

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – FEBRUARY 20, 2006

KING HIGH DRIVE AT DUFFERIN STREET PROPOSED CENTRE MEDIANS

Recommendation

Mayor Michael Di Biase and Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommend:

- 1) That the Region of York be requested to construct centre medians on Dufferin Street at King High Drive to better control left turn movements at this intersection; and
- 2) That the Region of York be requested to review the operation of the Dufferin Street/Centre Street intersection with a view to providing more time for southbound left turns at the intersection.

Economic Impact

The request is to have the Region complete the work as a Regional undertaking with no cost to the City of Vaughan.

Purpose

To review the previous Council decision to close King High Drive at Dufferin Street by constructing medians on Dufferin Street that would better control left turns onto King High Drive and thereby resolve the concerns of area residents.

Background - Analysis and Options

At its meeting of December 12, 2005, Council determined that King High Drive should be closed at Dufferin Street to eliminate infiltration through the area and to reduce speeding on King High Drive.

Following the public hearing on the road closure and Council's decision on the matter, a number of area residents have requested that the matter be reviewed. Residents were concerned that the road closure would inconvenience residents on King High Drive, Belfield Court and surrounding streets and would increase traffic on Beverley Glen Boulevard and Concord Road.

York Regional Police have noted that motorists who make the southbound left turn from Dufferin to King High during the prohibited times have complained that they did not notice the sign posted to advise of the turning prohibition. The sign is located at the south east corner of Dufferin and King High.

Construction of centre medians on Dufferin Street at the north and south sides of King High Drive would require southbound motorists turning on to King High from Dufferin to slow down prior to making the turn. Medians would also prevent these motorists from cutting the corner and crossing into the outbound lane from King High. In addition, the sign advising of the left turn prohibition could be installed in the median where it would be more visible to motorists. The proposal is illustrated on Attachment No. 1.

Since the Dufferin Street/King High drive intersection is under the jurisdiction of the Region of York, the Region should be requested to construct the medians.

One of the reasons for motorists turning at King High is to avoid delay at the Dufferin Centre Street intersection where they experience a dedicated left turn signal. The Region should be

requested to extend the time available for southbound left turns at the intersection thereby encouraging motorists to turn here rather than at King High Drive.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 A-1 Pursue Excellence in the Delivery of Core Services and A-2 Promote Community Safety Health and Wellness.

Conclusion

Construction of medians on Dufferin Street at King High Drive would control left turns onto King High Drive and reduce speeding and short cutting at the intersection while extending the left turn phase at Centre Street would discourage infiltration into the King High Drive area.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Di Biase,
Mayor

Sandra Yeung Racco,
Councillor Ward 4

ATTACHMENT No. 1

