

INFORMATION REPORT

TO: Chair and Members Public Works Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: Ward 1
COMMITTEE DATE: May 16, 2013	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Queen Street South at Stanley Avenue - Part-time Left Turn Restriction (PW13036) - (Ward 1) (Outstanding Business List Item)	
SUBMITTED BY: Gerry Davis, CMA General Manager Public Works Department SIGNATURE:	PREPARED BY: Sue Russell Project Manager, Traffic Operations (905) 546-2424, Extension 5660

Council Direction:

Public Works Committee, at its meeting of April 18, 2011, approved the motion to implement a left-hand turn prohibition from Queen Street South onto Stanley Avenue during the morning peak period Monday through Friday only, and that the prohibition be in place for an eighteen month pilot period. Staff were directed to report back to the Public Works Committee on the results of the pilot project prior to the end of the eighteen month trial period.

Information:

In April 2011, the Public Works Committee approved a motion to install a part-time lefthand turn prohibition on Queen Street South onto Stanley Avenue. The motion was raised in an effort to control the cut-through traffic issue that Stanley Avenue was experiencing.

The installation of the restriction was delayed for a year as a Transportation Demand Management study needed to be conducted for Wards 1, 2, and 8. The TDM study focused on traffic using the Queen Street Hill/Beckett Drive. The implementation of the part-time left turn restriction would have an effect on the traffic using this escarpment crossing and therefore was not installed until the study was complete. The details of the TDM will be addressed in an upcoming report from Mobility Programs and Special Projects.

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The initial installation of the restriction did generate many complaints from motorists that used Stanley. Many motorists had to change their travel routes due to the restriction. Over the past eleven months, the number of motorist complaints that staff have received has reduced. No new complaints have been received in recent months.

Police Services consider this restriction a traffic priority for the Kirkendall Neighbourhood. The police are actively enforcing this restriction and giving it special attention.

Staff conducted two interim studies to determine if motorists are abiding by the restriction. Both studies indicated that the volume of motorists turning left onto Stanley Avenue has been reduced, however, motorists are continuing to illegally turn left onto Stanley Avenue during the 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. restriction. Many motorists hesitate before turning onto Stanley Avenue to see if Police Services are present.

Staff did note an increase of traffic on the adjacent street (Kent Street) during this time period. Police Services also advised that illegal left turns from Queen Street South/Beckett Drive onto Glenfern Avenue have increased and that they are enforcing this area also.

Additional studies are required to determine the full impact of the turn restriction. There is an upcoming closure of the Queen Street Hill/ Beckett Drive. This closure will have an effect on daily traffic patterns in this neighbourhood. Staff cannot conduct accurate studies during the closure. As this closure is taking place within the eighteen month trial period, staff will not be able to respond back properly to Public Works Committee within the designated time frame. Therefore, staff recommend that the subject restriction remain in place until such time that the studies can be completed.

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