Left Turn Prohibition – Falstaff Avenue to Keele Street

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>March 5, 2013</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Etobicoke York Community Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>From:</td>
<td>Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District</td>
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<td>Wards:</td>
<td>Ward 12 – York South-Weston</td>
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<td>Reference Number:</td>
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**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to implement an eastbound left turn prohibition from Falstaff Avenue onto Keele Street that will apply at all times. This new regulation is intended to discourage eastbound left turning traffic from Falstaff Avenue onto Keele Street to access Hwy 401. This recommendation has been discussed with the area Councillor.

Since the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) provides service on Weston Road, City Council approval of this report is required.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Transportation Services recommends that City Council approve:

(1) Enacting an eastbound “No Left Turn Anytime” prohibition on Falstaff Avenue at Keele Street.

**Financial Impact**

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<th>Type of Funding</th>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Available within current budget</td>
<td>Transportation Services Operating Budget</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
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**ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Transportation Services discussed traffic concerns with the Ministry of Transportation and the area Councillor regarding the feasibility of implementing an eastbound left turn prohibition at Falstaff Avenue and Keele Street. Map of the area and subject intersection is Attachment 1.
COMMENTS
Falstaff Avenue is an 8.5 metre wide, two-way (east-west), local road with a speed limit of 40 km/h. The street has sidewalks on both sides. The surrounding land area consists of residential dwellings. The signalized intersection of Highway 401 eastbound off-ramp and Keele Street is located approximately 60 metres north of the subject intersection. Additionally, there are Traffic Control Signals located approximately 285 metres to the south at Keele Street and Rustic Road. An eastbound stop control exists at the intersection of Falstaff Avenue and Keele Street.

The Ministry of Transportation is currently working on the Keele Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project (over Highway 401). As part of this project, jersey barriers have been implemented on Keele Street at Falstaff Avenue which prevents eastbound vehicles from making a left turn from Falstaff Avenue to Keele Street. It has been observed that some vehicles are driving around these barriers to make a left turn onto Keele Street to access Highway 401.

Historically, the feasibility of installing Traffic Control Signals at the intersection of Falstaff Avenue and Keele Street was investigated; however, the Traffic Signal Warrant Criteria was not met. Additionally, the distance between Falstaff Avenue and Keele Street to the signalized intersection of the Highway 401 eastbound off-ramp and Keele Street is approximately 60 metres to the north. This is a substandard distance as compared to the suggested distance of approximately 215 metres between Traffic Control Signal devices, as outlined by the Ontario Traffic Manual. Due to the close proximity of the intersections, implementing signals at Keele Street and Falstaff Avenue could negatively impact traffic operations and safety on Keele Street.

Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending December 31, 2012, indicate eight angle related collisions at the intersection of Falstaff Avenue and Keele Street, indicating that the left turn movement from Falstaff Avenue creates conflicts between northbound and southbound vehicles.

Staff recommends continuing the practice of preventing left turns at Falstaff Avenue by enacting a “No Left Turn Anytime” prohibition for eastbound traffic on Falstaff Avenue at Keele Street to enhance safety and efficiency of traffic operations on both Falstaff Avenue and Keele Street. An island will be installed on Falstaff Avenue at Keele Street to channelize the right turns and discourage motorists from performing illegal left turn.

The Ministry of Transportation concurs with our recommendation of a "No Left Turn Anytime" prohibition for eastbound motorists from Falstaff Avenue to Keele Street.
CONTACT
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SIGNATURE

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Steven T. Kodama, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1  Map