Right Turn on Red Prohibition - Weston Road and Starview Lane

Date: October 23, 2017
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
Wards: Ward 7, York West

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

To enhance pedestrian safety in the vicinity of St. Basil-the-Great College School, Transportation Services staff recommends prohibiting right turns on red in the westbound direction at the intersection of Weston Road and Starview Lane during the operating hours of 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

This proposal will address the issue of conflicts between the high volume of pedestrians crossing the east side crosswalk and the westbound right turning vehicles on red.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council prohibit westbound right-turn on red signal movements from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at Starview Lane and Weston Road.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs associated with the installation of the turn prohibition are included within the Transportation Services 2017 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.
Transportation Services staff received a request from an area resident to assess the safety of the pedestrians crossing at the intersection of Weston Road and Starview Lane. The resident also requested staff investigate the feasibility of westbound right-turn-on-red prohibition at the traffic control signals during school hours. A map of the area is shown on Attachment 1.

According to the City of Toronto’s road classification system, Weston Road is a four-lane with a centre left turn lane major arterial roadway which runs north-south and operates two-way. The posted speed limit is 50 km/h and the daily two-way volume is approximately 24,970 vehicles. Starview Lane is a local road with one designated left turn lane and one right turn lane at the intersection. St. Basil-the-Great College School is located approximately 100 metres east of the intersection of Weston Road and Starview Lane. The school entrance is on the north side of Starview Lane.

A southbound Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) bus stop exist on the west side of Weston Road, just north of at Starview Lane. A northbound TTC bus stop is located on the east side of Weston Road, south of Jubilee Crescent. Adjacent traffic control signals on Weston road are located approximately 600 metres to the north at Mainshep Road, and approximately 700 metres to the south at Gaydon Avenue/Lilac Avenue.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending December 31st, 2016 disclosed no reportable collisions involving westbound right turning vehicles.

Staff conducted a traffic study at the intersection of Weston Road and Starview Lane on Wednesday October 11, 2017 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The westbound right-turning volumes are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Right Turning Vehicle Volume Counts at Intersection of Weston Road and Starview Lane

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Movement</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Total Right Turns</th>
<th>Right Turns on Red</th>
<th>% of Right Turns Completed on Red</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Westbound Right (Starview Lane to Weston Road)</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The traffic study revealed that 77 vehicles made westbound right turn on a red from Starview Lane to Weston Road during the morning peak period and 54 vehicles made westbound right turn on a red from Starview Lane to Weston Road during the afternoon peak period. The total number of vehicles observed making a right-turn on red during this traffic study were high, and conflicts between crossing pedestrians and vehicles...
were observed. Also, staff did note that all pedestrians crossing both in the morning and afternoon peak periods were students.

Table 2: The following table shows pedestrians volumes critical to the 'Westbound Right Turns on Red' prohibition proposed for this intersection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Pedestrians Crossing East Side Crosswalk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AM Peak (8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.)</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM Peak (2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The pedestrians study revealed that the north side and east side crosswalks are used by a large volume of pedestrians during the commencement and dismissal periods of St. Basil-the-Great College School. Given that the intersection of Weston Road and Starview Lane is in close proximity to St. Basil-the-Great College School, and used by students walking to/from school, prohibiting westbound right-turns on a red signal movement may reduce the potential for vehicular/pedestrian conflicts at this intersection. These turn restrictions will be in operation from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday only.

Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti has been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Steven Kodama, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

1. Location Plan (Right turn on red prohibition - Weston road and Starview Lane)
Location Plan (Right turn on red prohibition - Weston road and Starview Lane)