Pedestrian Crossing - Moore Avenue at Beltline Trail

Date: October 2, 2019
To: Infrastructure and Environment Committee
From: General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 11, University - Rosedale, Ward 15, Don Valley West

SUMMARY

This report is submitted to Infrastructure and Environment Committee as Moore Avenue forms a shared boundary between the Toronto and East York Community Council and the North York Community Council.

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Moore Avenue, City Council approval of this report is required. Transportation Services is requesting Infrastructure and Environment Committee approval to authorize the installation of a pedestrian crossover on Moore Avenue at the Beltline Trail. Based on the study results, the pedestrian crossover warrants are not satisfied at this location as the minimal delay justification was not met. However, this location provides direct access to the Beltline Trail, is heavily used, and has limited sitelines. Providing a pedestrian crossover on Moore Avenue at the Beltline Trail will assist pedestrian crossings and enhance safety for all road users.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the installation of a pedestrian crossover on Moore Avenue at the Beltline Trail.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The pedestrian crossover installation costs are estimated to be $50,000.00. Funding is available within the 2019 – 2028 Capital Budget & Plan for Transportation Services.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.
DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by Councillor Mike Layton, on behalf of area residents, to investigate the feasibility of installing a pedestrian crossover on Moore Avenue at the Beltline Trail that will assist pedestrian crossings and enhance safety for all road users.

Existing Conditions
Moore Avenue, between Mount Pleasant Road and Bayview Avenue is a minor arterial roadway operating with one lane in each direction on a pavement width of about 12 metres. There is a dedicated bicycle lane for each direction. It has a posted speed limit of 40 km/h and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 16,000 vehicles. TTC service on Moore Avenue is provided by the "88 South Leaside" bus.

The Beltline Trail is a 9 km cycling and walking rail trail. It consists of three sections, the York Beltline Trail west of Allen Road, the Kay Gardner Beltline Park from Allen Road to Mount Pleasant Road, and the Ravine Beltline Trail south of Mount Pleasant Cemetery through the Moore Park Ravine. The linear park passes through the neighbourhoods of Rosedale, Moore Park, Forest Hill, Chaplin Estates, and Fairbank.

The trail intersects Moore Avenue, south of the Mount Pleasant Cemetery. There are curves east and west of the trail crossing that may limit visibility of pedestrians wishing to cross. Currently, there is no controlled crossing at this location.

Collision Review
Collision statistics provided by Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending December 31, 2018 disclosed that no collisions had occurred on this segment of Moore Avenue.

Pedestrian Crossing Protection
On September 24, 2017 eight-hour pedestrian crossover studies were conducted on Moore Avenue, to the east and west of the Beltline Trail. The results of these studies indicate a total of 226 and 242 pedestrians crossing Moore Avenue at the two areas respectively. Of these 468 pedestrians, none were delayed more than ten seconds.

The numerical warrants for the types of pedestrian crossovers used in the City of Toronto requires a minimum of 200 pedestrians over eight hours, of which at least 130 must be delayed more than ten seconds. In order to technically justify the installation of a pedestrian crossover, both warrants must be satisfied to 100 percent. Based on the study results, the pedestrian crossover warrants are not satisfied at this location as the pedestrian delay justification was not met.
The Beltline Trail is currently heavily used for walking, running, cycling, dog walking and passive recreation and viewed as a very important recreational amenity for the City of Toronto. Given that the existing pedestrian crossing volumes are quite high at this location, providing a controlled pedestrian crossing would help enhance safety for all using the trail while crossing Moore Avenue. A pedestrian crossover also enhances driver expectation, where sitelines are limited, by providing notification that a pedestrian is wishing to cross at this location through the flashing beacons.

Councillors Mike Layton and Jaye Robinson have been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

**CONTACT**

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**SIGNATURE**

Barbara Gray
General Manager
Transportation Services

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Moore Avenue and Beltline Trail Proposed Pedestrian Crossover Location
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