Traffic Control Signals – Weston Road and Mainshep Road

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>December 11, 2015</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Etobicoke York Community Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>From:</td>
<td>Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District</td>
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<td>Wards:</td>
<td>Ward 7 – York West</td>
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**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for the installation of traffic control signals on Weston Road and Mainshep Road.

The installation of traffic control signals is justified as Traffic Control Signal Warrant requirements are achieved. The installation of traffic control signals will provide a safe and convenient access for vehicles and pedestrians crossing Weston Road.

Since the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) provides bus service on Weston Road, City Council approval of this report is required.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the installation of traffic control signals at Weston Road and Mainshep Road.

**Financial Impact**

The recommendations in this report have no financial impact. All costs associated with the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Weston Road and Mainshep Road will be assumed by the developer.
ISSUE BACKGROUND
At the Community Council meeting on November 10, 2015, Etobicoke York Community Council requested that Transportation Services staff report back to the January 19, 2016 meeting of the Community Council, on the feasibility of installing new traffic control signals at the intersection of Weston Road and Mainshep Road (EY10.50). Transportation Services staff conducted traffic studies and investigated the need for traffic control signals at the intersection of Weston Road and Mainshep Road. In addition, as per the Subdivision Agreement, the developer has submitted a letter of credit to cover the cost for the new traffic control signal. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

COMMENTS
Weston Road is a five lane "major arterial" road in the City of Toronto's Road Classification System. It has a northbound and southbound centre left turn lane. The speed limit is 50 km/h. Mainshep Road is classified as a "local" road. It is a 3-leg intersection currently controlled by a "Stop" sign on Mainshep Road. Traffic control signals are located approximately 250 metres to the north at Sheppard Avenue West and approximately 608 metres to the south at Starview Lane.

To assess traffic conditions, a turning movement count was conducted using the peak eight hours (7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.). The results were applied to the traffic control signal warrant analysis. Based on this most recent as well as previous studies, the results reveals that Weston Road and Mainshep Road fail to meet the minimum criteria to warrant traffic control signals. However, when the additional traffic volume generated by the new townhouse complex (240 units) and a shopping centre is applied to the most recent study, the projected warrant is achieved. These townhouse units are anticipated to be occupied in 2016/2017.

It was noted that there has been an increase in both traffic volumes and pedestrian crossing volumes since the previous study conducted in October of 2013, mainly due to ongoing development on the east side of Weston Road, south of Sheppard Avenue West. The study results are as follows:

**Thursday October 3, 2013**

a) Minimum Vehicular Volume  20 percent  
b) Delay to Cross Traffic  57 percent  

**Tuesday May 26, 2015**

a) Minimum Vehicular Volume  27 percent  
b) Delay to Cross Traffic  70 percent  

**Wednesday November 25, 2015**

a) Minimum Vehicular Volume  29 percent  
b) Delay to Cross Traffic  78 percent  

Traffic Control Signals – Weston Road and Mainshep Road
Projected Traffic Volume 2017
(As per the Traffic Impact Study Lindvest Subdivision)

a) Minimum Vehicular Volume  60 percent
b) Delay to Cross Traffic       100 percent

In order to meet the warrants, 100 percent compliance is required in one of the two categories or a minimum of 80 percent in each category. Given that warrant b) is 100 percent met based on 2017 projected traffic volume, Transportation Services recommends the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Weston Road and Mainshp Road. During our study, over 103 pedestrians crossed Weston Road at this intersection.

A review of the Toronto Police Service collision records during the past three years for which we have complete data from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014, reveals there have been three reported collisions which would be considered preventable with the installation of traffic control signals. In addition, during the same time period there have been no reported collisions involving pedestrians crossing Weston Road at the intersection of Mainshp Road.

The TTC provides bus service on Weston Road including northbound and southbound bus stops just north of Mainshp Road. The TTC has been advised of the proposed traffic control signals and have not indicated any concerns with the installation of traffic control signals. A pedestrian refuge island exists north of the intersection to protect pedestrians crossing Weston Road which will be removed with the installation of traffic control signals.

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SIGNATURE

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Vincent Sferrazza
Director, Transportation Services – Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map