

U-Turn Prohibition – Dixon Road

Date: March 5, 2020
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 1 - Etobicoke North
Ward 2 – Etobicoke Centre

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates bus service on Dixon Road, City Council approval of this report is required. The TTC has been advised of this matter.

The purpose of this report is to prohibit eastbound U-turns at all times on Dixon Road, between Martin Grove Road and Celestine Drive. This proposed prohibition will address traffic safety concerns in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit eastbound U-turn movements at all times on Dixon Road, between Martin Grove Road and Celestine Drive.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for the installation of the U-turn signs is \$1,000.00. These funds are included within the Transportation Services 2020 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services staff received a request from Councillor Michael Ford, and an area resident, to prohibit eastbound U-turns on Dixon Road, in the area of Highway 401. The concern being that because of congestion eastbound on Highway 401, motorists will exit the highway onto Dixon Road, perform a U-turn across three lanes of traffic and

then re-enter the highway via the on-ramp on the north side. A map of the area is shown on Attachment 1.

Dixon Road is a major arterial roadway with a seven lane urban cross-section (i.e., curb and gutter) and sidewalks located on both sides of the street. The speed limit on Dixon Road is 50 km/h. Highway 401 on-ramps and off-ramps are located within the subject road section.

Observations conducted by Transportation Services staff indicate that a large number of eastbound motorists make U-turns on Dixon Road at and near the Highway 401 ramps. During the two-hour morning peak traffic period, 156 vehicles were recorded completing an eastbound to westbound U-turn. In addition, during the afternoon two-hour peak, we recorded 19 vehicles completing the U turn within the subject area. Considering the traffic volumes in the area and that most of the motorists observed completing the U-turns did so to queue jump the slow moving traffic on Highway 401, it is recommended that eastbound to westbound U-turns be prohibited.

Based on Transportation Services' review of this matter, it is recommended that eastbound U-turns be prohibited at all times on Dixon Road, between Martin Grove Road and Celestine Drive. This proposed prohibition will help deter eastbound U-turn manoeuvres, and enhance traffic operations and safety in the area.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P. Eng.
Acting Director, Traffic Management
Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Location Plan (U-Turn Prohibition - Dixon Road)

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