



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Southbound Right Turn Lane Designation and Prohibited “U-Turns” – Morningside Avenue at Tams Road

Date:	May 6, 2010
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards:	Ward 43 – Scarborough East
Reference Number:	P:\2010\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\sc1049 D10-3633037, 3647960 Morningside Tams turn regulations

SUMMARY

This staff report is about two matters for which the Community Council does not have delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The purpose of this report is to advise on the need to enact a southbound designated right-turn lane and prohibit “U” turns for northbound and southbound traffic at the intersection of Morningside Avenue at Tams Road.

Community Council’s recommendation and City Council’s approval of the lane designation amendment and prohibited “U” turns will improve traffic operations, provide a safer environment to motorists and allow enforcement by the Toronto Police Service at the intersection of Morningside Avenue at Tams Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Scarborough District, recommends that Scarborough Community Council recommend that City Council:

1. Enact the one way traffic lanes and prohibited turn regulations, as identified in the Appendix 1 of this report.
2. Pass or amend the appropriate by-law(s) accordingly.

Financial Impact

The financial cost of installing the compulsory right turn lane signage is approximately \$500.00. Funding for these compulsory signs is available in the Transportation Services 2010 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TPO397.

The financial cost of installing the No U-Turn prohibition signage is approximately \$500.00. Funding for these prohibition signs is available in the Transportation Services 2010 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TPO397.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Traffic Control Signals were recently installed at this location, including a southbound right-turn lane.

COMMENTS

The existing lane configuration for the southbound approach consists of a dedicated left turn lane, two through lanes and an undedicated right turn lane. Northbound traffic consists of a dedicated left turn lane, one through lane and a shared through/right turn lane. The current posted speed limit on this portion of Morningside Avenue at Tams Road north of Military Trail is 60 Km/h.

Although existing pavement markings identify the southbound curb lane as a right turn lane, staff has confirmed that the occasional motorist could utilize the curb lane as a through lane. This action by motorists requires that they merge with the through traffic lane within the intersection, which is an unsafe practice and contrary to the Highway Traffic Act.

Transportation staff has confirmed that, at this intersection, a significant portion of southbound vehicles perform “U” turns and travel northbound on Morningside Avenue and access to Highway 401 east or westbound. This U-Turn movement may in part be attributed to traffic demand and queuing issues associated to University and College campuses in the vicinity. This poses a significant collision hazard that needs to be mitigated through U-Turn prohibitions. This is especially a concern due to the proximity of the Highway 401 Ramp Interchange north of this intersection and the speed of traffic coming to and from the interchange.

The designation of a right turn lane only and installation of No U-Turn signage will provide a safer environment for both pedestrians and motorists who utilize this intersection, as well as also providing assistance to the Toronto Police Services in enforcement of the right turn prohibition. Due to a TTC stop being located beside this right-turn lane, buses will be excepted from the right turn lane only regulation.

CONTACT

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix 1 – By-Law Amendment (enact)
2. Location Plan (Southbound Right Turn Lane Designation and U-Turn Signage – Morningside Avenue at Tams Road)

REVISED

Appendix 1

“One-Way Traffic Lanes”
Regulations to be Enacted

(In Column 1) Highway	(In Column 2) Between	(In Column 3) Lanes	(In Column 4) Times or Days	(In Column 5) Direction
Morningside Avenue and Tams Road	Tams Road and a point 107 metres north of Tams Road	Westerly Southbound	Anytime	Southbound right-turning (buses excepted)

“Prohibited Turns”
Regulations to be Enacted

(In Column 1) Intersection or Portion of Highway	(In Column 2) Direction	(In Column 3) Prohibited	(In Column 4) Times or Days
Morningside Avenue and Tams Road	Northbound and Southbound	U-Turns	Anytime