COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - FEBRUARY 4, 2008

CONLEY STREET LEFT TURN PROHIBITION

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

That this report be referred to the City of Toronto for further comments on the feasibility of the implementation of an eastbound left turn prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue and Conley Street.

Economic Impact

None.

Purpose

To investigate the feasibility to implement a left turn prohibition from Steeles Avenue to Conley Street, in response to a request from Council.

Background - Analysis and Options

At its meeting on December 10, 2007 Council directed:

"The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1. That staff investigate opportunities to implement a left turn prohibition from Steeles Avenue on to Conley Street during the evening rush hour; and
- 2. That York Regional Police be requested to step-up their enforcement along Conley Street west of New Westminster Drive."

Conley Street is a feeder road with a 23.0 metre right-of-way and 11.5 metres pavement width. The posted speed limit on Conley Street is 40 km/h. The intersections of Steeles Avenue/New Westminster Drive and Steeles Avenue/Conley Street are under the jurisdiction of the City of Toronto.

Staff earlier requested the City of Toronto to investigate the feasibility of an eastbound left turn prohibition at the intersection on August 1, 2006. Correspondence was received from the City of Toronto on March 28, 2007. The City of Toronto has indicated that they are unwilling to implement a left turn prohibition at the intersection of Conley Street and Steeles Avenue, as it would negatively impact the traffic at the intersection of Steeles Avenue and New Westminster Drive.

At the intersection of New Westminster Drive and Steeles Avenue, currently, the eastbound left turn phase in the evening period is operating at a Level of Service 'F'. Level of Service ranges from A (excellent) to F (failure). There is currently a delay of 431.7 seconds per vehicle to turn left. The entire intersection is operating at a Level of Service 'E', with an intersection overall delay of 67.7 seconds per vehicle.

The City of Toronto used the numbers that were collected by City of Vaughan Staff through the infiltration study of 204 vehicles turning left at Conley Street and Steeles Avenue and exiting at Conley Street and New Westminster Drive. In their analysis, the City of Toronto assumed that if

a left turn prohibition was in place, approximately half of the vehicles would follow the prohibition, and half would make the illegal left turn at Conley Street. By transferring 50% of the left turn vehicles at Conley Street and Steeles Avenue to Steeles Avenue and New Westminster Drive, the results of the City of Toronto's analysis are as follows: The eastbound left turn phase in the evening period would still operate at a Level of Service 'F', however, the delay would increase to 988.8 seconds per vehicle to make the left turn. The entire intersection would be reduced to a Level of Service 'F', and the overall intersection delay would increase to 142.8 seconds per vehicle.

Accordingly, City of Toronto staff advised that they will not implement the requested left turn prohibition at the intersection of Steeles Avenue and Conley Street.

Engineering Services staff has sent a letter to York Regional Police to request enforcement on Conley Street.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health & Wellness – To advocate for, protect and enhance community safety, health and wellness through education, design and enforcement.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that this report be received for information purposes and referred to the City of Toronto for further consideration.

Attachments

1. Location Map

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Respectfully submitted,

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LW:mc

ATTACHMENT No. 1

