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RIGHT TURN ON RED RESTRICTION
ISLINGTON AVENUE AT LANGSTAFF ROAD
CITY OF VAUGHAN

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 "No Right Turn on Red" traffic restriction be implemented at the signalized intersection of Islington Avenue (Y.R. 17) at Langstaff Road (Y.R. 72), in the City of Vaughan.
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.
3. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and to the Chief of York Regional Police.

2. PURPOSE

This report proposes a "No Right Turn on Red" restriction for northbound traffic at the signalized intersection of Islington Avenue at Langstaff Road to address potential operational safety concerns. In accordance with the *Highway Traffic Act*, a Regional by-law is required before any traffic restriction can be signed and enforced.

3. BACKGROUND

Recent adjustments to the configuration of the signalized intersection of Islington Avenue at Langstaff Road have resulted in potential safety conflicts for turning traffic. A location plan is provided as *Attachment 1*. At this intersection, double left-turn lanes for southbound traffic on Islington Avenue have been constructed. These left-turning vehicles move from a double storage lane into two receiving lanes on Langstaff Road. As there are only two receiving lanes on Langstaff Road, simultaneous southbound left and northbound right turns cannot be achieved. This operation may contribute to driver confusion creating potential conflicts as it does not allow for northbound right turns to be made during a red signal indication while the southbound left-turn movements are provided a green signal indication.

Regional staff has received concerns from residents as well as local commuters regarding the operation of the intersection since the reconstruction and implementation of the southbound double left-turn lanes.

A "No Right Turn on Red" restriction is primarily used when there is reduced visibility or an unexpected conflict between right-turning traffic and the traffic provided with the right-of-way. The intersection of Islington Avenue at Langstaff Road has been identified and justifies the implementation of this turning movement restriction.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Islington Avenue is a five-lane, undivided urban arterial roadway that carries an average of 26,000 vehicles per day. The physical characteristics of this area include residential homes as well as a local garden centre establishment located just north of the intersection. The speed limit throughout this section of Islington Avenue is 60-km per hour.

The Islington Avenue at Langstaff Road intersection was recently reconstructed as part of the Region's capital program. This reconstruction included the addition of double southbound left-turn lanes. The southbound double left-turn lanes carry into two receiving lanes on Langstaff Road. This lane configuration creates a conflict when traffic is turning left into the two receiving lanes while northbound right-turning traffic is attempting a right turn on a red indication.

A "No Right Turn on Red" restriction for northbound traffic will eliminate this conflict. However, some level of northbound congestion may result from the implementation of this restriction. A further review will be conducted shortly after the implementation of the proposed restriction to assess alternative phasing and timing arrangements to alleviate any potential traffic congestion.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the manufacture and installation of the "No Right Turn on Red" signs is included within the 2006 Roads Program Budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

City of Vaughan staff has been consulted on the proposed "No Right Turn on Red" restriction at the intersection of Islington Avenue and Langstaff Road and are in support of the restriction.

7. CONCLUSION

Recent adjustments to the configuration of the signalized intersection of Islington Avenue at Langstaff Road have resulted in potential safety conflicts for turning traffic. The proposed "No Right Turn on Red" restriction at the intersection will improve the operation of traffic at the intersection and mitigate potential safety issues that have been introduced due to the construction of a double southbound left-turn lane on Islington Avenue and the conflicts between northbound right and southbound left turns.

The Regional Clerk should forward a copy of this report and the adopted by-law to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and to the Chief of 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.)