

Compulsory Stop Control - Tarragona Boulevard/Gunns Road (east-west branch) and Gunns Road (west-branch)

Date: February 7, 2024

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 5 - York South-Weston

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to install a stop control for northbound traffic on Gunns Road (west branch) at Tarragona Avenue/Gunns Road (east-west branch) and to remove the existing eastbound stop control at this intersection. Based on the assessment undertaken, the removal of the existing eastbound stop control and installation of the northbound stop control is recommended and will more clearly define right-of-way, enhancing traffic management and safety for all road users.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council rescind the existing compulsory stop control for eastbound traffic on Tarragona Boulevard at Gunns Road.
2. Etobicoke York Community Council authorize a compulsory stop control for northbound traffic on Gunns Road (west-branch) at Tarragona Boulevard/Gunns Road (east-west branch).
3. Etobicoke York Community Council rescind the existing maximum one hour parking regulation in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the east side of Gunns Road between Tarragona Boulevard and the south end of Gunns Road.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated costs associated with the proposed amendment is \$800. Funding is anticipated to be available within the Transportation Services interim 2024 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

At the request of the Ward Councillor Transportation Services investigated the feasibility of installing all-way stop control at the intersection of Tarragona Boulevard/Gunns Road (east-west branch) and Gunns Road west-branch.

Tarragona Boulevard was part of a development on the former Stock Yards land north of St Clair Avenue West. When built, in 2002, Tarragona Boulevard made a T-intersection with Gunns Road which was on its historic alignment. In 2006, Gunns Road, north of Tarragona Boulevard was closed. The historic alignment of Gunns Road, south of Tarragona Boulevard became Gunns Road west-branch. A new section of roadway was built to connect Tarragona Boulevard to Gunns Road, on its new alignment, and called Gunns Road east-west branch.

Existing Conditions

Tarragona Boulevard is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, unassumed roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 7.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 1570 vehicles
- The speed limit is 30 km/h with traffic calming (speed humps)
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no TTC service
- There are sidewalks provided on both sides of the street
- Maple Claire Park is on north side

Gunns Road (east-west branch) is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, local roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 10 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 1570 vehicles
- The speed limit is 30 km/h
- Heavy trucks are prohibited at all times
- There is no TTC service
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street
- Maple Claire Park is on north side

Gunns Road west-branch 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 9.3 metres
- the street segment serves the laneway "north of St Clair east of Mondovi"
- The speed limit is 30 km/h
- There is no TTC service
- There are no sidewalks on either side of the street
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These three streets intersect to form a T-type intersection, with right-of-way controlled by stop sign for eastbound traffic on Tarragona Boulevard.

Maple Claire Park extends north from the subject intersection. The Gunns Loop for the TTC 512 St Clair streetcar service is located with a parkette to the south east of the intersection.

A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.

Study Results

In order for all-way stop control to be warranted at an intersection, established criteria must be satisfied. The warrants consist of four components, including: collision history, total vehicle volume, combined vehicle and pedestrian volumes crossing the major road and the percentage of traffic on the major road.

Collision history provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending 2022, disclosed that no reported collisions occurred at this intersection.

Transportation Services conducted an all-way stop control study on May 4, 2023 at the subject intersection. The results of the study were evaluated against the warrant criteria for all-way stop control as adopted by City Council. The evaluation is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: All-Way Stop Control Study at Tarragona Boulevard-Gunns Road east-west and Gunns Road west-branch

No.	Warrant Type	Actual	Required	Satisfied (Yes/No)
A	Number of Potentially Preventable Collisions (Jan 2020 to Dec 2023)	None	6	No
B1	Average Vehicle Volumes	130/hour	250/hour	No
B2	Combined Vehicle & Pedestrian Volumes Crossing Major Road (Average)	51/hour	100/hour	No

No.	Warrant Type	Actual	Required	Satisfied (Yes/No)
B3	Percentage of Traffic on Major Street	72%	≤70%	No

In order for the all-way stop control to be technically warranted, either Warrant A must be met or Warrant B1 or B2 combined with Warrant B3 must be achieved. Based on the study results, the technical warrants for the installation of all-way stop control are not satisfied. Therefore, it is not recommended that all-way stop control be installed at the intersection of Tarragona Boulevard-Gunns Road east-west and Gunns Road west-branch.

As there is no stop control for two of the approaches at the subject intersection, right-of-way is determined as defined in the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, which stipulates that priority is "given to vehicles already within the intersection or, in the event two or more vehicles are approaching the intersection at approximately the same time, the Act requires the driver on the left to yield to the vehicle on the right."

Traffic conditions and potential conflicts at the subject intersection were also observed during the four-hour traffic study. Based on the observations it is concluded that additional changes to the intersection are required to avoid potential conflicts and more clearly define the right-of-way, enhancing safety for all road users.

Additionally, parking regulations on Gunns Road (west branch) will also be amended. On its historical alignment Gunns Road (west branch) was 66 metres in length, extending from St Clair Avenue West to Tarragona Boulevard. A maximum one-hour parking regulation was implemented on the east side and parking was prohibited at all times on the west side. In 2010 the streetcar turning loop was reconfigured to facilitate operation of the current articulated streetcar fleet. The reconfiguration reduced the length of Gunns Road (west branch) to 30 metres. Two elements of Chapter 950 of the Toronto Municipal Code can be applied with No Parking Anytime within 15 metres of an intersection and No Parking Anytime within 15 metres of the termination of a dead-end street which in turn would eliminate the existing maximum one-hour parking regulation on the east side as noted in Recommendation 5 of this report.

Considering the above, the removal of the existing eastbound stop control and the installation of the northbound stop control at the intersection of Tarragona Boulevard-Gunns Road (east-west branch) and Gunns Road (west-branch) is recommended to appropriately assign the right of way.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - Compulsory Stop Control - Tarragona Boulevard/Gunns Road (east-west branch) and Gunns Road (west-branch)

