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TURN PROHIBITIONS
14TH AVENUE AT NOBLE STREET AND KENNEDY ROAD AT LEE AVENUE
TOWN OF MARKHAM

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, August 23, 2006, from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. A westbound left-turn prohibition at the intersection of 14th Avenue (Y.R. 71) and Noble Street, in the Town of Markham, between 7:00 am and 9:00 am, each day of the week, be implemented.
2. An eastbound no through prohibition at the intersection of Kennedy Road (Y.R. 3) and Lee Avenue, in the Town of Markham, all day, each day of the week be implemented.
3. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.
4. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the Town of Markham and to the Chief of York Regional Police, for enforcement as their resources permit.

2. PURPOSE

To obtain Council approval for a westbound left-turn prohibition at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Noble Street, for each day of the week between 7:00 am and 9:00 am, as well as an all day eastbound through movement prohibition, for each day of the week, at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue. A location plan is provided as *Attachment 1*. A Regional by-law is required under the *Highway Traffic Act* before any such movement prohibitions can be signed and enforced.

3. BACKGROUND

Hagerman Corners is a mature residential community located within Milliken Mills in the Town of Markham. The community is bounded by 14th Avenue to the north, Highglen Avenue to the south, Brimley Road to the east and Kennedy Road to the west. Within this community, Lee Avenue runs in a east-west direction connecting Brimley Avenue with Kennedy Road. Noble Street runs in a north-south direction and connects 14th Avenue

and Highglen Avenue. Both Noble Street and Lee Avenue are classified as local residential streets and both have a speed limit of 40-km per hour.

The Milliken Mills Community Centre and the Milliken High School are situated next to Hagerman Corners on the west side of Kennedy Road.

The residents of Hagerman Corners have, in the past, expressed concerns regarding vehicles infiltrating through their community, especially along Noble Street and Lee Avenue.

In 2005, York Region advised the Town of Markham that a traffic control signal at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue is warranted and would, thereby, be signalized during 2006. Due to the likelihood that the signalization of this intersection will further increase the amount of vehicles infiltrating through the community, the Town of Markham conducted vehicle infiltration studies and community meetings to identify suitable mitigation measures.

A comprehensive vehicle infiltration study was conducted on Monday, November 7, 2005 during the morning and afternoon peak periods. The study recorded vehicle license plates at each of the five entry and exit points within the community. By identifying plates from an entry point to an exit point, within a specified travel time, it was possible to identify the predominant vehicular infiltration routes through the community.

The study found that vehicle infiltration occurs primarily during the morning peak period. For example, of the 140 westbound vehicles that turned left from 14th Avenue onto Noble Street, during the morning peak, a total of 126 (90 %) infiltrated through the community southwards towards Kennedy Road and Highglen Avenue. Drivers choose to perform westbound left turns at this unsignalized intersection with Noble Street to avoid congestion at the signalized intersections of 14th Avenue and Kennedy Road, as well as at 14th Avenue and Brimley Road.

The community also expressed concerns about eastbound traffic infiltrating through the neighbourhood from the Milliken Mills Community Centre after the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue.

To mitigate the expected increase in traffic infiltration through the Hagerman Corners community after the signalization of the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue, the Town of Markham Council, at their meeting on April 25, 2006 approved that the Region be requested to implement the following prohibitions:

- A westbound left-turn prohibition at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Noble Street between 7:00 am and 9:00 am, any day.

- An eastbound through prohibition at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue, anytime.

The Town of Markham Council, at the same meeting, also approved a northbound left-turn and southbound right-turn prohibition at the intersection of Brimley Road and Lee Avenue (a municipal intersection) between 7:00 am and 9:00 am, any time.

The Town of Markham gauged the opinion of the local community by mailing notices to each affected household, placing advertisements in the Sun and the Economist newspapers and holding a public input meeting. In addition, the principal of the local private school was also consulted. The Town has not received any objections to the proposed turn restrictions.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Should westbound left-turning vehicles be prohibited at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Noble Street during the morning peak, approximately 130 vehicles per hour will be redirected to either the intersection of 14th Avenue with Brimley Road or the intersection of 14th Avenue and Kennedy Road.

The existing westbound traffic volume at 14th Avenue and Brimley Road during the morning peak exceed 250 vehicles per hour and at Kennedy Road the westbound left-turn volume is about 70 vehicles per hour.

These two intersections are both signalized and between them have sufficient westbound left-turn capacity to accommodate the expected increase in westbound left-turn volumes.

It is not anticipated that the prohibition of an eastbound through movement at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue will have a significant negative impact on the traffic operations.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the manufacture and installation of the turn prohibition signs are included within the 2006 Roads Capital Program. In accordance with the Regional and Provincial Offences Agreements, the Town of Markham will retain any enforcement revenue.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The community of Hagerman Corners, in the Town of Markham, has been consulted and has agreed to the implementation of the proposed turn restrictions. It is anticipated that these turn prohibitions will reduce the amount of vehicles infiltrating through the neighbourhood, thereby improving the quality of life of local residents.

7. CONCLUSION

To address concerns by the Hagerman Corners community about the anticipated increase in traffic infiltrating through the neighbourhood after the future signalization of the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue, it is recommended that Council approve a westbound left-turn prohibition at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Noble Street for each day of the week between 7:00 am and 9:00 am, as well as an all day eastbound through movement prohibition, for each day of the week, at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Lee Avenue.

The Regional Clerk should, therefore, forward this report and the adopted by-law to the Clerk of the Town of Markham and York Regional Police.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was included in the agenda for the September 6, 2006 Committee meeting.)