

# The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole  
Transportation Services  
June 13, 2019

Report of the Commissioner of Transportation Services

## **Traffic Signal Installation 2585 King Road, Township Municipal Centre**

### **1. Recommendations**

1. Traffic signals not be installed at the entrance to the King Township Municipal Centre located at 2585 King Road, in the Township of King.
2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the Township of King.

### **2. Summary**

This report addresses a resolution received from Township of King, requesting the Region approve installation of traffic signals at the entrance to the Township Municipal Centre (Municipal Centre) located at 2585 King Road, at the Township's cost.

Key Points:

- A new Municipal Centre was recently constructed at 2585 King Road
- A traffic study completed during the development approval process recommended the installation of auxiliary turn lanes and street illumination; traffic signals were not recommended.
- An operational review has confirmed that the location does not meet the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy

### **3. Background**

#### **A new Municipal Centre was recently constructed at 2585 King Road**

The property located at 2585 King Road was previously home to Holy Name Catholic Elementary School. The Township of King (Township) purchased the property in 2013 to facilitate a move from its location at 2075 King Road. The new, two-storey building is approximately 46,000 square feet and includes a York Regional Police substation and recreational space available for public use. The facility opened November 6, 2018.

The new Municipal Centre is located across from the King City Cemetery. In this section, King Road is a four-lane arterial corridor with no sidewalks. Traffic volume is approximately 29,000 vehicles per day. The posted speed limit is 50 km/h. A map of the area is included as Attachment 1.

### **Improvements to King Road are planned to facilitate the access for the new Municipal Centre**

Through the development review process, a traffic impact study was completed by an independent consultant and consultation between the Township and the Region regarding improvements necessary to service the new facility. As per the study, traffic signal warrants were not met at the Municipal Centre access. However, auxiliary turn lanes and illumination were recommended and agreed upon by the Region and the Township of King. The Township is completing these works in 2019 at their cost.

### **Township of King has requested the Region approve installation of a traffic signal at the entrance to the Municipal Centre on King Road, at their cost**

On April 1, 2019, the Township passed a resolution (Attachment 2) requesting the Region approve installation of traffic signals to facilitate access to the Municipal Centre located at 2585 King Road. Concerns with the existing access were initially brought forward by Township staff, York Regional Police and the public. The resolution acknowledged the location does not meet the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy criteria and identified that, should the Region approve the installation, the associated installation and operating costs would be funded by the Township of King.

## **4. Analysis**

### **The Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy is consistent with Ministry of Transportation of Ontario traffic signal warrant criteria**

In June 2015, Council adopted the updated Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy, which directly references Ontario Traffic Manual Book 12, entitled Traffic Signals. This Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) publication provides for a consistent approach used across the Province to determine whether installation of signals would be beneficial. MTO signal criteria are based on traffic volume and delay, pedestrian volume and collision history. Council has authority to approve traffic signals that do not satisfy policy criteria.

## **An operational review has confirmed the location does not meet the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy**

Traffic studies conducted Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at the Municipal Centre entrance confirmed the location does not meet the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy, satisfying only 15 per cent of minimum criteria. During the eight busiest hours of the day, there were less than 350 vehicles entering and exiting the site. The maximum left turn delay experienced was three minutes.

Analysis indicates total delay over the morning and afternoon rush hours would be reduced for traffic using the private access, but delay would be introduced for vehicles on King Road. As there is significantly more traffic volume on King Road, the net result would introduce more total delay and the intersection would perform at a reduced level of service. Outside of peak traffic hours, however, the additional delay would be minimal, as the traffic signal would rest with a green indication on King Road until a left turning vehicle from the Municipal Centre is detected.

Although the private access is located in a valley, available sight distances (looking east and west) exceed minimum guidelines identified in the Transportation Association of Canada Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads.

### **5. Financial**

The typical cost to install traffic signals is approximately \$200,000. Annual operating costs are approximately \$7,800.

The Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy stipulates funding of traffic or pedestrian signals at private entrances are at the expense of the property owner.

In cases where unwarranted signals have been installed on Regional roads, Council's practice has been to approve installation of traffic signals conditional upon costs being fully recovered from the requesting party.

### **6. Local Impact**

The Township of King has requested traffic signals be installed at this location at their cost. Employees and citizens accessing the Municipal Centre would benefit from these signals. Commuter traffic on King Road will experience increased delays.

The recommendations of this report have been shared with local municipal staff.

## 7. Conclusion

A new Municipal Centre was recently constructed at 2585 King Road. A traffic study completed during the development approval process recommended the installation of auxiliary turn lanes and street illumination; traffic signals were not recommended. An operational review has confirmed the location does not meet the Region's Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Policy.

Council has the authority to approve traffic signals that do not satisfy the policy.

---

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

Recommended by: **Paul Jankowski**  
Commissioner of Transportation Services

Approved for Submission: **Bruce Macgregor**  
Chief Administrative Officer

May 29, 2019  
Attachments (2)  
9345968