Northbound U-Turn Study – McCowan Road at Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court

Date: March 1, 2012
To: Scarborough Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards: Ward 41, 42 – Scarborough-Rouge River
Reference Number: P:\2011\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\sc1226 D11-4549905 McCowan Milner/Channel Nine U-Turn

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for the installation of a U-Turn prohibition for northbound McCowan Road, north of Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court. Traffic studies reveal that a U-Turn Prohibition is justified. Prohibiting U-Turns will provide a safer environment for roadway users and allow enforcement by the Toronto Police Service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Scarborough District, recommends that:

1. City Council enact the "Prohibited Turns" regulation, as identified in the Appendix 1 of this report.

2. City Council pass or amend the appropriate by-law(s) accordingly.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The financial cost of installing the appropriate signage is approximately $350.00. Funding for this sign is available in the Transportation Services 2012 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TPO397.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Further to a request from an area resident, Transportation Services staff conducted U-turn studies during the a.m. and p.m. peak traffic periods. The results of the study reveal that a northbound U-Turn Prohibition on McCowan Road at Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court is justified.

COMMENTS

D11-4549905 McCowan Milner/Channel Nine U-Turn
The following characteristics describe the area around McCowan Road and Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court:

- McCowan Road is a north-south major arterial road with a 60 km/h speed limit and a daily traffic of approximately 40,000 vehicles per day (vpd).
- The land uses on McCowan Road in this area are a mix of office, apartment/condominium residential and commercial units.
- Channel Nine Court is a dead-end cul-de-sac road. A major Local and National Television studio is located at the west end of Channel Nine Court.
- Highway 401 interchange ramps are located approximately 350 metres south of Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court on McCowan Road.

U-Turn Study
To identify existing conditions, Transportation Services staff conducted U-Turn observation studies during the a.m. and p.m. peak traffic periods. The results of the studies confirmed that many vehicles were making northbound U-turns to subsequently travel back southbound on McCowan Road to access Channel Nine Court and Highway 401 east or westbound ramps. These movements conflict with traffic movements at this busy intersection.

Collision History
A review of the Toronto Police Services collision records revealed that in a three year period ending October 31, 2011 there have been zero U-turn related collisions reported at this intersection.

The installation of No U-Turn signage is expected to improve safety for all road users by minimizing vehicular conflicts and also allow for enforcement by the Toronto Police Service.

CONTACT
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SIGNATURE
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ATTACHMENTS
1. Appendix 1 – By-Law Amendment (enact)
2. Location Plan (Northbound U-Turn Study – McCowan Road at Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court)

Appendix 1
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection or Portion of Highway</th>
<th>Direction</th>
<th>Prohibited</th>
<th>Times or Days</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McCowan Road and Milner Avenue/Channel Nine Court</td>
<td>Northbound</td>
<td>U-Turn</td>
<td>Anytime</td>
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“Prohibited Turns”
Regulations to be Enacted