Right-Turn-on-Red Prohibition - Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue

Date: August 23, 2021  
To: North York Community Council.  
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services  
Wards: Ward 18 - Willowdale

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Willowdale Avenue and Cummer Avenue, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services is requesting approval for a right-turn-on-red prohibition at all times for westbound motorists on Cummer Avenue at Willowdale Avenue. During the course of the investigation, it was noted that there is a discrepancy between posted signs and the existing regulations in Municipal Code Chapter 950. Recommendation 1 will correct this inconsistency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council prohibit westbound right turns on a red signal at all times at the intersection of Cummer Avenue at Willowdale Avenue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of installing the signs is $250. Funding is anticipated to be available within the Transportation Services 2021 Operating Budget.
DECISION HISTORY


COMMENTS

Transportation Services received a request from the Ward Councillor, on behalf of a local resident, to review additional signage for the eastbound and westbound right-turn-on-red prohibitions at the intersection of Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue. During the course of investigation, it was discovered that the existing westbound right-turn-on-red prohibition was not reflected in Municipal Code Chapter 950.

Existing Conditions

Cummer Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:
• It is a two-lane, east-west, minor arterial roadway with exclusive left-turn lanes at the intersection
• It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 12 metres
• The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 11,000 vehicles
• The speed limit is 50 km/h
• Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
• There is TTC service provided by the 42 Cummer Bus
• There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

Willowdale Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:
• It is a four-lane, north-south, minor arterial roadway
• It operates two way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 14 metres
• The daily two way traffic volume is approximately 14,000 vehicles
• The speed limit is 50 km/h
• Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
• There is TTC service provided by the 98C Willowdale-Senlac bus
• There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

The intersection of Willowdale Avenue and Cummer Avenue is a four legged intersection controlled by traffic control signal.

A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.
A review of the history, posted regulations and site observations, at the intersection of Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue revealed that a westbound right-turn-on-red prohibition sign had been posted at the intersection without a supplementary by-law. Observations further concluded that the intersection is operating effectively. Considering the right-turn-on-red prohibition may improve safety for pedestrians by restricting drivers facing a red signal from turning right across the path of people walking or cycling within the right-of-way, formally by-lawing the existing signage for westbound motorists in Municipal Code Chapter 950 would be appropriate.

The Ward Councillor has been advised 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 - Right-Turn-on-Red Prohibition - Cummer Avenue and Willowdale Avenue
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