

Pedestrian Crossover Relocation - Carlaw Avenue and Langley Avenue

Date: August 10, 2017
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards: Ward 30, Toronto-Danforth

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services have reviewed the feasibility of relocating the Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) from the south intersection of Carlaw Avenue and Langley Avenue to the north intersection. Our assessment indicates that the PXO is appropriately located providing both northbound and southbound pedestrians on Carlaw Avenue with the most direct route to/from Pape Avenue Jr Public School.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District recommends that:

1. City Council deny the relocation of the existing Pedestrian Crossover located on Carlaw Avenue, immediately north of Langley Avenue (south intersection) to Carlaw Avenue, immediately north of Langley Avenue (north intersection).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting on April 5, 2016, adopted Item TE15.69 requesting Transportation Services to review the feasibility and desirability of relocating the PXO located immediately north of Langley Avenue (south intersection) to immediately north of Langley Avenue (north intersection), and to report back to Toronto and East York Community Council. The Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.TE15.69>

COMMENTS

Existing Conditions

Carlaw Avenue at Langley Avenue, is a minor arterial roadway which operates two-way (northbound and southbound) with a posted speed limit of 40 km/h. The pavement width is about 12.76 metres and there are two lanes in each direction. The following parking regulations are currently in effect on Carlaw Avenue, at Langley Avenue:

West Side:

- Parking and Standing during Snow Emergencies is prohibited

East Side:

- Stopping is prohibited between Simpson Avenue and a point 24 metres south of Langley Avenue, all times
- Parking and Standing during Snow Emergencies is prohibited

Northbound left turns are prohibited (bicycles excepted), from Carlaw Avenue to Langley Avenue, between the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

TTC service is provided on Carlaw Avenue by the '72 Pape' bus.

Transportation Services was requested to review the feasibility of relocating this PXO to the north end of Langley Avenue to improve pedestrian safety. Residents have noted that drivers making a northbound or southbound left-turn from Carlaw Avenue onto Langley Avenue would on occasion block the PXO crossing.

Field investigations revealed that the PXO on Carlaw Avenue at Langley Avenue is clearly visible. The over-head lights and push button activations are functioning, and all pavement markings are visible and in good repair. Observation studies conducted in May 2016 revealed that left-turning vehicles do block the PXO at times. However, vehicles did provide sufficient gaps for pedestrians to cross safely. During this field observation all pedestrians using the PXO crossed safely. The on-duty crossing guard also confirmed that the PXO operates safely, but mentioned that on occasion pedestrians will aggressively cross without pushing the button, or wait for her to stop traffic.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending December 31, 2016 revealed 2 reported collisions at the intersection of Carlaw Avenue and Langley Avenue. Of those two collisions, one involved a cyclist, in which the vehicle and cyclist made contact with each other while travelling in the southbound direction. The cyclist sustained minor injuries. No pedestrian collisions were reported.

The existing PXO on Carlaw Avenue is situated between the east and west segment of Langley Avenue. This location provides students attending Pape Avenue Jr Public School with a safe crossing point of Carlaw Avenue, and a direct route to/from the school located on the north side of Langley Avenue, east of Carlaw Avenue at 220 Langley Avenue.

Relocating the existing PXO further north on Carlaw Avenue (north of the west segment of Langley Avenue) would not provide pedestrians with a direct route to/from Pape Avenue Jr Public School. Northbound pedestrians on the west side of Carlaw Avenue would be required to cross the west segment of Langley Avenue, cross west to east on Carlaw Avenue, and then travel back south on Carlaw Avenue to the east segment of Langley Avenue. This indirect route could encourage non-compliance of the new PXO location by pedestrians as they may choose to continue to cross where the existing PXO is located, resulting in an increased potential for conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians.

In view of the above, Transportation Services does not recommend relocating the existing PXO.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

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