



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Through Traffic Prohibition: Lawrence Avenue West and Allen Road (East Intersection)

Date:	May 15, 2013
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District
Wards:	Ward 15 – Eglinton-Lawrence
Reference Number:	<i>P:\2013\Cluster B\TRA\NorthYorkDistrict\ny13074</i>

SUMMARY

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

To obtain approval to prohibit northbound through traffic at any time to Allen Road northbound On-Ramp at Lawrence Avenue West and Allen Road (East Intersection) with 'Transit Vehicles Excepted' tab and to designate the westerly northbound lane on Lawrence Avenue West for right turns only.

The implementation of the through traffic prohibition from the northbound off ramp will facilitate the implementation of the appropriate traffic control signal adjustments at this intersection to improve the flow of westbound right turn movement at this intersection.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, North York District recommends that City Council:

1. Approve the installation of through traffic prohibition at any time on Allen Road Northbound On-Ramp at Lawrence Avenue West and Allen Road (East Intersection) with 'Transit Vehicles Excepted' tab.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the installation of the lane designation are included within the Transportation Services' 2013 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Although the road improvements that have been approved by City Council are not fully complete, Transportation Services, Traffic Operations Unit has been to the west and east intersections of Allen Road and Lawrence Avenue West to determine if both vehicular and pedestrian traffic flows are operating efficiently and safely.

COMMENTS

The former channelized right turn lane at the intersection of Allen Road and Lawrence Avenue West (East intersection) operated independently outside of the traffic signal control at Lawrence Avenue West and Allen Road (East Intersection). However, as part of the intersection reconstruction, the westbound right turn channel was eliminated. As such this movement is now incorporated as part of the signalized intersection at Lawrence Avenue West and Allen Road (East Intersection).

The lane configurations at this intersection post reconstruction are as follows:

- Westbound on Lawrence Avenue West, east of Allen Road Northbound On-Ramp consists of two westbound through traffic lanes, one westbound exclusive left turn lane and one westbound exclusive right turn lane.
- Northbound on Allen Road Northbound Off-Ramp at Lawrence Avenue West consists of an exclusive left turn lane and an exclusive right turn lane (pavement markings).

Our review has indicated that the overall traffic flow is operating efficiently, however some improvements with regards to the westbound right turn movements are required as this movement experience delays and extended queuing given its heavy volume. Therefore, in order to improve traffic operations on Lawrence Avenue West and Allen Road (East Intersection), staff identified an opportunity to improve the heavy westbound traffic flow accessing the Allen Road Northbound On-Ramp by providing signal modifications to include a westbound right turn green arrow phase to operate simultaneously with the northbound green phase.

In order to ensure the successful operation of the proposed westbound right turn green arrow feature, it is imperative that the northbound movement does not conflict with the westbound right turn movement. Although the current northbound off ramp lane configuration only permits right and left turns via the existing pavement markings, in order to ensure the absence of potential conflict between northbound movement and westbound right turn movement, a northbound through traffic prohibition is required.

Therefore, Staff is recommending the introduction of a northbound through traffic prohibition with a 'Transit Vehicles Excepted' tab to eliminate potential conflicts while operating westbound right turn green arrow feature simultaneously with the northbound traffic signal operation. The northbound through traffic prohibition would ensure the safe and efficient operation of both northbound movements as well as the westbound right turn movements at this intersection. These modifications will not have any negative impact on the existing off ramp movements and will provide with the appropriate signage to direct motorists accordingly.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendations contained within this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Pascoal D'Souza, C.E.T.
Acting Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map – Through Traffic Prohibition-Lawrence Avenue West at Allen Road (East Intersection)