

Traffic Control Signals - Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue

Date: November 15, 2019
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 9, Davenport

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to install traffic control signals at the intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue. This installation will provide enhanced safety for pedestrians and motorists at the intersection and is technically justified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue.
2. City Council prohibit parking on the north side of Rockwell Avenue, between Old Weston Road and a point 15 metres east, in conjunction with the installation of traffic control signals.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of installing traffic control signals at the intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue is \$200,000.00. This installation would be subject to the availability of funding and competing priorities.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor Ana Bailão to investigate the feasibility of installing traffic control signals at the intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue.

Existing Conditions

Old Weston Road is a four-lane minor arterial road, with a speed limit of 50 km/h, a pavement width of 14 metres and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 14,000 vehicles. Parking is generally permitted on both sides of the road, except during peak hours when a "No Stopping" regulation is in effect in the peak direction and a "No Parking" regulation is in effect in the counter-peak direction. Transit service on Old Weston Road is provided by the "41 Keele" (northbound only), and "168 Symington" buses. Nearside bus stops are provided at Rockwell Avenue. Southbound left-turns are prohibited at Rockwell Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Rockwell Avenue is a two-lane collector road, with a speed limit of 40 km/h, a pavement width of 7.3 metres, and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 1,000 vehicles. Parking is generally permitted on the north side, with permit parking in effect from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily. Transit service is not provided on Rockwell Avenue.

Adjacent traffic control signals to this intersection on Old Weston Road are located about 215 metres to the north at Turnberry Avenue, and about 345 metres to the south at St. Clair Avenue West.

Collision Review

A review of the collision history for the three-year period ending December 31, 2018 did not find any collisions involving pedestrians on Old Weston Road, between St Clair Avenue West and Turnberry Avenue. Over the same time period, one collision was found at the intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue that could be considered preventable by the installation of traffic control signals.

Traffic Control Signal Review

The intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue was reviewed for the feasibility of installing traffic control signals. Based on an eight-hour count of pedestrians and vehicles, as well as the collision history, the technical justifications for the installation of traffic control signals are satisfied to the following extent:

Justification 1:	Minimum Vehicular Volume	11%
Justification 2:	Delay to Cross Traffic	35%
Justification 3:	Collision Hazard	7%

To meet the technical requirements for the installation of traffic control signals, one of the first two justifications must be 100 percent satisfied, or any two of the three justifications must be at least 80 percent satisfied. Based on the above results, the installation of traffic controls signals is not warranted.

Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) Review

The intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue was also reviewed for the feasibility of installing a pedestrian crossover (PXO). During the busiest eight-hour period of typical weekday 124 pedestrians, all of whom were delayed for 10 seconds or more, crossed Old Weston Road at Rockwell Avenue. Based on these volumes the warrants for the installation of a PXO have not been satisfied. However, based on significant distances to adjacent traffic control signals and the volume of pedestrians crossing at this intersection some form of pedestrian crossing protection should be installed at this intersection.

Based on the environmental criteria, including the width, speed limit, curvature of the road, and presence of driveways and TTC stops, installation of a PXO is not suitable and installation of traffic control signals is recommended at this intersection. A review of the environmental safety characteristics can be found in Appendix "A".

There will be a loss of five parking spaces on Old Weston Road and one permit parking space on Rockwell Avenue associated with the installation of traffic control signals at this intersection. Currently, there are 15 parking spaces and 6 parking permits issued for Rockwell Avenue, between Old Weston Road and Silverthorn Avenue. As such, there will still be reserve permit parking capacity available on Rockwell Avenue with the loss of one parking space.

Summary

Transportation Services recommends the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue to enhance pedestrian safety.

TTC has been consulted about this proposal, but as of this writing, no response has been received.

Councillor Ana Bailão has been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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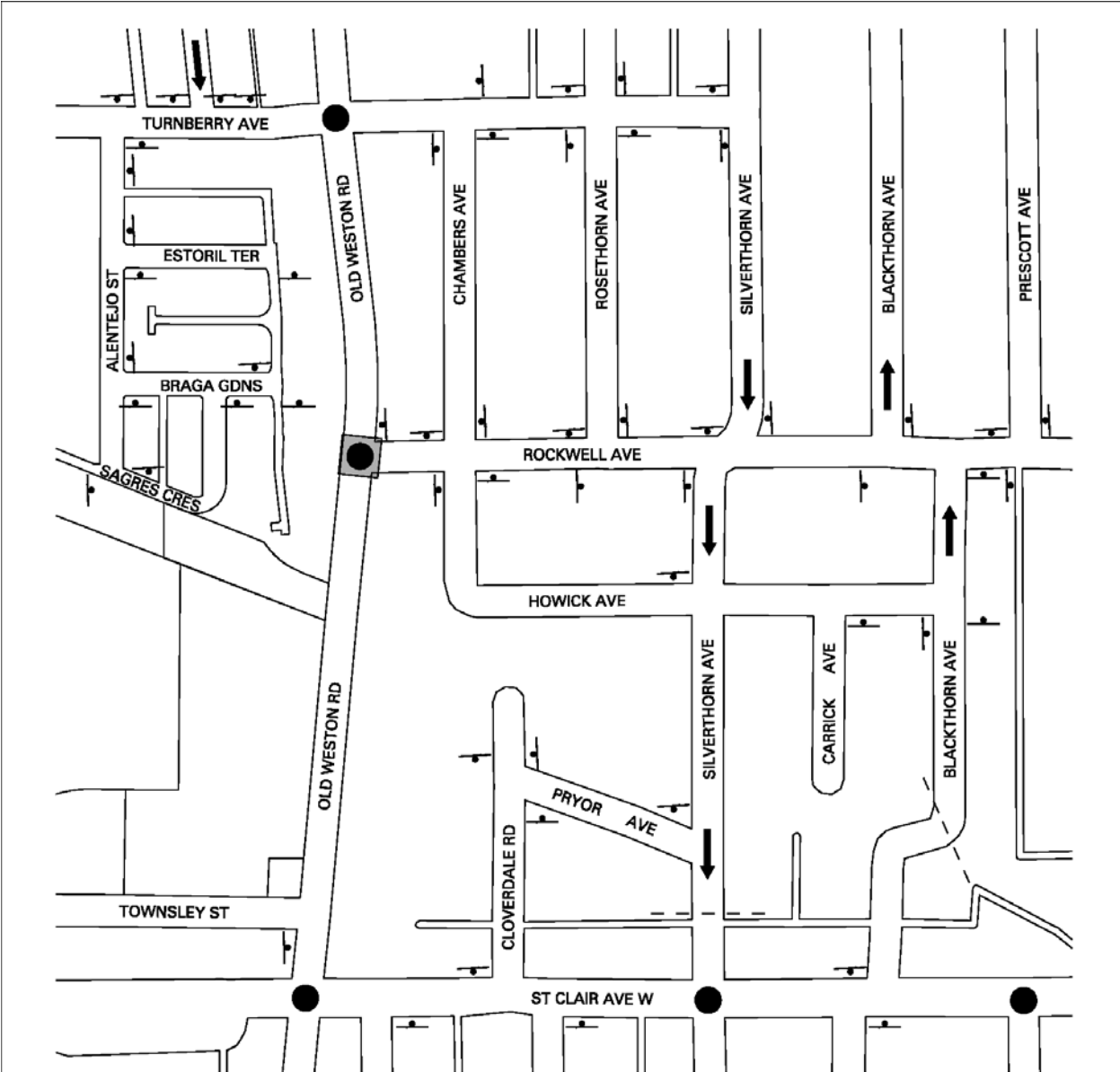
SIGNATURE

Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.,
Acting Director,
Traffic Management
Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-3584, dated November 2019.
2. Appendix A - Review of Environmental Safety Characteristics

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N.T.S.

NOTE:
 INFORMATION ON THIS PLAN IS BASED ON OFFICE RECORDS AND IS SUBJECT TO FIELD VERIFICATION.

LEGEND

- PROPOSED SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION
- EXISTING SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION
- EXISTING STOP SIGN
- EXISTING ONE WAY STREET
- TWO WAY TRAFFIC BEGINS

**OLD WESTON RD & ROCKWELL AVE:
 PROPOSED SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION**



Appendix "A" - Review of Environmental Safety Characteristics

Old Weston Road and Rockwell Avenue

Standard	Comments	Standard Met / Not Met
Speed - Vehicle operating speed less than 60 km/h	The unposted speed limit on Old Weston Road is 50 km/h.	Met
Width - Not more than four lanes wide on a two-way street or more than three lanes wide on a one-way street	Old Weston Road operates with two lanes in each direction.	Met
Volume - Traffic volume not more than 35,000 vehicles per day	Old Weston Road carries approximately 14,000 vehicles per day.	Met
Turns - No significant volume of turning movements	The volume of traffic turning to/from Old Weston Road is low (approx. 411 vehicles over busiest eight hours)	Met
Visibility - No visibility problems exist for either pedestrians or motorists	Old Weston Road curves just north of Rockwell Avenue.	Not Met
Loading - No loading zones (including TTC) in the immediate area	Nearside TTC stops are located on Old Weston Road at Rockwell Avenue.	Not Met
Driveways - No driveways or entrances nearby	Multiple driveways on the west side of Old Weston Road.	Not Met
Spacing - Not less than 200 metres to another pedestrian crossover or traffic control signal	St Clair Ave W (TCS) - 345 metres south Turnberry Ave (TCS) - 215 metres north	Met