Exclusive Right Turn Lane – Dundas Street West at East Mall Crescent

Date: March 8, 2016
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District
Wards: Ward 5 – Etobicoke-Lakeshore
Reference Number: p:\2016\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc160055-to

SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for the installation of a one-way traffic lane anytime regulation for the northerly westbound lane on Dundas Street West, between East Mall Crescent and a point 30.5 metres east, in the westbound right-turning direction, buses exempted.

It is appropriate to install an exclusive westbound right turn lane based on the existing lane configuration and our observations.

Since the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates transit service on Dundas Street West, City Council approval of this report is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS
Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve designating a one-way traffic lane anytime regulation for the northerly westbound lane on Dundas Street West, between East Mall Crescent and a point 30.5 metres east, in the westbound right-turning direction, buses exempted

Financial Impact
The estimated cost for the supply and installation of related signage and pavement markings is $500.00. The funds are included within the Transportation Services 2016 Operating Budget.
ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services staff have received requests from motorists to designate the westbound curb lane on Dundas Street West approaching East Mall Crescent for the exclusive use of right turning vehicles. A map of the area is Attachment 1.

COMMENTS

Dundas Street West and East Mall Crescent is a multi-lane signalized intersection. Dundas Street West is classified as major arterial road and East Mall Crescent is classified as a minor arterial road. Westbound Dundas Street West approaching East Mall Crescent has a five-lane cross section which includes a dedicated left turn lane and four through lanes. Intersection improvements were completed at this location last year, including the removal of the westbound and southbound right-turn channel islands. The westbound curb through lane at the east leg of the intersection begins only approximately 110 metres east of East Mall Crescent, and some motorists may incorrectly assume this lane is currently an exclusive right turn lane only. Furthermore, during the aforementioned construction activities last year, a right-turn arrow was pavement marked in the westbound curb lane, east of East Mall Crescent. The pavement marking is still visible, thus may contribute to driver confusion as to how this lane currently operates.

A recent site observation conducted by staff at the east leg of the intersection of Dundas Street West and East Mall Crescent during the afternoon peak traffic period (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) revealed that the vast majority of vehicles recorded in the westbound curb lane made a right-turn onto East Mall Crescent, while a very small number of vehicles including TTC buses and Mississauga Transit buses proceeded through the intersection. Although no conflicts were observed in the receiving lanes west of the intersection, designating the westbound curb lane as an exclusive right-turn lane, buses exempted, will clearly define the operation of this lane at this intersection.

Based on the existing lane configuration and our observations, it is recommended that the westbound curb lane on Dundas Street West approaching East Mall Crescent be designated exclusively for right turning vehicles, buses exempted.
CONTACT

Joe Sousa, Traffic Operations - Etobicoke York District
Phone: 416-394-8432; Fax: 416-394-8942
Email: jsousa@toronto.ca
AFS22858

SIGNATURE

________________________________________
Vincent Sferrazza
Director, Transportation Services – Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Map