

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - JUNE 16, 2003**

### **RELOCATION OF CROSSING GUARD – ATKINSON AVENUE AND ARNOLD AVENUE ADDITIONAL REVIEW**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. That the existing adult school crossing guard located mid-block in front of the Netivot Hatorah Day School remain as situated and that it not be replaced with a mid-block pedestrian signal location at this time; and
2. That the Public Works Department construct ramp curbs and connections to the municipal sidewalk at the school crossing.

#### **Purpose**

In December 2002, Council approved a report entitled "Relocation of Crossing Guard – Atkinson Avenue and Arnold Avenue". The existing adult crossing guard location on Atkinson Avenue is located a short distance north at a mid-block location in front of Netivot Hatorah Day School. (Refer to Attachment No. 1) As part of the report, signs at the crossing were upgraded to the florescent strong yellow-green type and a request for continued Police monitoring of traffic speed in the vicinity was made. It was also accepted that existing adult guard school crossing located in front of Netivot Hatorah Day School remain as situated.

It was also recommended that the location be monitored now that traffic signals have been installed at the nearby intersection of Atkinson Avenue and Arnold Avenue, to determine if the present school crossing site will continue to be appropriate and to examine if upgrading to a mid-block traffic signal is warranted.

Due to the ensuing winter weather and resultant low number of walking students during these months, follow-up monitoring of the crossing was delayed until the spring of 2003.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

On May 28/29, 2003 staff conducted morning and afternoon observations of student crossing patterns at the subject location. It was noted that the number of students crossing Atkinson Avenue with adult guard assistance has remained stable. The morning home to school period increased to 17 assisted crossings from the previous 12 to 15 crossings noted in the 2002 observations.

This is a relatively low number of crossings and numerous parents drive students to and from these two adjacent private schools. Therefore, no apparent need exists to warrant upgrading the adult guard crossing into a mid-block pedestrian signal.

Two related issues came up during the staff observations. The existing school crossing should have barrier curb ramping to better accommodate pedestrians and parents with infant strollers. Also, the west side requires revised No Stopping signs near the school crossing to ensure unobstructed visibility for the school the crossing. Staff will have these No Stopping signs posted as soon as possible.

#### **Conclusion**

It is recommended that the adult school crossing guard remain at the mid-block location directly in front of Netivot Hatorah Day School and that the Public Works Department construct ramp curbs and concrete connections to the municipal sidewalk at the school crossing.

**Attachments**

1. Location Map.

**Report prepared by**

Mike Gough, Senior Transportation Technologist, ext 8784  
Philip Weber, Transportation Engineer, ext 8264

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P. Eng.  
Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

MG/

# ATTACHMENT No. 1

