



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Left-turn Prohibition – College Street and St. Clarens Avenue

Date:	September 12, 2013
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Davenport, Ward 18
Reference Number:	Ts2013162te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to rescind the eastbound left-turn prohibition at the intersection of College Street and St. Clarens Avenue. Currently, eastbound left turns are prohibited during the morning peak period. This regulation was enacted in 2008.

The proposed rescission of this prohibition will improve the access for area residents and will not negatively impact the Toronto Transit Commission service at this intersection.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council rescind the eastbound left-turn prohibition in effect from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, on College Street at St. Clarens Avenue.

Financial Impact

Funding for the removal of signs in the estimated amount of \$200.00 is available within the Transportation Services 2013 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor Bailão to report on the rescission of the eastbound left-turn prohibition at the intersection of College Street and St. Clarens Avenue.

COMMENTS

College Street is an east-west minor arterial road with a speed limit of 40 km/h and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 20,000 vehicles. TTC service on College Street is provided by the 506 College streetcar, which travels in the median lanes on a shared right-of-way with general traffic. St. Clarens Avenue is a local road that operates one-way in the northbound direction with a speed limit of 30 km/h, as traffic calming measures (speed humps) have been installed. St. Clarens Avenue has a daily traffic volume of about 800 vehicles south of College Street, and 1,100 vehicles north of College Street. Heavy trucks are prohibited on St. Clarens Avenue at all times and there is no TTC service provided. St. Clarens Avenue is controlled by a stop sign at College Street.

At the intersection of College Street and St. Clarens Avenue, eastbound left turns are prohibited between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday to Friday. This turn prohibition was enacted in 2008, along with a number of other changes to the traffic regulations on College Street and Queen Street West. The intent of the turn prohibition at College Street and St. Clarens Avenue was to improve the streetcar operations on this section of College Street.

Traffic counts undertaken at College Street and St. Clarens Avenue prior to the installation of the left-turn prohibition disclosed that during the morning peak hour there were about 20 eastbound left turns made. Traffic counts undertaken after the left-turn prohibition was enacted determined that a significant number of these movements were still being made illegally.

Additionally, the TTC has advised that it is their preference that if left turns are permitted on a streetcar route, they be allowed at intersections without traffic control signals. At unsignalized intersections there are generally more opportunities to make left turns, minimizing the impact on through movements, including TTC service. TTC has no objection to rescinding this turn prohibition.

Currently, during the morning, St. Clarens Avenue, north of College Street can only be accessed from the east, via a westbound right turn, or from the south by crossing College Street. Allowing this eastbound left turn will provide improved access for residents in this area.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Jacqueline White, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

(1) Drawing No. 421G-1192, dated September 2013

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