

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2016

Item 4, Report No. 18, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 19, 2016.

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**'U-TURN' PROHIBITION REVIEW
APPLE BLOSSOM DRIVE
WARD 4**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Transportation Services, Parks and Forestry Operations, dated April 5, 2016:

Recommendation

The Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Transportation Services, Parks and Forestry Operations recommend:

1. That a By-law be enacted to amend By-law 284-94, the Consolidated Traffic By-law, to add a U-turn prohibition on Apple Blossom Drive, from Sandwood Drive to Clovis Street.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report contributes to the goals and objectives within Green Directions Vaughan, The City's Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan, specifically:

Goal 3: To ensure that Vaughan is a city that is easy to get around with a low environmental impact.

Objective 3.2: To develop and sustain a network of roads that supports efficient and accessible public and private transit.

Economic Impact

The cost associated with the installation of the U-turn prohibition signage has been included in the approved 2016 Operating Budget. The ongoing costs to maintain the signage will be incorporated into future year operating budgets.

Communications Plan

Staff have been in contact with Carrville Mills Public School Administration and area residents and will advise the local community of the outcome of Council's decision in this matter. Staff will also notify York Regional Police, and request enforcement of this prohibition.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to review the feasibility of implementing a U-turn prohibition on Apple Blossom Drive, in front of Carrville Mills Public School, in response to a request from the School Administration.

Background – Analysis and Options

Apple Blossom Drive is a minor collector roadway with a 23.0 metre right-of-way and an 11.5 metre pavement width. The road is a two lane cross-section, and sidewalks exist on both sides of the roadway. The road extends from Dufferin Street to Bathurst Glen Drive and is about 1.4 km in length. The area is shown in Attachment No.1.

On-street parking from pick-up and drop-off activities along Apple Blossom Drive in front of Carrville Mills Public School results in U-turn traffic movements.

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Carrville Mills Public School, located at 270 Apple Blossom Drive, is on the north side of the roadway between Sandwood Drive and Clovis Street.

At the all-way stop controlled intersection of Apple Blossom Drive and Sandwood Drive there is a school crossing guard. There is an existing stopping prohibition on both sides of Apple Blossom Drive at the school crosswalk.

The school has three accesses on Apple Blossom Drive, with two westerly driveways being a one-way drop off zone, and the easterly driveway a direct access to the school parking lot. During the pick-up/drop off hours, the school parking lot is not able to accommodate the volume of motorists on-site. The on-site drop off and pick up activity by larger school buses also adds traffic delays. As a result, on-street parking occurs on both sides of Apple Blossom Drive near the school area, resulting in undesirable U-turn traffic movements.

U-turn traffic movements during the school's start and dismissal times create conflicting traffic movements between motorists.

Following the receipt of a request from school representatives, City staff reviewed this matter and undertook traffic studies in November 2015. Staff have confirmed that U-turn traffic movements in the vicinity of the school property increases traffic congestion and the number of conflicting traffic movements, which negatively impacts pedestrians, cyclists and motorists in the local community.

The proposed U-turn prohibition will be limited on Apple Blossom Drive, from Sandwood Drive to Clovis Street.

To improve operations for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists within this community, a U-turn prohibition along Apple Blossom Drive, from Sandwood Drive to Clovis Street is recommended. The proposed location will prohibit U-turns in front of the school where pedestrian activity is taking place.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018), the recommended U-turn prohibition will improve traffic operations and safety for all road users, thus promoting community safety, health and wellness.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

It is recommended to add a U-turn Prohibition on Apple Blossom Drive, from Sandwood Drive to Clovis Street.

Attachments

1. Location Map

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(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)