

Traffic Control Signals – Pape Avenue at Strathcona Avenue and Pape Avenue at Bain Avenue

Date: April 30, 2019
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 14, Toronto - Danforth

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services does not support the replacement of the existing pedestrian crossovers (PXO) with traffic control signals at the following intersections:

- Pape Avenue at Strathcona Avenue
- Pape Avenue at Bain Avenue

The technical justification for these installations are not satisfied. Therefore, the installation of traffic control signals is not recommended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council not authorize the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Pape Avenue and Strathcona Avenue.
2. City Council not authorize the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Pape Avenue and Bain Avenue.
3. City Council not authorize the removal of the pedestrian crossover at the intersection of Pape Avenue and Strathcona Avenue.
4. City Council not authorize the removal of the pedestrian crossover at the intersection of Pape Avenue and Bain Avenue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on January 15, 2019, Toronto and East York Community Council directed Transportation Services to investigate the feasibility of installing traffic control signals along Pape Avenue between Strathcona Avenue and Riverdale Avenue by upgrading the existing pedestrian crossovers at Strathcona Avenue and Bain Avenue to provide opportunities for safe pedestrian crossings. The Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.TE2.74>

COMMENTS

Existing Conditions

Pape Avenue is a four-lane minor arterial roadway that operates two way (northbound and southbound), has a pavement width of about 13 metres, a posted speed limit of 40 km/h, and carries approximately 10,000 vehicles per day. There are no horizontal or vertical curves along this segment of Pape Avenue. TTC service is provided by the "72 Pape" bus route. Parking is provided on both sides of Pape Avenue.

There are two pedestrian crossovers on Pape Avenue, at Strathcona Avenue, and at Bain Avenue.

Analysis

Transportation Services conducted a review to analyze the operating characteristics of the existing pedestrian crossovers and the technical justifications of the installation of traffic control signals at the intersections of Pape Avenue and Strathcona Avenue and Pape Avenue and Bain Avenue.

In evaluating the safe operation of the pedestrian crossover the following environmental criteria were reviewed to assess their overall effectiveness:

1. No visibility problems exist for either pedestrian or motorists due to horizontal or vertical road alignment;
2. Pedestrian-actuated amber flashing beacons are functional, and provide warning notice to motorists of a pedestrian using the crossover; and

3. Traffic signage and pavement markings are in good repair and provide advance warning notice of the approaching crossover for both northbound and southbound motorists.

An analysis was conducted to determine if traffic control signals are technically warranted at the above intersections, based on the traffic data and collision history. The traffic warrant criteria were satisfied to the following extent:

Justifications	Warrant Compliance	
	Pape Avenue at Strathcona Avenue	Pape Avenue at Bain Avenue
Minimum Vehicular Volume	42%	24%
Delay to Cross Traffic	63%	66%
Collision Hazard	0%	0%

To meet the technical requirements for the installation of traffic control signals, one of the "Minimum Vehicular Volume" or "Delay to Cross Traffic" justifications must be 100 percent satisfied, or any two of the three justifications must be at least 80 percent satisfied.

Based on the above results, the installation of traffic control signals is not justified at the above mentioned intersections. The pedestrian crossovers are operating under satisfactory conditions, providing the optimum environment and minimum delays for pedestrians.

Conclusions

Transportation Services does not support the replacement of pedestrian crossovers with traffic control signals at the intersections of Pape Avenue and Strathcona Avenue and Pape Avenue and Bain Avenue based on the above noted information. Furthermore, the installation of traffic control signals at these intersection would result in the following negative impacts:

- Loss of overnight permit parking within a distance of up to 30.5 metres of the intersections on Pape Avenue, Strathcona Avenue and Bain Avenue.
- There may be an increase in delays to pedestrians, who will be required to wait for a "Walk" signal, rather than using the existing pedestrian crossover.
- The potential for increase in delays to transit service on Pape Avenue.

Councillor Paula Fletcher has been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.,
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ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-3383, dated April 2019

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