

Lane Designation - One-way Traffic Lane, Northbound Right Turn: Yorkdale Road and William R. Allen Road/ Highway 401 North Ramp

Date: April 29, 2021
To: North York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 8 - Eglinton Lawrence

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting City Council to approve the designation of two northbound lanes at the intersection of Yorkdale Road and the William R. Allen Road Highway 401 North Ramp for right-turning vehicles only. This will increase vehicle capacity at the intersection. The designation is part of the redevelopment of Yorkdale Shopping Centre. There are no costs to the city to undertake this work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council rescind the designation of the easterly northbound lane on William R. Allen Road and Yorkdale Road, between Yorkdale Road and a point 30.5 metres south, for right-turning and left-turning vehicles only.
2. City Council designate the two easterly northbound lanes on Yorkdale Road, between William R. Allen Road/Highway 401 North Ramp and a point 58 metres south, for right-turning vehicles only.
3. City Council designate the westerly northbound lane on Yorkdale Road, between William R. Allen Road/Highway 401 North Ramp and a point 58 metres south, for left-turning vehicles only.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs associated with the modifications to the traffic island and the signs and pavement markings are to be funded by Oxford Properties Limited.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was contacted by Oxford Properties Limited with a proposal to modify the intersection of Yorkdale Road and the William R. Allen Road Highway 401 North Ramp and designate an additional northbound right-turn lane. This is in order to reduce delays at the intersection.

Existing Conditions

Yorkdale Road is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a four-lane, minor arterial roadway that encircles the north and east sides of Yorkdale Shopping Centre
- It operates with two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 18 metres
- The typical eight hour two-way traffic volume is approximately 7,800 vehicles
- The posted regulatory speed limit is 40 km/h
- TTC service is provided by bus route 47
- There is a sidewalk on the west side of the north/south section of the street
- The William R. Allen Road Highway 401 North Ramp forms the east leg of a signalized intersection with Yorkdale Road with an access to Yorkdale Shopping Centre that forms the west leg of the intersection
- There are currently two lanes for northbound traffic on Yorkdale Road at the intersection, a dedicated left-turn and a dedicated right-turn lane, with the lanes separated by a 2.85 metre wide traffic island
- A traffic count on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 revealed that there are approximately 1,500 northbound right turns during the peak eight hours of a typical weekday
- Northbound right-turns-on-red are prohibited at all times

William R. Allen Road Highway 401 North Ramp is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is an expressway ramp with two eastbound lanes providing access to Highway 401 and three westbound lanes that receive northbound traffic from William R. Allen Road

- A traffic count on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 revealed that there are approximately 6,000 eastbound vehicles and 1,600 westbound vehicles during the peak eight hours of a typical weekday
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the ramp under William R. Allen Road
- There is a pedestrian access to the TTC Yorkdale subway station on the south side of the ramp
- In the past, a Toronto Police Services pay duty officer has been employed to alleviate capacity concerns with motorists exiting the mall

It is feasible to designate an additional northbound right-turn lane by modifying the traffic island between the existing left and right turn lanes, as proposed by Oxford Properties Limited. This will alleviate northbound right turn vehicle delays. The existing northbound right-turn-on-red prohibition at the intersection will remain as will the designation of the existing northbound right turn lane and the existing northbound left turn lane. A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - Lane Designation - One-way Traffic Lane, Northbound Right Turn:
Yorkdale Road and William R. Allen Road/Highway 401 North Ramp

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Yorkdale Road and William R. Allen Road/Highway 401 North Ramp

