

Riversdale Neighbourhood Traffic Review - Follow-up

ISSUE

The residents of the 200 block of Avenue F South had an outstanding traffic concern that was not addressed through the Neighbourhood Traffic Review finalized in early 2019.

BACKGROUND

City Council, at its meeting held on March 26, 2007, considered a report regarding traffic calming on the 100 and 200 blocks of Avenue F South and resolved:

“That the Administration report further after a more comprehensive review of vehicle speed and volume is completed in the spring of 2007.”

City Council, at its meeting held on April 21, 2008, considered a report recommending that a diverter be installed, on a temporary basis, at the intersection of 21st Street and Avenue F South, and resolved:

“That the matter be referred back to the Administration for a further report.”

City Council, at its meeting held on July 21, 2010, considered a report and resolved:

“That a traffic calming device known as a directional closure be placed temporarily at the intersection of Avenue F South and 21st Street West, as indicated on attached Plan 250-0042-007r001 to restrict all southbound traffic on Avenue F South from entering into the Riversdale Neighbourhood.”

City Council, at its meeting held on August 17, 2011, considered a report for information regarding traffic conditions on Avenue F South between 21st and 22nd Streets. The report noted that the only way to reduce traffic volumes on the 100 block of Avenue F South would be to implement restrictive measures such as a diverter, directional closure, or a one-way street at either end of the block. Stakeholders at that time did not support these restrictive measures. Temporary curb extensions were installed at the intersection of 21st Street and Avenue F South to calm traffic along this route.

City Council, at its Regular Business Meeting held on February 25, 2019, considered the Riversdale Neighbourhood Traffic Review report, and resolved:

“That the Administration engage with the residents of the 200 block of Avenue F South to discuss the ongoing issue of congestion on that block.”

CURRENT STATUS

The Administration met with a resident of the 200 block of Avenue F South on July 4, 2019. The resident clarified that their ongoing traffic concern was that the 200 block of Avenue F South is not wide enough to accommodate two-way traffic, especially with vehicles parked on both sides of the street and the amount of traffic generated by the Giant Tiger and Tim Hortons stores one block to the north.

The following options have been considered and rejected during previous traffic analyses:

- Diverter at Avenue F South and 21st Street;
- Directional closure at Avenue F South and 21st Street for southbound traffic (placed on the north leg of the intersection);
- Traffic signals at Avenue G South and 20th Street;
- Speed humps on Avenue F South;
- Remove the signals at Avenue F South and 20th Street;
- One-way street southbound on Avenue F South between 20th Street to 21st Street;
- Right-in/right-out island at Avenue F South and 21st Street; and
- Full closure at Avenue F South and 21st Street.

In an effort to address the ongoing concern with traffic on this block, a directional closure option for the intersection at Avenue F South and 21st Street to restrict southbound traffic to the 200 block of Avenue F South was developed (placed on the south leg of the intersection). This option is illustrated in Appendix 1.

A letter was circulated to the property owners of the 200 Block of Avenue F South to gauge their interest in pursuing the southbound directional closure option. A copy of the letter is included in Appendix 2.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Feedback received from the property owners indicates a lack of interest in pursuing temporary traffic calming measures (such as the directional closure) beyond those recommended in the Riversdale Neighbourhood Traffic Review report.

Four responses were submitted, resulting in a 17% response rate. Of the four responses received, all respondents were in support of a directional closure.

NEXT STEPS

The Riversdale Neighbourhood Traffic Review recommendation of a four-way stop and permanent curb extensions at the intersection of 21st Street and Avenue F South will proceed.

IMPLICATIONS

The stop signs are estimated to cost \$500 and there is sufficient funding in Capital Project #1512 – Neighbourhood Traffic Management. They will be installed in 2019. The permanent curb extensions are estimated to cost \$90,000 and will be funded by Capital Project #1504 – Neighbourhood Traffic Permanent Installations. The curb extensions at this location will be prioritized with other neighbourhood recommendations and added to the capital budget request accordingly.

There are no legal, social, or environmental implications.

APPENDICES

1. Directional Closure Option – 21st Street and Avenue F South Report
2. Engage - Directional Closure Feedback, Avenue F South (20th Street to 21st Street) – August 2019

Report Approval

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