

## Admin Report - 9th Street Directional Closure Trial Project Follow-up.docx

### ISSUE

Residents of the 100 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Street East expressed concerns related to speeding and short-cutting. The Administration completed a trial project of a directional closure at 9<sup>th</sup> Street East and Idylwyld Drive.

### BACKGROUND

At its Regular Business Meeting held on July 23, 2018, City Council considered the Traffic Volume and Speed – 100 Block of 9<sup>th</sup> Street East report and resolved, in part:

- “1. That the westbound right turns be restricted at the intersection of 9<sup>th</sup> Street East and Idylwyld Drive on a trial basis once the Traffic Bridge is opened; and
2. That the Administration report back with an assessment of the trial project one year after implementation.”

### CURRENT STATUS

A temporary directional closure to restrict westbound right turns was installed at 9<sup>th</sup> Street East and Idylwyld Drive in fall 2018 to assess its effectiveness on reducing short-cutting.

### DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

To assess the impacts the directional closure would have on 9<sup>th</sup> Street East and adjacent streets in the neighbourhood, traffic counts were completed during the following periods:

- September 2018 before the Traffic Bridge was open;
- October 2018 after the Traffic Bridge was open; and
- May 2019 and the last week of October 2019 after the directional closure was installed.

Phase One of the construction on Sid Buckwold Bridge project began in April 2019 and was re-opened to traffic on October 25, 2019.

The traffic information is provided on page 2 of this report, and was also provided to residents via information flyers delivered the week of November 18, 2019 (refer to Appendix 1).

Street	Segment	Traffic Volumes (vehicles per day)			85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Speeds (kilometres per hour)
		Sept 2018	Oct 2018	2019	
		➤ Traffic Bridge Closed ➤ 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Open	➤ Traffic Bridge Open ➤ 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Open	➤ Traffic Bridge Open ➤ 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Partially Closed at Idylwyld Drive	
9 <sup>th</sup> Street	Idylwyld Drive to McPherson Avenue	700	580	174 *	37 *
9 <sup>th</sup> Street	McPherson Avenue to Melrose Avenue	580	470	350	45
McPherson Avenue	8 <sup>th</sup> Street to 9 <sup>th</sup> Street	1,340	1,080	1,015 *	39 *
McPherson Avenue	9 <sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street	1,510	1,160	1,200	44
Melrose Avenue	8 <sup>th</sup> Street to 9 <sup>th</sup> Street	320	320	460	38

\* Count data for these locations was completed after the re-opening of Sid Buckwold Bridge.

A review of the traffic information yields the following:

- Traffic volumes on adjacent streets typically lowered providing a benefit to the general area;
- Operating speeds are below the posted speed limit; and
- Both traffic volumes and operating speeds are consistent with the typical characteristics of a local street.

Some residents expressed concern with illegal right turns during the pilot project. This behaviour was confirmed by the traffic data collected, although the number of vehicles completing this manoeuvre was low (six vehicles made a westbound right turn during the six peak hours counted).

## IMPLICATIONS

Making the westbound right-turn restriction permanent will provide a benefit to the larger area. Removing the turning restriction will result in drivers short-cutting on the 100 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Street East.

Removal of the pilot project is expected to cost approximately \$500.

There are no legal, or environmental implications identified.

## NEXT STEPS

The Administration has closed the trial project and pending further direction from City Council, the temporary directional closure will be removed by the end of 2019.

## APPENDICES

1. Information Flyer and Delivery Area

Report Approval

Written by: Justine Marcoux, Transportation Engineer  
Nathalie Baudais, Senior Transportation Engineer

Reviewed by: David LeBoutillier, Engineering Manager, Transportation  
Jay Magus, Director of Transportation

Approved by: Terry Schmidt, General Manager, Transportation & Construction  
Department

Admin Report - Admin Report - 9th Street Directional Closure Trial Project Follow-up.docx.docx