

Road Alteration – Lawrence Avenue West at Dufferin Street and Corona Street/Via Bagnato

Date: August 18, 2017

To: North York Community Council

From: Acting Director, Transportation Infrastructure Management

Wards: Ward 15 - Eglinton-Lawrence

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting approval, on behalf of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), to alter Lawrence Avenue West from Dufferin Street to a point 57 metres (m) east of Corona St./Via Bagnato in order to provide an extended westbound lane for right-turning traffic and through buses. Doing so will allow TTC vehicles to bypass general traffic in this area, improving service reliability. The change has been evaluated for benefits and impacts according to established criteria for queue-jump lane requests.

This lane can be accommodated by widening the south side of Lawrence Avenue by up to 2.0m, reducing existing lane widths, and extending existing turn lanes.

These modifications will not result in the loss of any travel lanes, as the current two eastbound and two westbound lanes will be maintained.

As TTC operates bus service on both Lawrence Avenue West and Dufferin Street, City Council approval of this report is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Transportation Infrastructure Management recommends that:

1. City Council approve the alteration of the intersections of Lawrence Avenue West and Dufferin St. and Lawrence Avenue West and Corona St./Via Bagnato, providing a westbound right-turn lane (Buses Excepted), generally as shown in Attachment 1 of the report entitled "Road Alteration – Lawrence Avenue West at Dufferin Street and Corona Street/Via Bagnato", dated August 18, 2017 from the Acting Director, Transportation Infrastructure Management.

2. City Council designate the newly created westbound lane at Lawrence Avenue West and Corona St./Via Bagnato as right-turn only, with an exception provided for TTC vehicles.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs associated with the alteration of Lawrence Avenue West from Dufferin Street to a point 57m east of Corona St./Via Bagnato will be the responsibility of the TTC.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Queue Jump Lanes

Transportation Services and the TTC are undertaking a review of locations where it is operationally feasible to provide bus queue jump lanes that also serve as extended right turn lanes, and where the benefits in terms of travel time savings to transit vehicles are seen to outweigh the impacts to other road users, including pedestrians. The provision of these lanes, where appropriate, allows TTC vehicles to bypass general traffic at intersections and other locations, improving service reliability. The intersection of Lawrence Avenue West and Dufferin Street was identified as one such location.

Existing Conditions

Both Lawrence Avenue West and Dufferin Street are arterial roads, with two through lanes in all directions approaching the intersection. Dedicated left and right turn lanes are provided on all approaches, with the exception of northbound on Dufferin St. which operates with a shared through/right-turn curb lane. Current lane widths in the area vary between 3.5 and 3.8m.

TTC vehicles travelling westbound on Lawrence Avenue currently service a near-side stop at Corona St./Via Bagnato from a mixed traffic curb lane. TTC Vehicles then proceed in the curb lane, before transitioning into the existing right-turn lane to service a near-side stop at Dufferin Street.

Proposed Conditions

Widening the south side of Lawrence Avenue by up to 2.0m and reducing lane widths generally to 3.3m for through lanes and 3.0 for turn lanes will provide sufficient room to extend the existing westbound right-turn lane at Dufferin Street. back to the intersection at Corona St./Via Bagnato. In addition, a new westbound right-turn lane is proposed at this intersection. This turn lane will be designated for right-turns only, with a through movement exception provided for TTC vehicles.

The proposed alterations are shown in Attachment 1. As part of this work, the concrete sidewalk on the south side of Lawrence Avenue will be brought to a pedestrian clearway width of 2.1 metres.

Providing the combination of the new right turn lane at Corona St./Via Bagnato (with TTC exemption) and extending the existing right turn lane from Dufferin Street. will provide a new continuous westbound lane throughout the area that will allow TTC vehicles to bypass traffic congestion, improving service reliability.

The other existing lanes will shift southward into the newly widened space in order to accommodate the new lane. This design has been developed with input from City Planning.. As all current travel lanes are to be maintained, no impacts to vehicular traffic are anticipated. Minor vehicular traffic improvements may be realized as servicing of TTC passengers at the nearside stop at Corona St./Via Bagnato will now occur out of the through lanes.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE



Jacquelyn Hayward Gulati
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Proposed Road Alterations - Lawrence Avenue West at Dufferin St. and Corona St./Via Bagnato

Attachment 1 - Proposed Road Alterations - Lawrence Avenue West at Dufferin St. and Corona St./Via Bagnato

