



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Removal of Left Turn Prohibitions: Lawrence Avenue East and Old Lawrence Avenue

Date:	June 6, 2011
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District
Wards:	Ward 34 – Don Valley West
Reference Number:	<i>ny11097</i>

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a bus service on Lawrence Avenue East, City Council approval of this report is required.

To obtain approval to remove the existing northbound and westbound left turn prohibitions at the intersection of Lawrence Avenue East and Old Lawrence Avenue.

The removal of the existing prohibited left turn regulations will improve access and egress to the parking lot on the south side of Lawrence Avenue for patrons of the adjacent park lands.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services Division, North York District recommends that City Council:

1. Approve the removal of the existing northbound and westbound prohibited left turns at anytime at the intersection of Lawrence Avenue East and the entrance to the Don Valley Ski Centre (Old Lawrence Avenue).

Financial Impact

All costs associated with removing the existing left turn restrictions at the intersection of Lawrence Avenue East and Old Lawrence Avenue are included within the Transportation Services Division’s 2011 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services Division, North York District, was requested by the Ward Councillor to review the feasibility of removing the existing left turn restrictions at the intersection of Lawrence Avenue East and Old Lawrence Avenue. Old Lawrence Avenue is now the entrance to Charles Sauriol Conservation Area. Patrons of the adjacent Charles Sauriol Conservation Area have indicated that circuitous access to and from the parking lot on the south side of Lawrence Avenue East created by the turn restrictions results in an unsafe situation for motorists.

COMMENTS

Lawrence Avenue East is designated as a major arterial roadway and Old Lawrence Avenue is a local roadway that functions as an access to a parking lot with a capacity for approximately six vehicles on the south side of Lawrence Avenue East. Currently northbound and westbound left turn movements are prohibited at anytime on Lawrence Avenue East at Old Lawrence Avenue (entrance to the former Don Valley Ski Centre).

Our investigation has verified the patrons concerns that the existing turn restrictions force patrons of the parking facility to perform circuitous manoeuvres which may include u-turns on Lawrence Avenue East in order to access or leave the parking facility. It is assumed that the majority of motorists using the parking facility at this location do so during the off-peak hours.

The removal of the turn restrictions at this location would not have a negative impact on the flow of traffic on Lawrence Avenue East or with TTC services. In this regard, this Division would support the removal of the existing left turn restrictions at this location.

The Ward Councillor supports the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Myles Currie
Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map –