

School Bus Loading Zone - Shoreham Drive

Date: March 12, 2020
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 7 – Humber River - Black Creek

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

To address safety concerns and congestion in the area of St. Augustine Catholic School (98 Shoreham Drive), it is recommended that the designated school bus loading zone on the north side of Shoreham Drive be relocated and extended to accommodate school buses loading and discharging students. This amendment will improve traffic operations, address concerns regarding traffic congestion and safety while also providing additional facilities for drop-off and pick-up of school children. This recommendation is the result of consultation with the ward Councillor and the Toronto Catholic School Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Etobicoke York Community Council rescind the existing stopping prohibition in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday" on the north side of Shoreham Drive, from a point 152.5 metres east of Bamford Crescent to a point 91.5 metres west of Gosford Boulevard.
2. Etobicoke York Community Council rescind the existing designated school bus loading zone in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the north side of Shoreham Drive, from a point 90 metres west of Gosford Boulevard to a point 30 metres west thereof.
3. Etobicoke York Community Council designate a school bus loading zone to be in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the north side of Shoreham Drive, from a point 156.3 metres west of Gosford Boulevard to a point 53.7 metres further west.
4. Etobicoke York Community Council authorize parking for a maximum period of 10 minutes from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the north side of Shoreham Drive, between a point 90 metres west of Gosford Boulevard and a point 66.3 metres further west.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for signage installation related to the proposed school bus loading zone is \$1,000.00. These funds are included within the Transportation Services' 2019 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of December 3, 2019, Etobicoke York Community Council referred this Item to the Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services for community consultation, Item EY11.13 (Shoreham Drive – School Bus Loading Zone).

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EY11.13>

COMMENTS

Transportation Services staff have investigated various traffic concerns in the area of St. Augustine Catholic School. Currently, St. Augustine Catholic School has two small school buses or one large school bus loading/unloading students from the street because this operation cannot be accommodated on-site. The Toronto Catholic School Board specified that a school bus loading zone for one large bus would be sufficient given that the current school bus loading/unloading activities are staggered. A map of the area is shown on Attachment 1.

Shoreham Drive, in the residential community west of Jane Street and north of Finch Avenue West, is classified as a "collector" roadway. Shoreham Drive operates two-way traffic east and west between Jane Street and the west limit of the road and has a posted speed limit of 40 km/h in the school area. Sidewalks are present on both sides of the street.

St. Augustine Catholic School is located on the north side of Shoreham Drive, west of Gosford Boulevard. Currently, parking is prohibited from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday on the south side of Shoreham Drive from Gosford Boulevard to a point 208 metres west. Stopping is prohibited from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday on the north side of Shoreham Drive, from a point 152.5 metres east of Bamford Crescent to a point 91.5 metres west of Gosford Boulevard.

After consultation with the Toronto Catholic School Board, Transportation Services recommends providing a student pick-up and drop-off area. Parking will be allow for a maximum period of 10 minutes, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday on the north side of Shoreham Drive, between a point 90 metres west of Gosford Boulevard and a point 66.3 metres further west. This will allow parking for approximately 12 cars in this student pick-up and drop-off area.

The current School Bus Loading Zone will be relocated on Shoreham Drive further west to align the school bus doors with St. Augustine Catholic School entrance and walkway. The school bus loading zone will also be extended to the west end of the school property and act as a No Stopping area to prevent motorist from parking in this area. Under the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, school buses within a designated school bus loading zone are not required to have their red flashing lights and stop arm activated during the boarding and alighting of passengers, thus reducing vehicle delay and traffic congestion on a given street.

Based on our assessment, the proposed measures will enhance safety for children, minimize conflicts between private vehicles and school buses, and improve loading operations during peak arrival and dismissal times at this school.

The ward Councillor consulted with the community on January 28, 2020 and supports staffs recommendations in this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Acting Director, Traffic Management
Transportation Services

ATTACHMENT

1. Location Plan (Shoreham Drive - School Bus Loading Zone)

Attachment 1: Location Plan (Shoreham Drive - School Bus Loading Zone)

