

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE NOVEMBER 5, 2001

WOODBIDGE EXPANSION AREA
TRAFFIC CIRCLES

Recommendation

Councillor Gino Rosati recommends:

That the following resolution be approved:

That construction of the diverters (at traffic circles) be discontinued within the WEA and that existing be removed as soon as possible.

Purpose

Residents on corner lots near traffic circles have complained that these diverters in front of their driveways make it difficult to back out. The roads are very narrow and with the diverters in place it is more difficult to move around. Some school busses have to change route since it is difficult for them to turn.

In addition, these diverters would pose additional maintenance costs particularly during snow seasons. While it can be appreciated that the diverters will force drivers to stay to the right and go around the traffic circles as intended, this can be accomplished by placing directional arrow signs pointing down to the right around the traffic circles. Traffic circles are relatively new in our area and many drivers are not familiar with them, but in time and education traffic circles will be properly handled without the need of intrusive diverters on the pavement.

Respectfully submitted,

GINO ROSATI
Councillor, Ward 2

Attch.

10/24/01:54 PM

20.2

Bellicoso, Anna

From: Weber, Philip
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2001 4:36 PM
To: Zuccaro, Rita
Cc: Robinson, Bill; Bellicoso, Anna; Backhouse, Irene; Holly, Brendan; Rosati, Gino; Miele, Frank; Dokman, Mike
Subject: RE: WEA Traffic Circles - 379 Sonoma at Via Cristina

Hi Rita,

Michael Di Biase, Gino Rosati and I visited the Campisi residence yesterday morning to hear their concerns with respect to the traffic circle diverters at the above-noted intersection. Her concerns are twofold: that the diverters restrict movement for large vehicles, particularly school buses, and that they make it difficult to exit their driveway.

I visited the area again yesterday afternoon, as promised the Campisi's, to observe school bus movements around the traffic circle. During the time period of 3:15 to 4:00 pm, I observed two school buses passing straight through, but none attempting to turn left around the traffic circles (which is the most difficult manoeuvre). I did observe several construction trucks doing so with no difficulties. I also spoke with a representative of Langdon Bus Lines, who operates the school buses in the Woodbridge Expansion Area, to ascertain their experiences with the traffic circles. He told me that they have had some difficulty making left turns around the circles, and so have re-routed some of their buses to avoid having to make that manoeuvre. He also mentioned that left turn movements were no more difficult with the diverters in place.

One of the diverter islands overlaps the Campisi's 6 metre wide driveway by about 1 metre. This makes it somewhat more difficult to exit the driveway than would normally be the case; however, it should not pose a significant problem. At least two other traffic circles have diverters that overlap a residential driveway by the same amount: Montebello/Monte Carlo (northwest corner) and Alanno/Monte Carlo (northeast corner). There may be others. To my knowledge we have not received any concerns from these residents. I do not think that shortening the diverter to reduce the driveway overlap will help in this case.

The diverters serve a traffic safety function by informing motorists that they must stay on the right to travel around the traffic circles. They also can serve as pedestrian refuges. Accordingly, we do not propose that the diverters be eliminated.

✓ Please contact me if I can be of further assistance in this matter, or if you would like me to contact this resident directly.

Phil
(3.5 hrs.)

-----Original Message-----

From: Robinson, Bill
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2001 6:15 PM
To: Zuccaro, Rita
Cc: Bellicoso, Anna; Backhouse, Irene; Holly, Brendan; Rosati, Gino; Weber, Phillip; Miele, Frank
Subject: RE: WEA Traffic Circles - 379 Sonoma at Via Cristina
Importance: High

Rita:

As per my voice mail I will be in a meeting at 9:30 with Frank Miele and the rest of the Development Services and Public Works section Directors on Monday morning and cannot attend the 10:00 a.m. meeting. I could attend at 11:00 a.m. on site, however, I understand that this time is not good for other attendees. Brendan Holly is off for a medical test on Monday and will not be available. Phil Weber is available to attend and I am asking that he touch base with you on Monday morning - he does have a 9:00 a.m. meeting and would have to leave right after that to get out to Woodbridge for 10:00 a.m.. Unless we hear otherwise, Phil Weber will attend on site to discuss the problem. Elimination of the triangle is not desirable from a traffic safety perspective, however, maybe it is possible to shorten the triangle to reduce the driveway overlap. I understand the homeowner has a very wide driveway - does it exceed the maximum permitted under the by-law? These issues should be explored at the Monday meeting. I will follow up with Phil after the meeting to get myself up to speed and involved if necessary.

Regards,
Bill Robinson