

U-Turn Prohibition - Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road

Date: October 16, 2024

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 25, Scarborough North

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to prohibit westbound U-turn movements on Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road. The proposed U-turn prohibitions will address traffic safety concerns in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit westbound U-turn movements at all times on Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of installing the signs is \$500.00. 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 to prohibit westbound U-turn movements on Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road to address safety concerns.

Existing Conditions

Morningside Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a four-lane, east-west, minor arterial roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 21.5 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 13,800 vehicles
- The posted speed limit is 60 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service provided by 116 and 116C Morningside Avenue bus route
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street
- There are traffic control signals (TCS) at the intersection of Morningside Avenue and Finch Avenue East/Staines Road

The adjacent land uses in the area are commercial/industrial and single-family residential houses.

A map of the area is included in Attachment 1.

Observations conducted by Transportation Services staff on September 25, 2024, revealed seven vehicles making westbound U-turns on Morningside Avenue during the morning peak hour. These vehicles were making U-turns going westbound at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road to enter the driveways on the southeast corner, which only allows right-in and right-out access due to the raised median. Considering the traffic volumes on Morningside Avenue and Finch Avenue East/Staines Road, prohibiting westbound U-turns on Morningside Avenue would provide additional safety measures at the subject intersection.

Collision history provided by the Toronto Police Service for the three-year period ending December 31, 2023, did not disclose any reported collisions at this intersection involving westbound U-turning motorists.

Proposed Turn Prohibitions

Based on Transportation Services review of this matter and consultation with the Ward Councillor, it is recommended to prohibit westbound U-turn movements at all times on Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road. The proposed prohibition is expected to provide safe and efficient traffic operations, reduce the number of vehicle conflicts and reduce collision hazards.

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 - Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue
East/Staines Road

Attachment 1: Map - U-Turn Prohibition - Morningside Avenue at Finch Avenue East/Staines Road

