

## **Lane Designation - Avenue Road at St. Clair Avenue West**

**Date:** October 27, 2017  
**To:** Toronto and East York Community Council  
**From:** Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District  
**Wards:** Ward 22, St. Paul's

### **SUMMARY**

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to designate the northbound curb lane on Avenue Road at St. Clair Avenue West as "right turn only, buses excepted" in order to clearly define lane usage, mitigate any potential vehicular conflicts, and to allow for proper enforcement of the respective traffic signs under the Highway Traffic Act.

The proposed recommendation will address the Toronto Transit Commissions' (TTC) request to utilize the northbound right turn only lane as a queue jump lane to service the far side transit stop located approximately 19 metres north of St. Clair Avenue West.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. City Council designate the easterly northbound lane on Avenue Road, between St. Clair Avenue West and a point 97 metres south, for northbound right turns only, buses excepted.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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All costs associated with the installation of signs and pavement markings are included within the Transportation Services 2017 Operating Budget.

## DECISION HISTORY

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This report addresses a new initiative.

## COMMENTS

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At the request of the TTC, Transportation Services staff have reviewed the feasibility of implementing a 'bus excepted' exemption for the northbound right turn lane on Avenue Road at St. Clair Avenue West. Upon further review, the traffic by-law (Schedule XIX - One-way Traffic Lanes) disclosed that this lane designation has not been by-lawed.

Avenue Road at St. Clair Avenue West is a four-leg intersection controlled by traffic control signals. Both roads are classified as major arterial roadways, with regulatory speed limits of 50 km/h. TTC service on Avenue Road is provided on a shared right-of-way by the regular route '5 - Avenue Road' bus and the downtown express route '142 - Avenue Road Express' bus. TTC service on St. Clair Avenue West is provided on a semi-exclusive right-of-way by the '512 - St. Clair' streetcar.

Currently, northbound Avenue Road, south of St. Clair Avenue West, consists of a four lane cross section with a dedicated left-turn lane, two through lanes and a right turn lane. North of the intersection, there are three receiving lanes that merge to two lanes immediately north of St. Clair Avenue West. As result of the existing lane configuration, staff has received complaints that vehicles often use the right turn lane to proceed straight through St. Clair Avenue West to by-pass the queue of vehicles in the two northbound through lanes.

TTC has requested the use of the northbound curb lane as a queue jump lane in order to permit transit vehicles to travel straight through the intersection to service the far side transit stop located approximately 19 metres north of St. Clair Avenue West.

The formal designation of the curb lane as a right-turn only lane will legalize the existing signage already installed in the field. It will also allow for enforcement by Toronto Police Services of this lane designation under the Highway Traffic Act and the bus exception will allow TTC buses to proceed through St. Clair Avenue West to service the far side transit stop.

Councillor Josh Matlow has been advised of the recommendations in this staff report.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Dave Twaddle, C.E.T.  
Acting Director, Transportation Services  
Toronto and East York District

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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1. Drawing No. 421G-2721, dated October 2017

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