SUMMARY

This report recommends that the existing eastbound right-turn lane pavement markings and regulatory signage at the intersection of Steeles Avenue East and Staines Road be by-lawed to make the existing regulations enforceable. The existing right turn lane signs and pavement markings define the lane usage in order to mitigate conflicts and define turning movements but, the corresponding regulations are not currently included in Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 950. Staff also recommend general changes to the pavement markings for eastbound and westbound through traffic in order to make lane usage clearer and safer.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council designate the southerly eastbound lane on Steeles Avenue East, between Staines Road and a point 130 metres west, for eastbound right turns only.

Financial Impact

The financial costs of modifying the pavement markings is approximately $7,000.00. The funds for these pavement markings is available in the Transportation Services 2016 Operating Budget, within Cost Centre TP0398. There are no costs associated with right-turn lane regulatory signage since it is existing.
ISSUE BACKGROUND
Transportation Services staff has reviewed the feasibility of designating the existing designated eastbound right-turn lane on Steeles Avenue East at Staines Road.

COMMENTS
The following characteristics describe the intersection of Steeles Avenue East and Staines Road:

- The intersection is located on Steeles Avenue East, east of Markham Road and west of Ninth Line.
- This "three-way" intersection is controlled by traffic control signals.
- Steeles Avenue East in the area of Staines Road is classified as a minor arterial roadway with a posted 60 km/h speed limit.
- Staines Road in the area of Steeles Avenue East has a road classification of a collector road (pending) and a posted regulatory speed limit of 40 km/h.
- Concrete sidewalks are located on both sides of Staines Road and there is an asphalt footpath on the south side of Steeles Avenue East, east of Staines Road.
- There are Toronto Transit Commission revenue routes on both of these roadways.
- A Toronto Transit Commission stop is located on the south side of Steeles Avenue East, just west of Staines Road.
- In the immediate vicinity of the subject intersection, the area on the south side is comprised of residential family dwellings and a golf course on the north side.

The adoption of this regulation is expected to improve safety for all road users by minimizing vehicular turning conflicts, and will also allow enforcement by Toronto Police Service.
Once designated, pavement markings in the area will generally be modified to make lane usage clearer by eliminating short second through lanes in both the east and west directions. These lanes are superfluous and could create a safety risk with queue jumping and merging since Steeles Avenue East returns to only one through lane in each direction approximately 100 metres beyond this intersection.

CONTACT
Marko A. Oinonen, B.A.Sc., DPA, P.Eng.
Manager, Traffic Operations, 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

KS:cr

ATTACHMENTS
1. Location Plan (Existing Lane Designations – Steeles Av. E. and Staines Rd.)