



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Traffic Control Signals - Lumsden Avenue and Gledhill Avenue

Date:	December 12, 2008
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Beaches-East York, Ward 31
Reference Number:	Ts08212te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is reporting on the results of a review of the safety of the pedestrian crossover on Lumsden Avenue at Gledhill Avenue at the request of Councillor Davis, following a pedestrian fatality at this location in October of 2008.

The pedestrian crossover is operating properly, and visibility for drivers and pedestrians is satisfactory. A previous review of this pedestrian crossover had identified no operational or safety issues. Also, the number of pedestrians and vehicles using this intersection are not enough to justify the technical criteria for the installation of traffic control signals.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. Not authorize replacement of the pedestrian crossover with traffic control signals at the intersection of Lumsden Avenue and Gledhill Avenue.

Financial Impact

The adoption of the above-noted recommendation will not result in any financial impact.

If, however, City Council decides that it would be beneficial to replace the existing pedestrian crossover, on Lumsden Avenue at Gledhill Avenue, with traffic control signals, the estimated cost would be \$137,500. Funds in the amount of \$2,450,000 have been allocated in the 2009 Transportation Services Capital Budget for installation of traffic control signals. This work would be subject to competing priorities and available funding.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

This pedestrian crossover was reviewed as part of the overall review of pedestrian crossovers on minor arterial roadways in 2006. It was identified for enhancement (additional larger beacons, zebra striping) as part of a five year program. Also, this intersection was studied in August 2006 to determine the feasibility of installing traffic control signals to replace the pedestrian crossover. It was determined at that time that there were not enough pedestrians or vehicles using this intersection to justify converting the pedestrian crossover to traffic control signals.

In October 2008, a pedestrian crossing within this pedestrian crossover was struck and killed by a vehicle traveling westbound on Lumsden Avenue. In view of this recent pedestrian fatality, Councillor Janet Davis requested Transportation Services to review the safety of this pedestrian crossover and report on the feasibility of replacing it with traffic control signals.

COMMENTS

Roadway Characteristics

Lumsden Avenue and Gledhill Avenue form a four-way intersection. Gledhill Avenue traffic is controlled by “Stop” signs at Lumsden Avenue. The pedestrian crossover is located on Lumsden Avenue at the east side of Gledhill Avenue. This intersection is located approximately 360 metres east of the signalized intersection of Lumsden Avenue and Woodbine Avenue, and 260 metres west of the pedestrian crossover at Lumsden Avenue and Westlake Avenue.

Lumsden Avenue in the vicinity of Gledhill Avenue:

- is classified as a minor arterial road;
- operates two-way on a pavement width of 8.5 metres;
- carries public transit service (“Mortimer – 62” bus);
- has a daily traffic volume of approximately 11,000 vehicles; and
- has a speed limit of 40 km/h.

Gledhill Avenue in the vicinity of Lumsden Avenue:

- is classified as a local road;
- operates two-way on a pavement width of 8.5 metres;
- has a daily traffic volume of approximately 1,000 vehicles; and
- has a speed limit of 40 km/h;

Safety Review

Our review of the Toronto Police Service collision data records over a three year period ending December 31, 2007, revealed that 11 collisions were reported at this intersection. Of these collisions, four were of a type that are potentially preventable by the installation of traffic control signals. None of the collisions during this time period involved pedestrians.

Although not all of the information is available from the Toronto Police Services about the recent pedestrian fatality, we did review the collision report. This collision occurred at approximately 5:55 pm on October 17, 2008, and involved a westbound vehicle striking a pedestrian in the crosswalk. We do not know whether the flashing beacons were activated, and there is nothing in the report that explains why this collision occurred.

Our site investigation confirmed that all buttons and lights are in good operating condition at this pedestrian crossover, and visibility for eastbound and westbound motorists is good. There is no parking on either side of the street that would obstruct the driver's view of a pedestrian.

Previous Study Results

When this pedestrian crossover was assessed as part of the overall review of pedestrian crossovers on minor arterial roadways, there were no significant operational issues identified and no pedestrian collisions had occurred.

The results of the traffic signal study completed in 2006 are presented below. It should be noted that this is a fairly stable community and it is unlikely that the traffic and pedestrian volumes have changed significantly since this previous study.

Year Studied	Traffic Control Signal Warrants (Percent Compliance)			Warrant Criteria Satisfied	
	Minimum Vehicular Volume	Delay to Cross Traffic	Collision Hazard (updated)	Yes	No
2006	80%	45%	27%		X

Traffic control signals are technically justified when the following results are achieved:

- Either the "Minimum Vehicular Volume" or "Delay to Cross Traffic" warrant is 100 per cent satisfied, or
- Any two of the three warrants must be 80 per cent satisfied.

The numerical values indicate the intersection of Lumsden Avenue and Gledhill Avenue does not satisfy the installation warrants for traffic control signals.

Alternate Recommendation:

If Council determines that installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Lumsden Avenue and Gledhill Avenue would be beneficial, it will need to replace Recommendation No.1 of this report with the following:

1. Replace the pedestrian crossover on Lumsden Avenue, on the east side of Gledhill Avenue, with traffic control signals at the intersection of Lumsden Avenue and Gledhill Avenue.

Should traffic control signals be installed at this intersection, they would be operated such that the signal indications remain green for Lumsden Avenue unless a pedestrian pushes the button, or a vehicle is present on Gledhill Avenue. As a result, there would be no impact to transit service on Lumsden Avenue. TTC staff have indicated that they would have no concerns.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.
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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421F-9506, dated December 2008

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