Pedestrian Crossover - Mortimer Avenue at Carlaw Avenue

Date: February 25, 2011
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards: Toronto-Danforth - Ward 29
Reference Number: Ts2011063te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services has evaluated a request to install a pedestrian crossover on Mortimer Avenue at Carlaw Avenue.

The intersection of Mortimer and Carlaw Avenues is currently serviced with an identified school crossing, which has a crossing guard during school hours. Pedestrian need, at this intersection, is currently being met and the installation of a pedestrian crossover is not technically justified at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council not authorize the installation of a pedestrian crossover on Mortimer Avenue, at Carlaw Avenue.

Financial Impact

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

If, however, Toronto City Council decides the installation of a pedestrian crossover on Mortimer Avenue at Carlaw Avenue would be beneficial; the following financial impact will result:

1. The estimated cost for installing the pedestrian crossover will be $17,000.00. Funds for this installation are subject to availability and competing priorities in the Transportation Services Capital Program. Also, the added annual operating and maintenance costs associated with this installation are $2,500.00. These funds would come from the Transportation Services operating budget.
ISSUE BACKGROUND
At the request of area residents and in consultation with Councillor Mary Fragedakis, Transportation Services investigated the need for a pedestrian crossover on Mortimer Avenue at Carlaw Avenue.

COMMENTS

Roadway Characteristics
Mortimer Avenue is a minor arterial road 8.4 metres wide, carrying approximately 12,000 vehicles a day. Carlaw Avenue is a north/south local road which intersects Mortimer Avenue to form a typical four-leg intersection. “Stop” signs are posted on Carlaw Avenue at Mortimer Avenue, to establish vehicular right-of-way. Both roads have a 40 km/h maximum speed limit. There is a school crossing with a crossing guard on Mortimer Avenue at the west side of its intersection with Carlaw Avenue and appropriate school crossing signs are in place and in good condition.

The No. 62 TTC Bus route operates on Mortimer Avenue. On Mortimer Avenue at its intersection with Carlaw Avenue a nearside transit stop is provided on the north side and a far side transit stop and shelter are provided on the south side.

Traffic control signals are located on Mortimer Avenue approximately 200 metres to the east of Carlaw Avenue at Pape Avenue and approximately 180 metres to the west at Logan Avenue.

Investigation
Transportation Services’ staff reviewed the collision record, conducted a pedestrian delay study and evaluated the neighbourhood environment in determining if the installation of a pedestrian crossover is justified on Mortimer Avenue at Carlaw Avenue.

Collision statistics, provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending December 31, 2010, disclosed that 10 collisions were reported which occurred at the intersection of Mortimer Avenue and Carlaw Avenue. None of these collisions involved pedestrians.

The 8-hour pedestrian delay study conducted at this intersection recorded the number of pedestrian crossings on Mortimer Avenue within 50 metres either side of Carlaw Avenue, classified pedestrians by age and recorded delays.

For a pedestrian crossover to be technically warranted there should be a combination of:

- a minimum of 200 pedestrians crossing the road during the 8 peak hours of a typical weekday; and
- a minimum of 130 pedestrians delayed in excess of 10 seconds before being able to cross the road during the same 8-hour time period.
The survey recorded 210 pedestrians crossing Mortimer Avenue, consisting of 181 youths/adults and 29 assisted children in the vicinity of Carlaw Avenue. A total of 33 pedestrians experienced delays in excess of ten seconds.

Observations revealed there are sufficient gaps in traffic on Mortimer Avenue for pedestrians to cross the roadway safely and advance sight lines between pedestrians and motorists are good. Children, during school hours, are assisted at the school crossing by a crossing guard.

The technical warrants do not justify installation of a pedestrian crossover. The intersection of Mortimer Avenue and Carlaw Avenue is operating safely and installation of a pedestrian crossover is not recommended.

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SIGNATURE

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS
(1) Drawing No. 421G-0261, dated February 2011