Exclusive Right Turn Lane – Islington Avenue at The Queensway

Date: July 7, 2014
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards: Ward 5 – Etobicoke-Lakeshore
Reference Number: p:\2014\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc140103-to

SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for the installation of a one-way traffic lane anytime regulation for the westerly southbound lane on Islington Avenue, between The Queensway and a point 30.5 metres north, in the southbound right-turning direction, buses exempted.

It is appropriate to install an exclusive westbound right turn lane based on the existing lane configuration and our observations.

Since the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates transit service on Islington Avenue, 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 southbound lane on Islington Avenue, between The Queensway and a point 30.5 metres north, in the southbound right-turning direction, buses exempted.

Financial Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Funding</th>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available within current budget</td>
<td>Transportation Services Operating Budget</td>
<td>$900.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ISSUE BACKGROUND
Transportation Services staff have received requests from motorists to designate the southbound curb lane on Islington Avenue approaching The Queensway for the exclusive use of right turning vehicles. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

COMMENTS
Islington Avenue and The Queensway is a multi-lane signalized intersection. Both streets are classified as major arterial roads. Southbound Islington Avenue approaching The Queensway has a four lane cross section which includes a dedicated left turn lane and three through lanes. However, given the through curb lane begins only approximately 50 metres north of The Queensway (at the laneway north of The Queensway), some motorists may incorrectly assume this lane is an exclusive right turn lane.

A recent traffic count conducted by staff at the north leg of the intersection of Islington Avenue and The Queensway during the afternoon peak traffic period (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) revealed that 334 (67%) of the total 499 vehicles recorded in the southbound curb lane made a right-turn onto The Queensway, while 165 vehicles proceeded through the intersection. Although no conflicts were observed in the receiving lanes south of the intersection, designating the southbound curb lane as an exclusive right-turn lane, buses exempted, will clearly define the operation of this lane at this intersection.

Based on the existing lane configuration and our observations, it is recommended that the southbound curb lane on Islington Avenue approaching The Queensway be designated exclusively for right turning vehicles, buses exempted.

CONTACT
Joe Sousa, Traffic Operations - Etobicoke York District
Phone: 416-394-8432; Fax: 416-394-8942
Email: jsousa@toronto.ca
AFS20119

SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1      Map