



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Through Restrictions (Bicycles Excepted): Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue

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| Date: | April 12, 2014 |
| To: | North York Community Council |
| From: | Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District |
| Wards: | Ward 23 – Willowdale |
| Reference Number: | <i>p:/ClusterB/TRA/NorthYorkDistrict/ny14046</i> |

SUMMARY

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

To obtain approval to allow bicycles to proceed during the times that northbound, southbound and eastbound through restrictions are in place at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue.

The implementation of bicycles excepted at the existing northbound and southbound through restrictions on Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue will permit through movements for bicycles.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, North York District recommends that:

1. City Council amend the existing by-law to delete northbound through, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue;
2. City Council amend the existing by-law to delete southbound through, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue;

3. City Council amend the existing by-law to delete eastbound right turn, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, buses excepted prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue;
4. City Council amend the existing by-law to install northbound through, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, bicycles excepted prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue;
5. City Council amend the existing by-law to install southbound through, 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, bicycles excepted prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue; and
6. City Council amend the existing by-law to install eastbound right turn, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, buses and bicycles excepted prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the installation of the bicycle excepted for the existing through restrictions are included within the Transportation Services 2014 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services, North York District, was requested by a resident to amend the existing northbound and southbound through restrictions at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue in order to exempt bicycles from the restriction.

The implementation of Bicycles Excepted at the existing through restriction at the intersection of Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue will permit the northbound, southbound and eastbound through movement of bicycles.

COMMENTS

Currently, motorists are prohibited from travelling northbound on Hilda Avenue through the intersection of Steeles Avenue West, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., Monday to Friday and southbound on Hilda Avenue through the intersection of Steeles Avenue West, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. In addition, eastbound right turns are prohibited on Steeles Avenue West at Hilda Avenue, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Monday to Friday, buses excepted.

The through restrictions were initially installed in order to address the potential impact that the traffic control signal installation would have on the residential communities on either side of Steeles Avenue West, specifically from traffic infiltration by motorists using Hilda Avenue as a convenient alternative to Yonge Street.

Since bicycles by definition are classified as vehicles under the Highway Traffic Act, the restricted through movements also apply to the cyclists riding their bicycles through the intersection during the prohibited times.

As the installation of the through restrictions were intended to reduce the impact on the adjacent communities from traffic infiltration caused by vehicles, there would be no impact on the adjacent communities from bicycles conducting northbound and southbound through movements.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map – Steeles Avenue West and Hilda Avenue –
Northbound and Southbound Through Restrictions (Bicycles
Excepted)