



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Corporate Report

Report from Transportation & Environmental Services, Operations

Date of Report: July 5, 2013

Date of Meeting: July 22, 2013

Report Number: TES-211-2013

File: 77.37.99

Subject: Geneva Street under QEW – Follow-up Report

Recommendation

That Council receive the report for information purposes, and

That the City Clerk be directed to make the necessary notifications. FORTHWITH.

Background

Subsequent to the widening of the QEW structure over Geneva Street and the addition of a northbound left turn lane at the intersection of Geneva Street/Carlton Street/North Service Road, staff at both the City and Region fielded a number of complaints related to driver confusion while passing through the area. Given the offset nature of the new lanes under the QEW, some drivers were selecting the wrong lane and inadvertently “cutting off” other motorists. In order to correct this behavior, City and Regional staff implemented overhead lane designation signs, additional advance warning signs and supplemental pavement markings through the area.

The efforts of City and Regional staff were documented in reports to Council on February 13, 2012 and November 12, 2012. In response to the later report, Councillor Siscoe put forward the following motion that was passed by Council:

That Council receive the report for information purposes; and

That Council direct staff to continue to explore options for improvements to the intersection and prepare a follow-up report in three months’ time.

Report

As outlined in the November 12, 2012 report, the stretch of Geneva Street under the QEW and its associated intersections with Carlton Street, Dunlop Drive and the North Service Road are functioning as intended. The signs and pavement markings installed by City and Regional staff have raised driver awareness and simplified the driving task. While staff do receive complaints from time to time, the number of complaints has dropped significantly since the signs and pavement markings have

been installed. Driver familiarity with the new lane configuration under the QEW has also contributed to better overall operation and reduced incidents.

As this stretch of Geneva Street is under the Region's jurisdiction, staff contacted the Region regarding their future plans for the area. At this point, the Region has no immediate plans to modify the operation of Geneva Street under the QEW but will continue to monitor the situation and will adjust as necessary.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Notification

It is in order that the Regional Clerk be so notified.

Submitted by:

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Approved by:

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Director