Exclusive Left Turn Lane – The West Mall and Wellesworth Drive

Date: July 16, 2014

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District

Wards: Ward 3 – Etobicoke Centre

Reference Number: p:\2014\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc140108-to

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to propose the installation of a one-way traffic lane anytime regulation for the westerly northbound lane on The West Mall, between Wellesworth Drive and a point 30.5 metres south, in the northbound left-turning direction.

It is appropriate to install an exclusive northbound left turn lane based on the existing lane configuration, observations and traffic counts.

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on The West Mall and Wellesworth Drive, City Council approval of this report is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council approve:

1. Enacting a one-way traffic lane anytime regulation for the westerly northbound lane on The West Mall, between Wellesworth Drive and a point 30.5 metres south, in the northbound left-turning direction.

Financial Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Funding</th>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available within current budget</td>
<td>Transportation Services Operating Budget</td>
<td>$900.00</td>
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ISSUE BACKGROUND
Transportation Services staff received a request from an area resident through 311, to investigate traffic operations at the intersection of The West Mall and Wellesworth Drive and determine if a designated northbound left turn lane would improve the operation and safety at the intersection. As the TTC operates daily bus service on this route, they were consulted and have expressed no objections with this proposal. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

COMMENTS
The West Mall is a four-lane collector roadway with a legal speed limit of 50 km/h. The West Mall at Wellesworth Drive is a three-legged intersection controlled by all-way stop. The south approach to the intersection has two northbound lanes. Motorists in the left lane primarily turn left onto Wellesworth Drive whereby curbside motorists, proceed northward through the intersection. North of the intersection, the roadway narrows suddenly to one lane.

Our observations at the intersection indicate that northbound motorists do treat the left lane as an exclusive left turn lane although it is not designated as such. Traffic counts conducted at the intersection indicate that the northbound left turn volume is the predominant movement. Although not observed during our study, the sudden lane drop north of the intersection does pose the potential for northbound sideswipe conflicts.

Based on the existing lane configuration, our observations and historical traffic counts, it is recommended that the northbound left lane on The West Mall approaching Wellesworth Drive be designated exclusively for left turning vehicles.

CONTACT
Blair Lagden, Engineering Technologist - Etobicoke York District
Phone: 416-394-8414; Fax: 416-394-8942
Email: blagden@toronto.ca
AFS20130

SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS
Attachment 1: Map – The West Mall and Wellesworth Drive