



REPORT FOR ACTION

Parking and Traffic Regulation Amendments – Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens

Date: October 1, 2020
To: Etobicoke York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 3 – Etobicoke Lakeshore

SUMMARY

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

This report presents the results of Transportation Services' traffic study conducted at the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens to determine the feasibility for all-way stop control.

In addition, Transportation Services is recommending that parking be prohibited at all times on the west side of Long Branch Avenue between Lake Shore Boulevard West and the north limit of Long Branch Avenue, the east side of Long Branch Avenue between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Eastwood Park Gardens and on the north side of Eastwood Park Gardens from the east end of the road to the west end of the road. This is in response to concerns raised by area residents and in consultation with the Ward Councillor.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Etobicoke York Community Council not approve the installation of all-way stop control at the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens.
2. Etobicoke York Community Council designate Long Branch Avenue, between the north limit of Lake Shore Boulevard West and the north end of Long Branch Avenue, as a through highway.
3. Etobicoke York Community Council prohibit parking at all times on the west side of Long Branch Avenue, between Lake Shore Boulevard West and the north end of Long Branch Avenue.
4. Etobicoke York Community Council prohibit parking at all times on the east side of Long Branch Avenue, between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Eastwood Park Gardens.
5. Etobicoke York Community Council prohibit parking at all times on the north side of Eastwood Park Gardens, between the east end of Eastwood Park Gardens and the west end of Eastwood Park Gardens.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The signage costs associated with the proposed amendments are funded by the developer (Minto).

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services received a request from the Ward Councillor and area residents to review the parking regulations on Eastwood Park gardens and on Long Branch Avenue, north of Lake Shore Boulevard. In addition, staff were requested to review the need for all-way stop control at the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens. A map of the area is shown on Attachment 1.

Long Branch Avenue, north of Lake Shore Boulevard West and Eastwood Park Gardens are both classified in the City of Toronto's Road Classification System as "local" roads. Both streets have an urban cross-section (curb and gutter). Sidewalks are located on both sides of both streets. The regulatory speed limit on Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens is 50 km/h. Syd Cole Park is located on the northeast corner of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens. Eastwood Park

Gardens is 8.5 metres wide. Long Branch Avenue is 11.0 metres wide between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Eastwood Park Gardens, and is 8.0 metres wide north of Eastwood Park Gardens.

The subject section of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens are both new roadways within what was a former industrial property that has been redeveloped into a residential community. The recommendations within the development site plan approval proposed stop controls for eastbound and westbound traffic on Eastwood Park Gardens at Long Branch Avenue. These signs are currently in place and were installed by the developer during construction.

To address the request for additional stop controls at the subject intersection, a four-hour turning movement count was conducted during the morning and afternoon peak traffic periods on Thursday, November 7, 2019. The justification for the installation of all-way stop control is subject to a technical warrant adopted by City Council, which is based on collision history and traffic volumes. Based on the findings of the study, the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens does not currently meet the warrant criteria for all-way stop control. The study results are summarized in Attachment 2.

Traffic Operations staff concur that the current location of the stop controls at the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens, for eastbound and westbound traffic on Eastwood Park Gardens, is most appropriate. Therefore, in order to legalize the existing stop controls we are recommending that Long Branch Avenue from Lake Shore Boulevard West and the north limit of the street be designated as a "Through Highway". Therefore, any street that approaches Long Branch Avenue, unless otherwise by-lawed, is required to stop.

Although some parking signs have been installed on the subject section of Long Branch Avenue and on Eastwood Park Gardens east of Long Branch Avenue, these signs were installed by the developer and do not currently have any legal authority. In addition, some of the posted signs (i.e., fire route) on the west side of Long Branch Avenue, north of Eastwood Park Gardens, are not appropriate and will require replacing.

Transportation Services, in consultation with the Ward Councillor and area residents, recommends that parking be prohibited on one side of both streets at all times, to ensure that two-way traffic can be maintained on both streets.

In addition, as part of the site plan agreement for the development, it was recommended that parking be prohibited on both sides of Long Branch Avenue between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Eastwood Park Gardens. Traffic Operations staff concur with this recommendation, based on the road width and the lane configuration within this road section.

Given that "No Parking" signs are currently posted on the west side of Long Branch Avenue, north of Eastwood Park Gardens, and that the fire hydrants are also located on the west side, it is recommended that parking be prohibited at all times on the west side of Long Branch Avenue to match these conditions.

Currently, "No Parking" signs are posted on the south side of Eastwood Park Gardens, east of Long Branch Avenue. There are currently no posted regulations on Eastwood Park Gardens west of Long Branch Avenue. It is recommended that parking be prohibited at all times on the entire north side of Eastwood Park Gardens. This will ensure that the fire hydrants that are located on the north side of Eastwood Park Gardens are kept clear. In addition, the playground within Syd Cole Park is located on the north side of Eastwood Park Gardens, near the east end of Eastwood Park Gardens. As part of the future development immediately to the east, it is proposed that the existing parkland will be expanded further east into this new development. Prohibiting parking will reduce the potential for vehicles to be parked abutting the playground and maintain visibility for motorists in the area.

Given these factors, it was determined that prohibiting parking on the entire north side of Eastwood Park Gardens was the best option. In addition, Transportation Services will be installing signs prohibiting parking within the turning basins and within 15 metres of the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens, on all approaches.

These prohibitions will reduce congestion on Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens, in addition to maintaining visibility for pedestrians and motorists at the intersection of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens.

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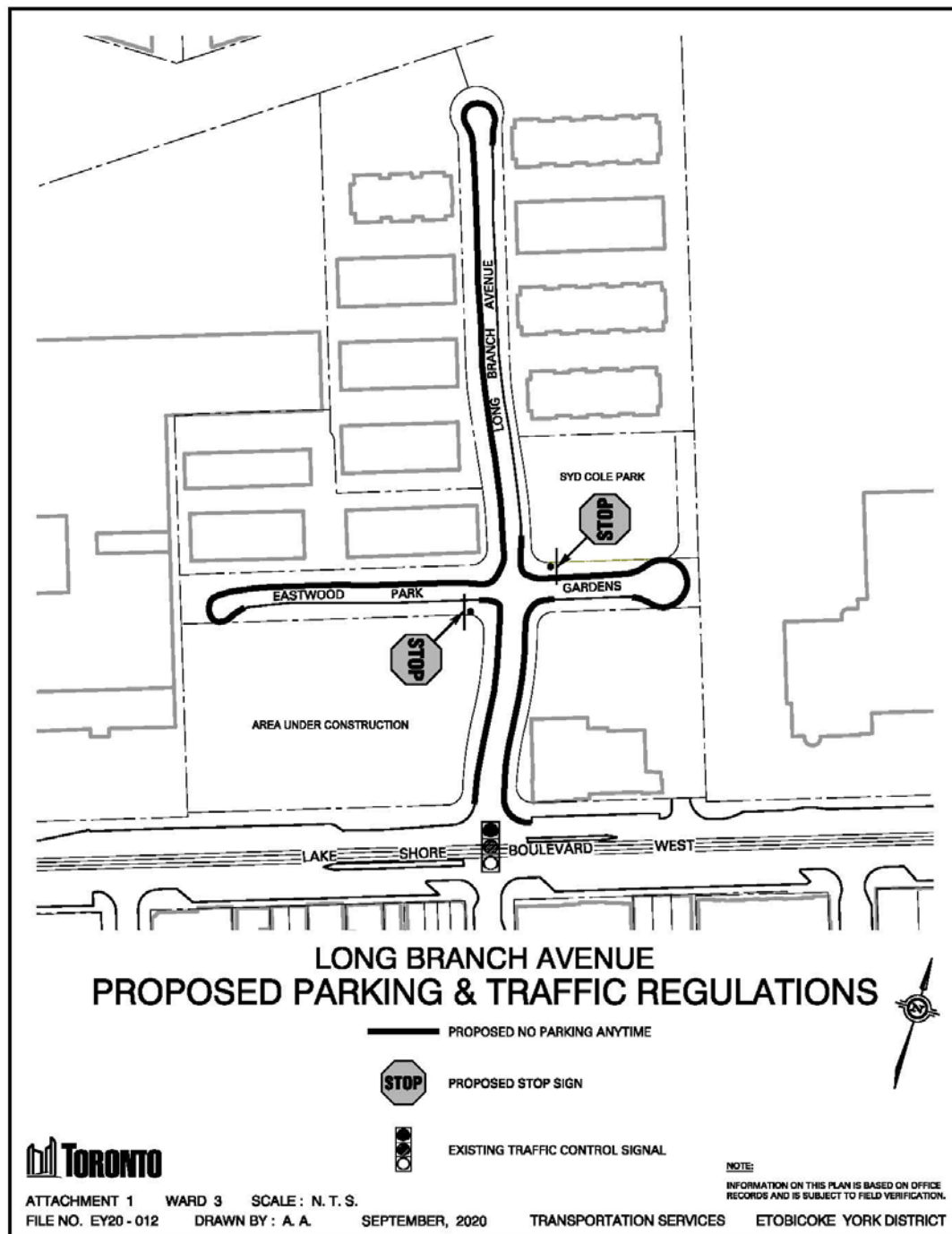
SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Area Map – Long Branch Avenue

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Attachment 2 - Warrant for All-Way Stop Control

Study location: Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens
Study Date: Thursday, November 7, 2019

Four-Hour Study Period	Total Approach Vehicle Volume	Vehicle/Pedestrian Volume Crossing Major Road ***	Unit Volume Split Major/Minor Roads ***
7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	119	59	61/39
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	124	63	59/41
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	93	57	50/50
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	169	97	51/49
Study Period Average	126	69	55/45
Warrant Requirements For Study Period Average	≥ 250	≥ 100	$\geq 30/70$ or $\leq 70/30$

*** New Pedestrian Warrant numbers used as adopted by City Council on July 16, 2019 in the Vision Zero 2.0 report

To warrant the installation of an all-way stop control, the traffic volume requirements for the "Study Period Average" must be completely satisfied in either of the following two combinations of the above three categories:

"Total Approach Vehicle Volume" and "Unit Volume Split - Major/Minor Roads"

or

"Vehicle/Pedestrian Volume Crossing Major Road" and "Unit Volume Split - Major/Minor Roads"