

The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
January 12, 2023

Report of the Commissioner of Public Works

Request for Traffic Signals 15th Sideroad at Township Wide Recreation Centre Township of King

1. Recommendations

1. Traffic signals be installed on 15th Sideroad at the entrance to the future Township Wide Recreation Centre in the Township of King, subject to being fully funded by the Township of King.
2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the Township of King and York Regional Police.

2. Summary

This report responds to a resolution received from the Township of King requesting installation of unwarranted traffic signals on 15th Sideroad at the future Township Wide Recreation Centre (Recreation Centre), subject to being fully funded by the requestor.

Key Points:

- Township of King is requesting unwarranted traffic signals to support safe crossing opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists and reduce peak period delays for side street vehicles
- Regional staff recommend traffic signals based on connectivity, forecasted demand and no operational safety concerns
- Council has previously approved traffic signals that do not satisfy the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy criteria where there are reasonable grounds and they will be fully funded by the requesting party

3. Background

June 2015, Council adopted the updated Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy

The Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy (Policy) is consistent with Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) traffic signal warrant criteria and directly references Ontario Traffic Manual Book 12 – Traffic Signals. This publication provides a consistent approach be used across the province to determine appropriate installation of traffic signals.

Council will be updated on the Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy following completion of Ministry of Transportation Ontario's review MTO has retained an independent consultant to review Ontario Traffic Manual Book 12 – Traffic Signals, which may result in an update to traffic and pedestrian signal criteria. This review is expected to be completed in late 2023 and may result in changes. In parallel, staff are reviewing the broader context of the Policy to advance traffic and pedestrian signals. Once these reviews are completed, staff will update Council on the Policy.

Township of King is requesting approval of unwarranted traffic signals at the future Recreation Centre on 15th Sideroad

In [June 2022](#), the Regional Clerk received a resolution from the Township of King requesting installation of unwarranted traffic signals. These signals would be located on 15th Sideroad, at the entrance to the future Recreation Centre at 1600 15th Sideroad. Installation of these signals is subject to Council approval and full funding from the requesting party.

Past installations of traffic signals not satisfying Policy criteria have been fully funded by the requesting party

Traffic signals not meeting Policy criteria are considered unwarranted. When requested, Council's practice has been to approve installation of unwarranted signals on Regional roads, conditional on costs being fully recovered from the requesting party.

4. Analysis

Traffic signals on 15th Sideroad will service future Recreation Centre and proposed King City East Lands residential development

The future Recreation Centre will be bounded by Dufferin Street to the east, 15th Sideroad to the south, and Seneca College King Campus to the north and west. Subject to Council approval for traffic signals at the Recreation Centre, Township of King will begin coordination with the developer to have signals installed by opening of the Recreation Centre, anticipated for summer 2024.

There is also a proposed residential development, known as King City East Lands, to be located on the south side of 15th Sideroad, across from the future recreation centre. This proposed development consists of more than 900 dwelling units. A future street connection to the King City East Lands development will form the south leg of the requested signalized

intersection. A location map showing proposed development sites and the requested traffic signals is included as Attachment 1.

Future Recreation Centre will attract pedestrian and cyclist activity from nearby developments

The future Recreation Centre will offer a wide range of amenities. This kind of large-scale recreation centre tends to generate pedestrian and cyclist trips from within and outside of the local community. The proposed King City East Lands development to the south, in addition to future expansions to the Recreation Centre, is expected to attract higher proportions of pedestrian and cyclist trips to the site. The Seneca College King Campus to the northwest of the future Recreation Centre is expected to draw pedestrian and cyclist traffic from the proposed neighborhood to the south.

Staff recommend traffic signals on 15th Sideroad at the future Recreation Centre based on connectivity, forecasted demand and no operational safety concerns

A Traffic Impact Study, prepared by the developer's consultant, reports traffic signals on 15th Sideroad at the future Recreation Centre do not currently satisfy the Region's Policy. However, traffic signals could safely operate at this intersection without creating operational safety concerns. On 15th Sideroad, traffic signals would rest on a green phase and only change to red when a vehicle or pedestrian is detected on the side street to the subdivision or at the access to the Recreation Centre. Installation of traffic signals will help reduce side street delays during rush hours with minimal added delay to traffic on the main road.

Installing traffic signals as part of the Recreation Centre development would provide a more direct and safer crossing opportunity for pedestrians and cyclists. The next closest pedestrian crossing is located at the intersection of Dufferin Street and 15th Sideroad, over 300 metres to the east. Further, this intersection provides an important connection to future development and trails. Forecasted demand indicates it would likely satisfy the Policy for traffic signals in the future.

5. Financial

The cost to install traffic signals at a typical intersection is about \$250,000, subject to final design. Annual operating costs are about \$7,800. Should the unwarranted signals be approved, as per Council-approved policy, the property owner would be responsible to fully fund the installation (\$250,000) and a one-time, 10-year operating and maintenance fee (\$78,000). All costs are non-refundable.

6. Local Impact

Traffic and pedestrian signals balance alternating rights-of-way between all road users and facilitate access to local communities and private properties. The Township of King endorses the proposed unwarranted traffic signals, subject to being fully funded by the requestor.

Based on a Traffic Impact Study prepared by the developer's consultant, the proposed traffic signals would operate safely at this intersection and would not create other operational concerns.

7. Conclusion

Township of King is requesting traffic signals on 15th Sideroad at the future Township Wide Recreation Centre to support safe crossing opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists and to reduce peak period delays for side street vehicles.

The requested traffic signals do not currently satisfy the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy criteria. However, staff recommend installation of traffic signals at this intersection based on connectivity and forecasted demand without creating operational safety concerns.

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 16, 2022
14246040

Attachment 1- Map of Township Wide Recreation Centre Site on 15th Sideroad