

Pedestrian Refuge Island - Leslie Street and the Wilket Creek Trail

Date: September 6, 2024

To: North York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 16 - Don Valley East

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is recommending that a pedestrian refuge island not be installed on Leslie Street at the northerly intersection with the Wilket Creek Trail. The technical criteria for a refuge island have not been met.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council not approve the installation of a pedestrian refuge island on Leslie Street at the northerly intersection with the Wilket Creek Trail.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

If City Council amends the recommendation in this report and authorizes the installation of a pedestrian refuge island on Leslie Street at the northerly intersection with the Wilket Creek Trail, the estimated cost is \$31,500. This installation would be considered in 2024 subject to availability of Capital funding and competing priorities. The potential of securing funding through the former Section 37 reserve funds could also be explored.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

At the request of the Ward Councillor, on behalf of local residents, Transportation Services reviewed the feasibility of installing a pedestrian refuge island on Leslie Street at the north intersection with the Wilket Creek Trail.

Existing Conditions

Leslie Street is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a four-lane, north/south major arterial roadway with a 3.4 metre wide painted centre median
- It operates two-way on a pavement width of approximately 15.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 25,000 vehicles
- The vehicle operating speed is approximately 58 km/h
- The speed limit is 50 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is regular TTC service provided
- There are sidewalks on both sides of the street

The Wilket Creek Trail crosses Leslie Street approximately 140 metres south of Overland Drive. There is currently no traffic control at the trail crossing. The closest traffic controls on Leslie Street are approximately 260 metres to the south at 1155 Leslie Street and 680 metres to the north at Lawrence Avenue East.

Collision history provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending December 31, 2023, disclosed that there were no reported collisions involving a pedestrian on Leslie Street in the vicinity of the Wilket Creek Trail.

A pedestrian refuge island should only be considered when the following conditions are met:

- Minimum of 100 pedestrian crossings in an eight-hour period
- Maximum 5 lane cross-section with a minimum pavement width of 16.4 metres
- Daily Traffic volume below 45,000
- Vehicle operating speed below 60 km/h.

Transportation Services completed two pedestrian crossing and delay studies that recorded all crossing activity on Leslie Street within 50 metres of the north intersection with the Wilket Creek Trail. The first study was undertaken on February 29, 2024, and revealed that five pedestrians crossed Leslie Street in this vicinity. Two of these pedestrians experienced delays greater than 10 seconds to cross.

Since the winter conditions of the February study may have resulted in a lower pedestrian crossing volume, a subsequent study was completed on June 22, 2024. This study recorded 12 pedestrians crossing Leslie Street in the vicinity of the trail. Five of these pedestrians experienced delays greater than 10 seconds to cross. All pedestrians in both studies were youths and adults.

Based on the above study results, the technical criteria for a pedestrian refuge island have not been met at the intersection of Leslie Street and the Wilket Creek Trail. Therefore, Transportation Services recommends that a pedestrian refuge island not be installed on Leslie Street at the northerly intersection with the Wilket Creek Trail. The existing painted median provides a midpoint for pedestrians and cyclists to wait for a gap in traffic to complete their crossing.

A map of the area is shown in Attachment 1.

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

CONTACT

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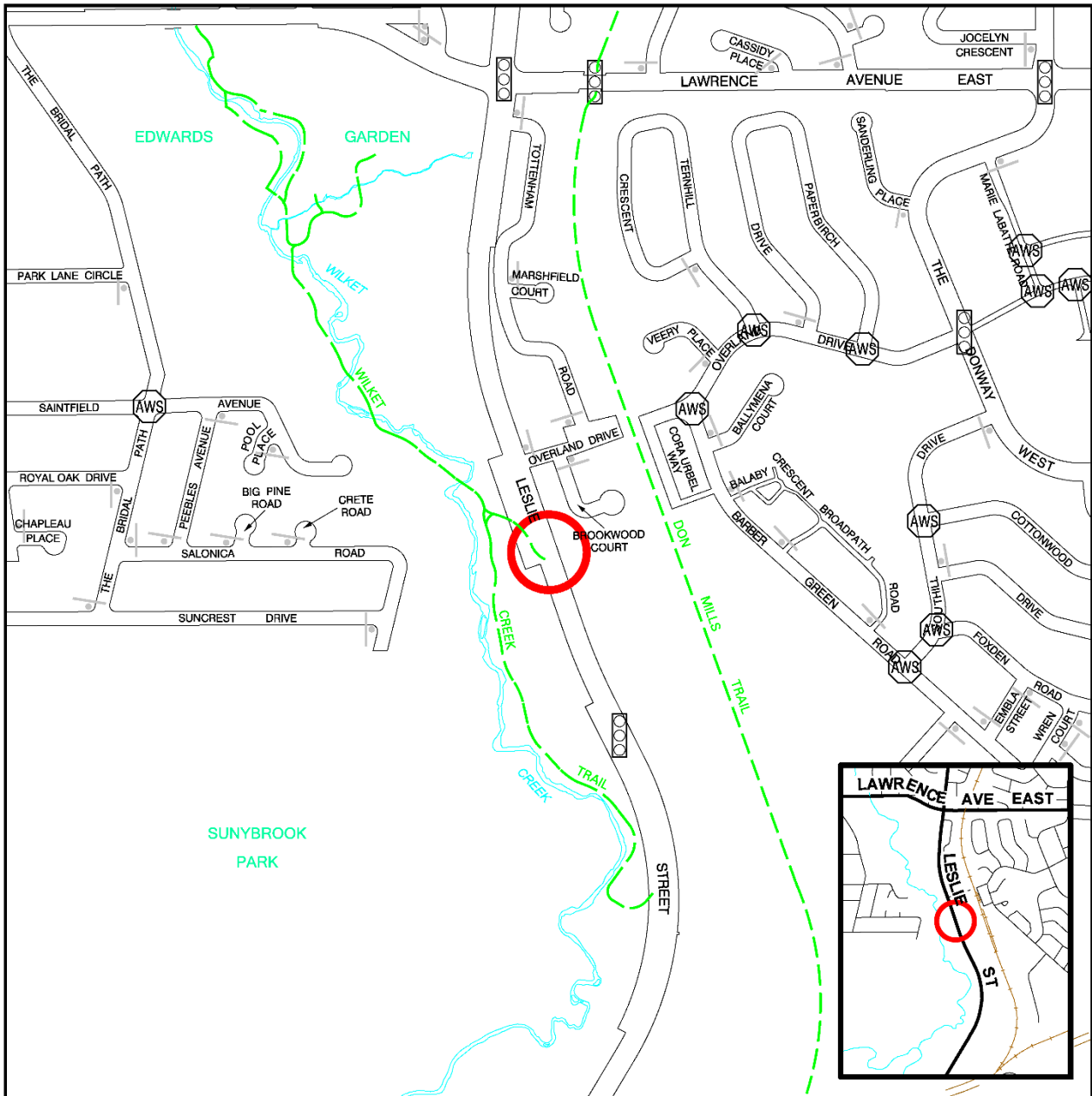
SIGNATURE





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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - Location Plan - Leslie Street and Wilket Creek Trail

Attachment 1: Map - Location Plan - Leslie Street and Wilket Creek Trail



-  LESLIE STREET AT WILKET CREEK TRAIL
-  EXISTING STOP SIGN
-  EXISTING TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL
-  EXISTING ALL-WAY STOP CONTROL



LOCATION PLAN LESLIE STREET AT WILKET CREEK TRAIL

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