

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**

Item 15, Report No. 31, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 20, 2016.

**15**

**'U-TURN' PROHIBITION REVIEW  
PETER RUPERT AVENUE, SOUTH OF MAJOR MACKENZIE 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 September 7, 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 Peter Rupert Avenue, from the south limit of Major Mackenzie Drive to 30m south of Freedom Trail/Lealinds Road.

**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 within the approved 2016 Operating Budget. The ongoing costs to maintain the signage will be incorporated into future year Operating Budgets.

**Communications Plan**

Staff will notify York Regional Police, and request enforcement on Peter Rupert Avenue once the prohibition is in place.

**Purpose**

To assess the feasibility of implementing a U-turn Prohibition on Peter Rupert Avenue south of the Major Mackenzie Drive to improve safety for road users.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

Peter Rupert Avenue is a two-lane minor collector roadway with a 26.0 metre right-of-way and an 11.5 metre pavement width. McNaughton Road East is a four-lane major collector roadway with 26 metre right-of-way and 14 metre pavement width. The signalized intersection of McNaughton Road/Peter Rupert Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive is under jurisdiction of the Region of York. The area is shown in Attachment No.1.

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#### **York Region reviewed signal timings and lane configurations of the intersection to improve safety for road users**

In 2013, the Region of York had modified the signal timings at the intersection of McNaughton Road/Peter Rupert Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive to provide additional green time for the heavy southbound traffic. Further review by the Region in 2016 showed that any further signal timing modification would adversely impact the Major Mackenzie Drive operations.

To improve the safety of road users and traffic operations, the Region of York is going to transition the southbound curb lane from a shared lane to an exclusive right turn lane. This will avoid merging into one southbound travel lane immediately south of the intersection. With reducing the number of southbound through vehicles, the number of U-turns will potentially decrease.

#### **Motorists and residents raised concerns regarding “U-Turns” on Peter Rupert Avenue**

Staff received a number of concerns from local residents about the high number of U-turns on Peter Rupert Avenue south of Major Mackenzie Drive. Motorists are traveling southbound on McNaughton Road through the Major Mackenzie Drive intersection on to Peter Rupert Avenue making a U-turn in order to travel east on Major Mackenzie Drive.

#### **A traffic operational review showed U-turn traffic movements create safety concerns**

Staff installed Video Collection Units (VCU) to capture the operational conditions along Peter Rupert Avenue south of Major Mackenzie Drive on July 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am to 9:00 am, and from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The number of U-turn movements observed is shown in the table below.

DATE	TIME	# OF U-TURNS
July 5, 2016	7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (2 hours)	63
	3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (3 hours)	42
July 6, 2016	7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (2 hours)	54
	3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (3 hours)	45

The review showed there are a significant number of U-turn movements during the morning and afternoon peak traffic hours on Peter Rupert Avenue between Major Mackenzie Drive and Freedom Trail/Lealinds Road. Motorists conducting the U-turns blocked the southbound traffic on Peter Rupert Avenue and forced the northbound vehicles to abruptly brake due to the unanticipated U-turns and stop in order to provide courtesy gaps. This creates heavy southbound traffic queues on Peter Rupert Avenue south of the Major Mackenzie Drive intersection during the morning and afternoon peak traffic hours.

The U-turn traffic movements also increase the number of conflicting traffic movement, which negatively impacts pedestrians, cyclists and motorists in the local community.

#### **The proposed U-turn prohibition could be implemented on Peter Rupert Avenue in conjunction with the lane reconfiguration at the intersection of Major Mackenzie Drive and McNaughton Road/ Peter Rupert Avenue**

To improve operations for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists within this community, a southbound to northbound U-turn prohibition on Peter Rupert Avenue from the south limit of Major Mackenzie Drive to 30 metre south of Freedom Trail/Lealinds Road is recommended.

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

In consideration with the strategic priorities related to the 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**

The intersection of Major Mackenzie Drive and McNaughton Road/Peter Rupert Avenue is under jurisdiction of the Region of York. The City and Region have worked collectively to gather information to make improvements to the operations and facilitate the safer movement of traffic.

**Conclusion**

Based on the study results, it is recommended that a southbound to northbound U-turn prohibition be implemented on Peter Rupert Avenue from the south limit of Major Mackenzie Drive to 30 metre south of the intersection of Peter Rupert Avenue and Freedom Trail/Lealinds Road to facilitate the safer movement of traffic.

**Attachment**

1. Location Map

**Report prepared by:**

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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.)