



Friday, October 3, 2025

Pedestrian Safety at University of Toronto

Dear Toronto and East York Community Council members:

SUMMARY:

The University of Toronto St. George campus, the world's most sustainable university, now serves more than 65,000 students. Accordingly, there is heavy pedestrian traffic on St. George Street, especially when classes change. The university has observed growing safety concerns when motor vehicles attempting to turn west from St. George Street onto Ursula Franklin Street encounter this heavy flow of pedestrians. Turning drivers become impatient when there is no break in the pedestrian flow. While they wait, they block traffic, infuriating drivers behind them. Tempers flare, and some drivers attempt to push through the pedestrians.

The university has requested these turn restrictions on an urgent basis to prevent serious personal injury or death. They will then work with their traffic consultant to propose longer term solutions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit northbound left-turns from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, bicycles excepted, at the intersection of St. George Street and Ursula Franklin Street.
2. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit southbound right-turns from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, bicycles excepted, at the intersection of St. George Street and Ursula Franklin Street.