

## **Heavy Truck Prohibitions - Old Finch Avenue**

**Date:** January 31, 2024

**To:** Scarborough Community Council

**From:** Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

**Wards:** Ward 25, Scarborough-Rouge Park

### **SUMMARY**

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to implement a heavy truck prohibition, to be in effect at all times, on Old Finch Avenue. This proposed regulation is intended to reduce heavy truck activity within the Morningside Heights residential neighbourhood, as well as on the adjacent Sewells Road bridge and along the Sewells Road underpass. The enactment of the heavy truck prohibition will also allow for enforcement by the Toronto Police Service under the Highway Traffic Act.

A companion report, titled "Heavy Truck Prohibitions - Old Finch Avenue and Sewells Road" outlines the required regulations for the adjacent street sections without TTC service.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit heavy vehicles at all times on Old Finch Avenue, between Morningside Avenue and Morningview Trail/Valley Centre Drive.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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The estimated cost associated with the necessary sign installation is \$300.00. These funds are available within the Transportation Services Division's 2024 Interim Operating Budget.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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This report addresses a new initiative.

## **COMMENTS**

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In response to resident concerns, Transportation Services investigated the need for heavy truck prohibitions within the Morningside Heights neighbourhood. Through the investigation, it was also noted that heavy vehicles were utilizing Old Finch Avenue and subsequently traversing Sewells Road, accessing the Sewells Road bridge, over the Rouge River, and the Sewells Road underpass, beneath the Canadian Pacific rail line. Both the Sewells Road bridge and Sewells Road underpass have weight and height restrictions.

### **Existing Conditions**

Old Finch Avenue, between Morningside Avenue and Morningview Trail/Valley Centre 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 13 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 3,800 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is TTC service provided by the 39B Finch East and 131 Nugget bus routes
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street
- There are no sidewalks between Valley Centre Drive/Morningview Trails and Sewells Road
- Nearby pedestrian generators include Heritage Park Public School and Harvest Moon Park

The proposed prohibition of heavy vehicles on Old Finch Avenue will discourage heavy vehicle activity within the Morningside Heights neighbourhood and reinforce the restrictions on heavy vehicles using the adjacent Sewells Road bridge and Sewells Road underpass.

Under a "No Heavy Trucks" restriction, heavy vehicles may use a street prohibited for their use if the operator of the vehicle has a specific destination on the street to make a pick-up/delivery or has no alternative route to access a particular street to make a pickup/delivery. The proposed introduction of a "No Heavy Trucks" restrictions within this community will now only allow those heavy truck operators who have a legitimate reason to use the roadway.

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

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1: Map - Proposed Heavy Truck Prohibition - Old Finch Avenue

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