

Traffic Control Signals - Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue

Date: February 8, 2023

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 3 - Etobicoke Lakeshore

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to install traffic control signals at the intersection of Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue. The traffic control signals will provide enhanced safety for all road users and is justified based on the assessment undertaken.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing traffic control signals at the intersection of Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue is \$200,000. Funding would be subject to availability and competing priorities within the Transportation Services interim 2023 Capital Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by the former Ward Councillor and local residents to investigate the feasibility of installing traffic control signals at the intersection of Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue.

Existing Conditions

Evans Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, minor arterial roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 10 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 10,500 vehicles
- The speed limit is 50 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- There is TTC service provided by the 15 Evans bus
- Eastbound and westbound TTC bus stops are located near side at Ourland Avenue
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

Ourland Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, north-south, local roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 8.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 1,500 vehicles
- The speed limit is 30 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no TTC service provided
- There are sidewalks located on both of the street
- Traffic calming in the form of traffic islands are located on the street.

Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue form a three-leg intersection. Ourland Avenue is stop-sign controlled while Evans Avenue is uncontrolled free-flow.

The adjacent land use in this area is a mix of residential, business and commercial.

Ourland Park, Pool and Community Centre are located on the west side of Ourland Avenue north of Judson Street.

The closest adjacent traffic controls are located approximately 170 metres to the west at Islington Avenue in the form of traffic control signals and approximately 480 metres to the east at Carnarvon Avenue in the form of a Pedestrian Crossover.

A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.

Traffic Control Signals

To determine the need for traffic control signals at the intersection of Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue, staff rely on the justification criteria as outlined in the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 12. The OTM justification criteria includes factors such as volume of vehicles and pedestrians, delay to cross traffic, and collision history. In addition to

these technical justifications, staff consider an environmental checklist which includes consideration of road width, posted speed limit, operating speeds, adjacent land uses, pedestrian desire lines and demographics, presence of a transit stop, sight lines, and distance between existing crossing opportunities.

As part of the investigation, staff conducted vehicle and pedestrian counts on November 21, 2021, at the subject intersection. The results of the counts and collision hazard are summarized in Table 1. The "Collision hazard" criterion is based on the number of collisions potentially preventable by the installation of traffic control signals. Collision history provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending December 31, 2021, disclosed four collisions at the subject intersection that were potentially preventable by the installation of traffic control signals.

Table 1: Warrant Compliance - Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue

Justification	Compliance level
Minimum vehicular volume	45%
Delay to cross traffic (pedestrians and vehicles)	93%
Collision hazard	27%

To meet the justification criteria for the installation of traffic control signals, one of the justifications must be 100 percent satisfied or both the minimum vehicular volume and delay to cross traffic justifications must be at least 80 percent satisfied. Based on the technical warrant criteria, the installation of traffic control signals is not justified. Based on the most recent studies the delay to cross traffic portion of the warrant is not technically 100% satisfied. However, the warrant is not satisfied as result of traffic on Evans Avenue, for three of the eight hours being slightly below the required to satisfy the warrant 100%. All other hours fully satisfied the warrant criteria 100%, including all hours on the minor street. Traffic volumes at the time the studies were conducted may have been slightly less that current traffic volumes due to measures that were in place as a result of the pandemic. Therefore, we would anticipate the traffic volumes on Evans Avenue may satisfy the warrant criteria should additional studies be conducted. Based on the results in Table 1 and that traffic volumes have typically increased since the time the studies were conducted, the installation of traffic control signals is justified.

The TTC has been consulted and concurs with these findings.

Staff recommend the installation of traffic control signals based on the technical and environmental criteria, including the presence of transit stops in both directions on Evans Avenue that attract pedestrians to cross the street. In addition, Ourland

Community Centre, Pool and Park are located on Ourland Avenue south of the subject intersection.

Other Considerations

It should be noted that the installation of traffic control signals will have the following additional impacts:

- There is potential for increase in delays to transit service on Evans Avenue.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendation in this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

Attachment 1: Map - Traffic Control Signals - Evans Avenue and Ourland Avenue

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