Left Turn Prohibition Review – 831 Progress Avenue (East Driveway)

Date:  March 25, 2015

To:  Scarborough Community Council

From:  Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District

Wards:  Ward 38 – Scarborough Centre

Reference Number:  P:\2015\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\ SC1526 D14-6609588 - 831 Progress Ave, No Left Turn

SUMMARY

This staff report outlines the results of an assessment to determine the need and feasibility of prohibiting northbound left turns from the east driveway of No. 831 Progress Avenue, as requested by the business located at that address.

Based on an assessment of the sightlines at the driveway, observations of the operations at the driveway intersection with Progress Avenue, and a review of the collision history at this location, staff have concluded that a prohibition of northbound left turns from this driveway is not justified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council not approve a northbound left-turn prohibition at all times on Progress Avenue from the easterly driveway at No. 831 Progress Avenue, located on the south side of Progress Avenue approximately 120 metres west of Production Drive.

Financial Impact
There is no financial impact associated with this report. However, should Council approve the prohibited turn regulation, the financial cost of installing the left turn prohibition signs would be approximately $500.00. The funding for these signs would be available in the Transportation Services 2015 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TP0397.
ISSUE BACKGROUND
As a result of a request from the Economic Development office on behalf of a local business, Transportation Services staff reviewed the feasibility of prohibiting northbound left turns from the east driveway of 831 Progress Avenue, located approximately 120 metres west of Production Drive.

Currently, there are two driveways to access the business property located at 831 Progress Avenue. The driveways to 831 Progress Avenue are located on the south side of Progress Avenue between Bellamy Road North/Corporate Drive and Production Drive. The business has designated the west driveway as inbound only and the east driveway as outbound only. The business has installed advisory No Left Turn signs at the east driveway on private property. The signs are only visible to motorists exiting the east driveway.

Transportation Services staff reviewed vehicle turning movements exiting the east driveway during the morning and afternoon peak periods of a typical weekday. The results of our study indicated that the majority of vehicles exiting the driveway turned right. A few of the motorists turned left from the driveway. In order to travel westbound on Progress Avenue, a few of the motorists bypassed the advisory left turn prohibition by turning right from the driveway, then used nearby driveways or parking lots to make U-turn manoeuvres to proceed westerly.

A review of the five year collision history, for which we have the most current records (January 1, 2009 to October 31, 2013) revealed there was one reported collision involving a vehicle exiting the east driveway of 831 Progress Avenue. This collision in 2010 involved a northbound left-turn vehicle and a vehicle travelling eastbound. This collision record is not indicative of a safety issue at this location at this time.

COMMENTS
The following characteristics describe Progress Avenue:

- Progress Avenue is located south of Highway 401 and north of Ellesmere Road;
- The business property of 831 Progress Avenue is located east of Bellamy Road North/Corporate Drive and west of Markham Road;
- Progress Avenue is a four-lane minor arterial road with a regulatory speed limit of 60 km/h; and
- Sidewalks are located on both sides.
Considering that the sightlines are clear at the driveway, the majority of the vehicles turned right to exit the driveway, and the collision history not being indicative of a safety issue at this location at this time, staff have concluded that the prohibition of northbound left turns at the east driveway of 831 Progress Avenue is currently not justified.

CONTACT

Marko A. Oinonen, B.A. Sc., DPA, P. Eng.
Manager, Traffic Operations
Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Tel: 416-396-7148
Fax: 416-396-5641
E-Mail: moinone@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

____________________________________
John Mende, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Location Plan (Left Turn Prohibition Review – 831 Progress Avenue (East Driveway)