

Traffic Amendments – Farmcrest Drive and Meadowacres Drive

Date: March 20, 2023

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 22, Scarborough-Agincourt

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This staff report concerns the feasibility of enacting a "Bicycles Excepted" regulation in an existing one-way eastbound left turning lane along Farmcrest Drive at its intersection with Meadowacres Drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Scarborough Community Council amend the existing one-way traffic lane on Farmcrest Drive, between Meadowacres Drive and a point 24 metres west of Meadowacres Drive, for eastbound left turns only at all times to be in effect from Meadowacres Drive and a point 24 metres west, bicycles excepted.
2. Scarborough Community Council prohibit eastbound right turns, bicycles excepted, at all times on Farmcrest Drive and Meadowacres Drive.
3. Scarborough Community Council prohibit eastbound through movements, bicycles excepted, at all times at Farmcrest Drive and Meadowacres Drive.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of installing these bicycle excepted signs is approximately \$500.00. Funding for the signs has been recommended in the Transportation Services 2023 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

At the request of the former ward Councillor on behalf of residents, Transportation Services investigated the feasibility of exempting bicyclists from the existing through and right-turn prohibitions at intersection of Farmcrest Drive and Meadowacres Drive.

Existing Conditions

Farmcrest Drive is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west collector roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 9.7 metres
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service
- Sidewalks are located on the north side of the street only

Meadowacres Drive is characterized by the following conditions:

- South of its intersection with Farmcrest Drive, it is a two-lane, north-south local roadway
- North of its intersection with Farmcrest Drive, it is a two-lane, north-south minor arterial roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width 8.5 metres south of Farmcrest Drive and 9.8 metres north of Farmcrest Drive
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited between Victoria Park Avenue and Farmcrest Drive
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service
- Sidewalks are located on the east side of the street only, north of Farmcrest Drive

These two streets intersect to form a right-angled four legged intersection, with right-of-way controlled by an all-way stop control. The lane configuration of the west approach of Farmcrest Drive and Meadowacres Drive consists of a single dedicated eastbound left turning lane, resulting in both eastbound through and right turning movements being prohibited. The dedicated eastbound left turning lane was originally implemented to prevent infiltration traffic, within the Wishing Well neighbourhood, destined for Pharmacy Avenue.

The surrounding area is predominantly residential, with some light retail north-west of the intersection and a church to the north-east. A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.

Proposed Traffic Amendment

Bicycle exemptions in the City of Toronto are recommended and adopted by Scarborough Community Council on an as needed basis. As expressed by area residents and former ward Councillor, the community has stated a need for the bicycle exemption. In this case, such an exemption is feasible for eastbound cyclists.

The recommended bicycle exemption will enhance cyclist access to the Wishing Well neighbourhood, provide routing alternatives in the area and a more convenient, direct connection to travel north and south on Pharmacy Avenue.

The introduction of movement prohibitions (recommendation 2 and 3) are predominately housekeeping items to ensure the integrity of the one-way traffic lane designation of Farmcrest Drive, west of Meadowacres Drive.

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.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Area Map - Proposed Bicycles Excepted Sign, Meadowacres Drive and Farmcrest Drive

Attachment 1: Area Map - Proposed Bicycles Excepted Sign, Meadowacres Drive and Farmcrest Drive

