

Traffic Control Signals - Bathurst Street at Melgund Road

Date: June 7, 2018
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards: Ward 21, St. Paul's

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to install traffic control signals at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Melgund Road. This installation will provide pedestrians with a protected crossing area and will also provide an increased level of safety for all road users at this intersection.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council approve the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Melgund Road.
2. City Council prohibit parking on the north side of Melgund Road between Bathurst Street and a point 15 metres east.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of installing the traffic control signals is \$180,000.00.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

In response to a request from Councillor Joe Mihevc, Transportation Services reviewed the need for a pedestrian crossing facility on Bathurst Street between Vaughan Road and St. Clair Avenue West.

Bathurst Street, is a four-lane major arterial road with a daily traffic volume of approximately 25,000 vehicles and a maximum speed limit of 40 km/h. Melgund Road is an 8.5 metre wide local road that intersects the east side of Bathurst Street to form a "T-type" intersection. Vaughan Road intersects the west side of Bathurst Street approximately 30 metres south of Melgund Road. Traffic control signals are located on Bathurst Street approximately 130 metres north of Melgund Road at St. Clair Avenue West and approximately 230 metres south of Melgund Road at Nina Street. The Wychwood branch of the Toronto Public Library is located at the north-east corner of Bathurst Street and Melgund Road. The TTC operates a transit service on Bathurst Street.

Based on traffic counts and collision history the installation of traffic control signals or a pedestrian crossover are not warranted on Bathurst Street at Vaughan Road. During our eight hour study at this intersection, 83 pedestrians were recorded crossing Bathurst Street and of those, 22 were delayed greater than 10 seconds in crossing. However, our study at Bathurst Street and Melgund Road disclosed that during an eight-hour peak period, 235 pedestrians were recorded crossing Bathurst Street and of those, 125 were delayed greater than 10 seconds in crossing. A minimum of 218 pedestrian crossings is required with at least 111 delayed more than 10 seconds to warrant additional crossing protection at this location.

Based on the pedestrian volumes and delays, the installation of a pedestrian crossover is technically justified at Bathurst Street and Melgund Road. For operational and safety reasons pedestrian crossovers are often not appropriate on major arterial roads in the City of Toronto. The installation of traffic control signals would be a better option at this intersection. The traffic control signals would provide an enhanced level of safety for pedestrians crossing Bathurst Street, as well as for all road users at this intersection.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending December 31, 2017, found two reported collisions at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Melgund Road. Neither of these collisions involved a pedestrian and one may have been preventable by the installation of a traffic signal. No injuries were reported.

It should be noted that under the provisions of the Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 950, parking is prohibited within 30.5 metres of all signalized intersections, unless otherwise authorized by a specific bylaw regulation. At signalized intersections where the traffic volume is relatively minor, a reduction in the length of the corner parking prohibition may be considered on a site-specific basis. To minimize the loss of parking on Melgund Road, Transportation Services is recommending a 15-metre parking prohibition be implemented on the north side of Melgund Road, east of Bathurst Street, as per Recommendation No. 2 of this report.

Transportation Services have advised the Toronto Transit Commission about the proposed traffic control signal installation. The traffic control signal will include a transit priority feature to minimize any delays for transit vehicles on Bathurst Street.

Councillor Joe Mihevc has been advised of the recommendations of this report.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-3057, dated June 2018

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