



RCMP BURNABY DETACHMENT

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: 2019-02-27

FROM: OIC BURNABY DETACHMENT

FILE: 2410-20

SUBJECT: WILLINGDON AND GRAVELEY TRAFFIC CONCERNS

At the Public Safety Meeting on January 16, 2019, a letter dated November 7, 2018 and addressed to Mayor Hurley highlighted traffic concerns in the area of Willingdon and Graveley. In particular, was a concern regarding vehicles which are disobeying a traffic sign prohibiting traffic from proceeding straight or making left turns between 3pm and 6pm Mon-Fri.

Response:

The Burnaby RCMP Traffic Unit attended this area 5 times around the end of January and beginning of February during hours of 3pm and 5:30pm to conduct enforcement and assess the driving patterns. Traffic was observed to be light with the majority of motorists obeying the sign. On average 5 vehicles would disobey the sign and either make a left hand turn or proceed straight.

Two signs prohibiting straight through traffic and left turns between 3pm and 6 pm were observed by the Burnaby Traffic Unit at this location. These signs are clearly posted and visible. Of note, there is no traffic control sign governing westbound traffic on Brentlawn Drive on the east side of Willingdon Avenue.

Burnaby Traffic Unit was in attendance for a total of 25 hours at the location and a total of 31 violation tickets were issued. All violation tickets were written for the offence of Sec. 125 Disobey Traffic Control Device Motor Vehicle Act (\$121.00 fine).

Summary:

The traffic regulation sign regarding vehicles proceeding straight and making left hand turns was clearly posted and visible to any approaching vehicles. Most of the motorists stated they had not seen the sign. Some motorists did not realize the traffic pattern had changed. This is determined by the fact that westbound traffic on Brentlawn Drive does not have the same traffic sign as eastbound traffic. The Burnaby Traffic Unit observed dozens of westbound vehicles making left hand turns onto Willingdon Avenue and proceeding straight onto Graveley Street. These driving patterns created potential confusion for eastbound vehicles. The Burnaby RCMP Traffic Team felt that this driving pattern of disobeying the traffic signs during peak traffic hours was dangerous.

Recommendations:

1. It is recommended that similar signage be erected on Brentlawn Drive governing westbound traffic. It is anticipated this will contribute to a reduction in violations and increase motorist safety by reducing the number of vehicles that are performing dangerous maneuvers during peak traffic volume hours.
2. It is recommended that the traffic control signs be placed well before the intersection, for both westbound and eastbound traffic, advising the change in traffic pattern. It is believed this will increase the potential for the traffic control signs to be seen by motorists.
3. Though these initial steps should help reduce dangerous driving behavior, it likely will not resolve it. Therefore, it is further recommended that a traffic light be installed for eastbound and westbound. A traffic light would substantially increase the safety for pedestrians and motorists travelling in all directions along the road. The downside to this recommendation is potential for traffic flow to back up during peak hours.
 - a. An alternate recommendation to installing a traffic control light is to put in a median at the west and east side of the intersection. The median would be designed to allow for traffic to turn right into the street and only allows traffic to turn right out of the street. An example of this can be found at 16th Avenue and 6th Street. This would allow the flow of northbound and southbound traffic to remain unaffected while also preventing motorists from performing potentially dangerous maneuvers, such as cutting across Willingdon Avenue, during peak traffic volume hours.



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