



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Turn Prohibitions – Lower Sherbourne Street and Lake Shore Boulevard East

Date:	August 10, 2015
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 28
Reference Number:	Ts2015132te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to prohibit southbound right-turns on a red signal at the intersection of Lower Sherbourne Street and Lake Shore Boulevard East. The proposed regulation is required to address safety concerns that will result from the upcoming removal of the right-turn channel. There are upright supports for the overhead F.G. Gardiner Expressway, located adjacent to the road, that block motorists' view of approaching traffic. This prohibition will prevent potential conflicts between southbound right-turning and eastbound straight-through motorists at this intersection.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council Prohibit southbound right-turns on a red signal from Lower Sherbourne Street to Lake Shore Boulevard East at all times.

Financial Impact

Funding for the installation of signs in the estimated amount of \$400.00 is available within the Transportation Services 2015 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of March 20, 2014, City Council adopted Item No. TE30.65, approving the removal of the westbound and southbound right-turn channels at the intersection of Lower Sherbourne Street and Lake Shore Boulevard East. The intention of these road alterations is to enhance the pedestrian and cycling environment at this intersection.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services reviewed the requirement to prohibit southbound right-turns on red at the intersection of Lower Sherbourne Street and Lake Shore Boulevard East. The upcoming removal of the right-turn channel will result in these movements being made through the intersection, where the sight lines may potentially be obstructed by the upright supports for the F.G. Gardiner Expressway.

COMMENTS

The intersection of Lower Sherbourne Street and Lake Shore Boulevard East is controlled by traffic signals. Lower Sherbourne Street is a north-south minor arterial road with a daily traffic volume of about 10,000 vehicles and a posted speed limit of 40 km/h. Lake Shore Boulevard East is an east-west major arterial road with a daily two-way traffic volume of about 30,000 vehicles and a posted speed limit of 60 km/h. TTC service is provided by the '75 Sherbourne' bus route on this section of Lower Sherbourne Street.

There is currently a southbound to westbound right-turn channel from Lower Sherbourne Street to Lake Shore Boulevard East. Additionally, the F. G. Gardiner Expressway crosses over this intersection and there is a westbound off-ramp from the expressway that splits into a through lane and a right-turn channel to northbound Lower Sherbourne Street. During the busiest eight-hour period of a typical weekday, about 1,400 southbound right-turns and 1,400 westbound right-turns are made at this intersection.

City Council has approved the removal of the westbound and southbound right-turn channels at this intersection, as part of the cycle track installation, to enhance the pedestrian and cycling environment (Item TE30.65). These right-turn movements will be brought within the existing traffic controls. As a result of these road alterations, the sight lines for turning motorists may potentially be obstructed by the upright supports for the F.G. Gardiner Expressway. These supports are located adjacent to the roadway. The construction has already begun for this project.

Transportation Services undertook a site visit to review the potential sight lines for southbound and westbound right-turning motorists. The review determined that the sight lines for southbound motorists are reduced by the upright supports for the F.G. Gardiner Expressway, located adjacent to the road on the northeast corner of the intersection. From a stopped position, a southbound motorist at the stop bar in the curb lane cannot view approaching traffic from the F. G. Gardiner Expressway off-ramp with sufficient time to undertake their movement safely.

The review did not identify any potential sight line concerns for westbound right-turning motorists. Generally, the view to approaching northbound traffic on Lower Sherbourne Street is clear, as the upright supports for the F.G. Gardiner Expressway have been set back a sufficient distance from the road.

Accordingly, it is recommended that southbound right-turns on red be prohibited at all times to prevent potential conflicts between southbound right-turning motorists and eastbound motorists at this intersection. These regulations will increase delays for motorists at this intersection.

Councillor Pam McConnell has been advised of the recommendations in this report.

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SIGNATURE

Kyp Perikleous
Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-1865, dated August 2015

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