

U-Turn Prohibition - Yonge Street and Kempford Boulevard

Date: April 22, 2024

To: North York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 18 - Willowdale

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to prohibit northbound and southbound U-turn movements at all times on Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard. This proposed prohibition will address traffic safety concerns in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit northbound and southbound U-turn movements at all times on Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The signage costs associated with the proposed amendments are approximately \$1000. Funding is available within the Transportation Services 2024 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was requested by the Ward Councillor, on behalf of area residents, to prohibit northbound and southbound U-turn movements at the intersection of Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard.

Existing Conditions

Yonge Street is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a six-lane, north south, major arterial roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 25.4 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 22,000 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is TTC service provided by the 97A & B Yonge, 320 and 320S Yonge night bus, and subway shuttles
- There is GO Bus service provided by the 19 Mississauga-North York, 27 Milton-North York, and 32 Brampton Trinity Common-North York
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

Yonge Street and Kempford Boulevard form a "T" type intersection controlled by a traffic control signal. The intersection falls within a school safety zone and senior safety zone. St Cyril Elementary School is located on Kempford Boulevard west of the intersection and is designated as a Community Safety Zone.

A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.

Proposed Turn Prohibition

Observations conducted by Transportation Services staff on October 25, 2023 revealed fourteen northbound and six southbound U-turns on Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard in the PM peak hour. Considering the traffic volumes on Yonge Street and the pedestrian generators in the area, prohibiting northbound and southbound U-turn movements on Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard would provide additional safety measures at the subject intersection.

Based on Transportation Services review of this matter and in consultation with the Ward Councillor, it is recommended to prohibit northbound and southbound U-turn movements at all times on Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard. The proposed prohibition is expected to provide safe and efficient traffic operations, reduce the number of vehicle conflicts, and reduce the collision hazard.

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 - U-Turn Prohibition - Yonge Street at Kempford Boulevard

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