

The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
January 12, 2023

Report of the Commissioner of Public Works

Request for Pedestrian Crossover Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road Town of East Gwillimbury

1. Recommendations

1. A pedestrian crossover be installed on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road in the Town of East Gwillimbury.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerk of the Town of East Gwillimbury and York Regional Police.

2. Summary

This report responds to a request from the Town of East Gwillimbury for installation of a pedestrian crossover on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road, to be funded by the Town through the developer group.

Key Points:

- Town of East Gwillimbury is requesting the Region approve installation of a pedestrian crossover on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road to support continuity of the Radial Line Trail and to enhance pedestrian safety
- Staff recommend installation of the pedestrian crossover for public safety, connectivity and forecasted demand

3. Background

April 2021, Council approved the Pedestrian Crossover Policy for use on Regional roads

The Region's Pedestrian Crossover Policy (Policy) includes a set of criteria used to determine the need and appropriateness of pedestrian crossovers. Criterion includes numerical requirements for volume of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, crossing distance, connectivity and collisions. The Policy is consistent with Ministry of Transportation of Ontario

Pedestrian Crossover criteria and directly references Ontario Traffic Manual Book 15 – Pedestrian Crossing Treatments. This publication provides a consistent approach across the province to determine when installation of pedestrian crossovers could be required.

Since 2021, three pedestrian crossovers have been installed on Regional roads to provide safe, controlled crossings for vulnerable road users

In 2021, the Region’s first pedestrian crossover was installed on Yonge Street at the Holland Landing Community Centre in the Town of East Gwillimbury (Figure 1). In 2022, two additional pedestrian crossovers were installed: Ninth Line at Elm Street, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and Baseline Road west of Dalton Road, Town of Georgina.

Figure 1
Pedestrian Crossover, Yonge Street
at the Holland Landing Community Centre, Town of East Gwillimbury



Town of East Gwillimbury is requesting a pedestrian crossover to support continuity of the Radial Line Trail and enhance pedestrian safety

On [July 19, 2022](#), Town of East Gwillimbury passed a resolution requesting the Region approve installation of a pedestrian crossover to support continuity of the Radial Line Trail and enhance pedestrian safety on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road. Funding is to be provided to the Town of East Gwillimbury from the development group.

4. Analysis

Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road has a retirement residence and trail network in the vicinity

Development is ongoing in this area (Figure 2), including a seven-storey 204-unit retirement residence. Occupancy is expected in fall 2023. An additional 54 townhouses are expected to be occupied between fall 2023 and spring 2024. A significant number of proposals for mixed-use development on the southwest corner of Leslie Street and Mount Albert Road are pending.

The Tom Taylor Trail, the Town of Newmarket portion of the Nokiidaa Trail, follows the Holland River and Fairy Lake and meets the Rogers Reservoir Trail in the Town of East Gwillimbury. The trail heads north and south of Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road, also called Radial Line Trail in this area. The pedestrian crossover will provide a protected crossing facility for trail system users and continuity of the trail system.

Figure 2
Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road Development



Staff recommend a pedestrian crossover for public safety, connectivity and forecasted demand

On September 15, 2022, a pedestrian crossover study was conducted, applying Policy criteria. Pedestrian volumes on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road do not currently satisfy Policy criteria as the community is still being developed.

The pedestrian crossover would provide a more direct and safer crossing opportunity for pedestrians and cyclists. In addition, it would provide an important connection to future developments and trails. The next closest pedestrian crossing is located at Mount Albert Road and Leslie Street, over 330 metres to the east. Motorists would only be required to stop at the pedestrian crossover when pedestrians are crossing. A pedestrian crossover at Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road would have no significant operational impact with minimal delays to commuter traffic on Mount Albert Road.

5. Financial

Town of East Gwillimbury, through the development group, would be responsible to fully fund installation of the pedestrian crossover at an initial capital cost of approximately \$65,000 and a one time, 10-year operating and maintenance fee of \$5,000. All costs are non-refundable.

6. Local Impact

A pedestrian crossover on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road would enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety, support continuity of the Radial Line Trail and provide an important connection to future development and trails.

Town of East Gwillimbury staff have been consulted and support Regional staff's recommendation. Staff continue to collaborate with municipal partners to determine opportunities for pedestrian crossovers on Regional roads.

7. Conclusion

The Town of East Gwillimbury is requesting approval of a pedestrian crossover on Mount Albert Road near Countryman Road to enhance pedestrian safety and support continuity of the Radial Line Trail. The Town of East Gwillimbury, through the development group, would be responsible to fully fund installation and operating and maintenance costs of this pedestrian crossover.

The requested pedestrian crossover does not currently satisfy the Pedestrian Crossover Policy. However, staff recommend the pedestrian crossover for public safety, connectivity and forecasted demand, which will likely satisfy the Policy in the foreseeable future.

For more information on this report, please contact Joseph Petrunaro, Director, Roads and Traffic Operations, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75220. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Recommended by:



Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.
Commissioner of Public Works

Approved for Submission:



Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

December 9, 2022
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