

Temporary Left-Turn Prohibition - Elm Street at Yonge Street

Date: January 30, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 11, University-Rosedale

SUMMARY

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

By way of background, at its meeting on November 8 and 9, 2023, City Council adopted Item 2023.TE8.24 entitled “Construction Staging Area – 8 Elm Street” and in so doing, authorized a closure of the west sidewalk and southbound curb lane, between Elm Street and a point 40 metres north, with a 2.1 metre covered and protected walkway in the closed curb lane, from November 30, 2023, to November 30, 2027.

Transportation Services has received sightline obstruction concerns from area residents due to the above mentioned covered and protected walkway on the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Elm Street. Based on a site investigation, staff has determined that the covered walkway creates a sightline obstruction for eastbound motorists on Elm Street, turning left at Yonge Street.

The developer advised that the covered walkway cannot be modified to address the sightline concerns, nor can it be removed, as it provides pedestrians a safe pathway around the construction staging area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit eastbound left-turns at all times on Elm Street at Yonge Street, from January 15, 2025 to November 30, 2027.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Elm Development Limited is responsible for all costs associated with the new signage installation.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting on November 8 and 9, 2023, adopted Item - 2023.TE8.24 and in so doing, approved a construction staging area for the lands municipally known as 8 Elm Street.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.TE8.24>

COMMENTS

Transportation Services has received concerns from area residents that the covered and protected walkway servicing pedestrians at the construction staging area on the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Elm Street is causing a sightline obstruction. Based on a site investigation, staff has determined that the covered walkway obstructs the view of motorists travelling eastbound on Elm Street, turning left onto Yonge Street.

In consultation with the developer, it is not feasible to modify the construction staging area or the covered walkway to address the sightline obstruction. Therefore, it is recommended that an eastbound left-turn prohibition, in effect at all times, be implemented on Elm Street at Yonge Street for the duration of the construction staging operations (November 30, 2027).

A drawing of the proposed temporary let-turn prohibitions is shown in Attachment 1.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Proposed Temporary Left-Turn Prohibition - Elm Street at Yonge Street

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