as shown on Drawing No. NYRD16-0050 dated November 2016, attached to the report, entitled "Road Alteration – Laird Drive and Millwood Road", dated March 7, 2017 from the Director, Transportation Services, North York District.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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The costs associated with the removal of the eastbound right-turn channel, provision of an eastbound right-turn lane and other improvements at the intersection are estimated at \$730,000. These funds are available in the Transportation Services Capital Budget (Transportation Safety and Local Improvement Program, Public Transportation Infrastructure Funding and Neighbourhood Improvement Capital).

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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This report addresses a new initiative.

## **COMMENTS**

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Transportation Services investigated the feasibility of removing the eastbound right-turn channel at the intersection of Laird Drive and Millwood Road. This was in order to allow for the installation of audible pedestrian signals and address a pattern of rear-end collisions in the channel.

At their signalized 'T'-type intersection Laird Drive forms the north leg of the intersection and Millwood Road forms the west and south legs. Laird Drive is a four-lane major arterial roadway. Millwood Road is a four lane collector roadway on the west leg of the intersection and a four-lane major arterial on the south leg where it is a continuation of Laird Drive. TTC service is provided on Laird Drive and Millwood Road.

Motorists completing eastbound right-turns in the channel are not controlled by the traffic signals, but must yield to southbound traffic. A recent traffic count revealed that there are approximately 420 eastbound right-turns during the a.m. peak hour, 670 during the p.m. peak hour and 370 during off peak hours.

Since the right-turn channel operates free flow it is not feasible to install audible pedestrian signals at this intersection. A review of Toronto Police Services collision records revealed that between January 1, 2013 and October 31, 2015, there have been 23 reported rear-end collisions in the right-turn channel.

Removal of the eastbound right-turn channel would allow for the installation of audible pedestrian signals at the intersection. It would also likely address the pattern of rear-end collisions in the channel since motorists would have a better view of opposing southbound traffic and they would have to come to a stop when completing a right-turn-on-red.

Modelling with traffic software revealed that the removal of the channel would not result in a significant reduction in level of service for the eastbound right-turn movement since it would be replaced with a dedicated right-turn lane. Also, an eastbound right-turn green arrow signal would be installed that would be displayed with the northbound left-turn green arrow.

As part of the above changes requiring City Council approval local improvements will be completed on the northwest quadrant of the intersection where Malcom Road intersects Millwood Road.

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendations in this staff report.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Jacqueline White, P.Eng.  
Director

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1: Map – Laird Drive & Millwood Road Intersection Improvements