Pedestrian Crossover – Spadina Road at Coulson Avenue

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>March 4, 2013</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Toronto and East York Community Council</td>
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<td>From:</td>
<td>Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District</td>
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<td>St. Paul's, Ward 22</td>
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**SUMMARY**

At the request of Councillor Josh Matlow, Transportation Services has evaluated the feasibility of installing a pedestrian crossover on Spadina Road at Coulson Avenue.

According to our studies the number of pedestrians crossing in this area is not sufficient to justify the installation of a pedestrian crossover.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council not approve the installation of a pedestrian crossover on Spadina Road at Coulson Avenue.

**Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact associated with the staff recommendation. Should Community Council decide that a pedestrian crossover should be installed, the estimated cost would be $30,000.00 and it would be funded from the Transportation Services Capital Program, subject to competing priorities. The added annual operation and maintenance costs of $4,000.00 associated with this installation would be funded by the annual Transportation Services Operating Budget.

**ISSUE BACKGROUND**

At the request of Councillor Josh Matlow, Transportation Services investigated the need for a pedestrian crossover at the intersection of Spadina Road and Coulson Avenue. We are reporting our findings and recommendation based on that investigation.
COMMENTS

Roadway Characteristics
Spadina Road, in the vicinity of Coulson Avenue, is a two-lane, minor arterial roadway with a speed limit of 40 km/h and a daily two-way traffic volume of approximately 17,000 vehicles. There is pay-and-display parking on the west side of Spadina Road in this vicinity. Coulson Avenue is a local roadway with a daily two-way traffic volume of 1,450 vehicles and speed limit of 40 km/h. Coulson Avenue intersects the east side of Spadina Road to form a "T-type" intersection and traffic entry onto Spadina Road is controlled by a "Stop" sign. Suydam Park is located on the west side of Spadina Road in the vicinity of Coulson Avenue. There is T.T.C. service on this section of Spadina Road provided by the 33 Forest Hill bus route.

Investigation
Transportation Services conducted a pedestrian volume and delay study, reviewed the collision records, and evaluated the environmental criteria to determine if the installation of a pedestrian crossover is justified on Spadina Road at Coulson Avenue.

Collision statistics provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending November 30, 2012 disclosed that two reported collisions had occurred at this intersection. These collisions did not involve a pedestrian and could not have been prevented by the installation of a pedestrian crossover.

The 8-hour pedestrian volume and delay study conducted at this intersection recorded the number of pedestrians and their delays in crossing Spadina Road in the vicinity of Coulson Avenue. 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 day; 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 pedestrian survey, conducted during the busiest eight-hour period on a typical weekday, revealed that a total of 138 pedestrians crossed Spadina Road in the vicinity of Coulson Avenue. Of these, 54 pedestrians were delayed 10 or more seconds while waiting to cross Spadina Road.

Based on the data collected, the pedestrian crossover warrant criteria is satisfied to the following extent:

- Pedestrian volume 69 per cent
- Pedestrian delay 42 per cent
To technically justify the installation of a pedestrian crossover both warrants must be satisfied to 100 per cent.

Based on these studies, the installation of a pedestrian crossover cannot be justified. Observations revealed there are sufficient gaps in traffic on Spadina Road for pedestrians to cross the roadway safely and sight lines between pedestrians and motorists are good.

Should Community Council decide that a pedestrian crossover be installed on Spadina Road at Coulson Avenue, approximately five parking spaces would be removed from the west side of Spadina Road.

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SIGNATURE

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Acting Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS
(1) Drawing No. 421G-1005, dated February 2013

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