U-Turn Prohibition – Dupont Street at Salem Avenue

**SUMMARY**

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Dupont Street, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services is requesting approval to implement U-turn prohibitions at all times for east-west traffic on Dupont Street at Salem Avenue. The proposed implementation of a U-turn prohibition on Dupont Street at Salem Avenue will enhance the safety of motorists and pedestrians at the intersection.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District recommends that:

1. City Council approve the prohibition of U-turns at all times for east-west traffic on Dupont Street at Salem Avenue.

**Financial Impact**

All costs associated with the installation of signage are included within the Transportation Services 2016 Operating Budget estimates.

**ISSUE BACKGROUND**

Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District, was requested by Councillor Ana Bailão to report on the prohibition of east-west U-turns at all times on Dupont Street at Salem Avenue to address reported safety concerns.
COMMENTS

Dupont Street is an east-west four lane major arterial road with a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 24,000 vehicles. TTC service on Dupont Street is provided by '26 Dupont' bus and there are no stops provided at the intersection with Salem Avenue.

Salem Avenue intersects the south side of Dupont Street in a 'T'-type intersection. It is a local roadway with a pavement width of about 7.3 metres, a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 700 vehicles. Heavy vehicles are prohibited at all times and there is no TTC service provided on Salem Avenue.

There are currently no turn prohibitions in effect at the intersection of Dupont Street and Salem Avenue.

Traffic studies were undertaken on December 16, 2015 during the peak periods of the day to record the number of U-turns being made and to determine if these movements were resulting in any operation concerns. The studies did not record any U-turns being made during the morning peak period or the mid-day, off-peak period. During the p.m. peak period studies, four east-west U-turns were observed. One of these U-turns was made by a taxi proceeding along Dupont Street. The other three U-turns were made by eastbound motorists proceeding from a parked position, adjacent to the curb on the south side of Dupont Street. None of these four turns resulted in any safety or operational concerns for traffic or pedestrians on Dupont Street at Salem Avenue.

Collision statistics provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending October 31, 2015 disclosed that one collision had occurred at the intersection of Dupont Street at Salem Avenue. The reported collision did not involve a motorist undertaking a U-turn movement.

In view of the fact that the east-west U-turn movements are being made by motorists, and that this change will not interrupt the two-way flow of traffic, Transportation Services has no objections to the implementation of an east-west U-turn prohibition on Dupont Street at Salem Avenue.

The proposed prohibition will enhance the safety of motorists and pedestrians at the intersection.
Councillor Ana Bailão has been advised of the recommendation of this staff report.

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