



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Lane Designations - Yonge Street at Eglinton Avenue**

<b>Date:</b>	October 29, 2015
<b>To:</b>	Public Works and Infrastructure
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Transportation Services
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 16, Ward 22
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2015\ClusterB\TRA\Toronto and East York District\PW2015151te.top.doc

**SUMMARY**

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Transportation Services is requesting approval to designate the traffic lanes as follows:

- Northbound easterly lane on Yonge Street, from Eglinton Avenue to a point 40 metres south for right-turns only, and
- Southbound westerly lane on Yonge Street, from Eglinton Avenue to a point 40 metres north for right-turns only.

The implementation of right-turn only lanes will improve the flow of northbound and southbound traffic on Yonge Street at Eglinton Avenue.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:**

1. City Council designate the easterly northbound lane on Yonge Street, from Eglinton Avenue to a point 40 metres south as right-turn only, buses exempted; and
2. City Council designate the westerly southbound lane on Yonge Street, from Eglinton Avenue to a point 40 metres north as right-turn only, buses exempted.

## **Financial Impact**

All costs associated with the necessary lane designation signage adjustments in the estimated amount of \$1,000.00 are available within the 2015 Operating Budget for Transportation Services.

The Deputy City Manager & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact statement."

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Yonge Street, in the vicinity of Eglinton Avenue, is classified as a major arterial roadway that operates with a daily two-way traffic volume of about 32,000 vehicles and has a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h. Transit service in the north-south direction is provided by the 97-Yonge Bus Route with the stops provided on the near sides of this intersection. A number of East-West Routes terminate at Eglinton Station, including the 5 - Avenue Rd, 32 - Eglinton West, 34 - Eglinton East, 51 - Leslie, 54 - Lawrence East, 56 - Leaside, 61 - Avenue Rd North, 100 - Flemingdon Park, and 103 - Mt. Pleasant North.

At the request of the Toronto Transit Commission, Transportation Services reviewed a request to prohibit motorists travelling on Yonge Street from undertaking through movements across Eglinton Avenue from the northbound and southbound curb lanes, with the exception of TTC vehicles.

## **COMMENTS**

Under the current operation, both the northbound and the southbound curb lanes on Yonge Street, approaching Eglinton Avenue, are designated with right-turn arrow paint markings on the roadway to indicate that these lanes are for right turns only (See Attachment 1). Furthermore, advisory signs are posted to indicate that these lanes should be used by motorists wishing to exit onto Eglinton Avenue, by way of "Right Lane Exits" signs.

However, under this operation, the posted signs and painted lane markings serve only as advisory guidelines to motorists. Therefore, motorists that choose to continue straight through from the curb lanes are not subject to enforcement. As this is the case, some drivers, instead of using the northbound/southbound curb lanes on the Yonge Street approach to Eglinton Avenue for right turns only, are effectively using these lanes to accelerate past and cut in front of motorists using the two adjacent through lanes. As there are only two traffic lanes operating north of Eglinton Avenue, on Yonge Street and two traffic lanes operating south of Eglinton Avenue, on Yonge Street, motorists that continue straight through the intersection from the right-turn lanes can create safety and traffic flow concerns resulting from three approaching lanes converging into two through lanes.

Transportation Services supports the installation of "Right Turn Only" regulatory signs with attached "Buses Excepted" tabs, on both the northbound and southbound approaches to this intersection. Amending the existing advisory northbound/southbound right turn only lanes to operate as regulatory restrictions will improve safety and traffic flow by

making it illegal for motorists to travel straight through the intersection from the right turn lanes. Further, exempting TTC buses from the proposed regulation will clarify to all motorists that only TTC buses are legally permitted to undertake through movements from the approaching northbound and southbound curb lanes on Yonge Street.

To improve safety and traffic flow at this intersection, the northbound/southbound right-turn lanes on Yonge Street at Eglinton Avenue should be by-lawed and the appropriate regulatory signage (black/white) should be installed to replace the advisory signage.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Stephen Buckley  
General Manager, Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1 – Area Map