

Left-Turn Prohibitions - Middlefield Road at a point approximately 92 Metres South of Steeles Avenue East

Date: December 6, 2019
To: Scarborough Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 23, Scarborough North

SUMMARY

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

This report recommends that southbound and westbound left turns be prohibited from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the driveway to Milliken Crossing shopping centre (5631-5671 Steeles Avenue East), located on the east side of Middlefield Road at a point approximately 92 metres south of Steeles Avenue East.

Prohibiting southbound and westbound left turns at this driveway will improve safety by preventing conflicts between vehicles, reducing congestion, and maintaining traffic flow in the vicinity of the driveway.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council prohibit southbound and westbound left turns from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the driveway at 5631-5671 Steeles Avenue East (Milliken Crossing shopping centre) located on the east side of Middlefield Road at a point approximately 92 metres south of Steeles Avenue East.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost of installing required prohibited turn signs is approximately \$500. The funding for these signs is available in the Transportation Services Division's 2020 Interim Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

In response to a request from a private citizen, Transportation Services staff conducted a safety review at the at Milliken Crossing shopping centre driveway on the east side of Middlefield Road at a point approximately 92 metres south of Steeles Avenue East. Based on our review, staff recommends that southbound and westbound left turns be prohibited at this driveway during the afternoon rush hours from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Existing Conditions

The following characteristics describe this section of Middlefield Road located south of Steeles Avenue East and north of Passmore Avenue.

- Middlefield Road is a minor arterial road with a posted speed limit of 60 km/h.
- Middlefield Road consists of three northbound lanes, and two southbound lanes.
- TTC operates a revenue bus service on Middlefield Road.
- A municipal sidewalk separated by grass-boulevard is located on the east side of the road.
- The surrounding land use consists of Milliken Crossing shopping centre located to the east, a park to the west, and nearby single-family homes/a residential subdivision located north of Steeles Avenue East.
- The driveway connecting to Milliken Crossing shopping centre currently operates as a full-moves access allowing right turns in, right turns out, left turns in, and left turns out.

Analysis

An area resident expressed concerns regarding the number of collisions at the driveway connecting to Milliken Crossing shopping centre located on the east side of Middlefield Road at a point approximately 92 metres south of Steeles Avenue East.

Staff conducted a review of the site and found that there is a high number of collisions associated with vehicles making left turns in and out of the shopping centre driveway. As such, we recommend that southbound left-turns in and westbound left-turns out be prohibited during the afternoon peak period from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Toronto Police Service Collision Records

Collision history review from January 01, 2014 to December 31, 2018 at the plaza driveway on Middlefield Road 92 metres south from Steeles Avenue East.

Collision Type: Turning movement, rear-end, side-swipe, and right-angle collisions that are a result of vehicles making left-turns in and left-turns out of the plaza driveway.

Collision	Number of Reported Collisions By Year						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*	Total
Collisions Potentially Preventable by Restricting Left-turns In, and Left-turns Out of the Plaza Driveway	7	7	11	5	8	0	38
Collisions Resulting in Personal Injury	1	1	6	3	4	0	15

*Note: Complete collision data not yet available for year 2019 at this location.

The above table indicates that within the past five years there were a total of 38 collisions that could have potentially been prevented if left-turns in and left-turns out were prohibited at the plaza driveway.

Out of the 38 reported collisions, 15 collisions resulted in physical injuries.

The below table further defines the 38 collisions into three collision types potentially preventable if left-turns in, and out were prohibited at this plaza driveway.

Collisions of the Types	Number of Reported Collisions By Year						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*	Total
Collisions Resulting from Vehicles Making Left-Turns In to the Plaza Driveway	0	1	1	0	1	0	3
Collisions Resulting from Vehicles Making Left-turns Out of the Plaza Driveway	6	7	7	3	4	0	27
Rear-end Collisions Resulting from Vehicles Waiting in Queue to Turn Left into Plaza Driveway	4	0	3	0	1	0	8
Total	10	8	11	3	6	0	38

*Note: Complete collision data not yet available for year 2019 at this location.

27 collisions occurred when vehicles were making left-turns out of the plaza driveway. 11 collisions occurred as a result of vehicles trying to make left-turns into the driveway. Of these 11 collisions, 8 were rear-end collisions on Middlefield Road as a result of vehicles waiting in queue to turn-left into the plaza driveway.

The majority of the above-noted collisions occurred on weekdays between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Prohibiting southbound left-turns in and westbound left turns out at the subject driveway will prevent conflicts between vehicles, reduce congestion, and maintain traffic flow in the vicinity of the driveway and improve safety at this location.

CONTACT

Shawn Dillon
Manager, Traffic Operations Area 1
Traffic Management
Transportation Services
Tel: 416-397-5021
Fax: 416-396-5641
E-Mail: shawn.dillon@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

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

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1: Location Plan (Left-turn prohibitions on Middlefield Road at a point approximately 92 metres South of Steeles Avenue East)

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