

Committee of the Whole (1) Report

DATE: Tuesday, November 22, 2022

WARD: 2

**TITLE: AMENDMENT OF INTERSECTION RIGHT-OF-WAY CONTROL -
CHARMAINE ROAD AND SARRACINI CRESCENT**

FROM:

Zoran Postic, Deputy City Manager, Public Works

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To request approval from the Committee of the Whole to implement traffic operational improvements to both the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent to create safer streets and provide consistency with Provincial guidelines.

Report Highlights

- Road safety concerns have been identified by the local community. These concerns relate to the flow of traffic entering the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent.
- Staff investigated and found both intersections have an irregular stop control configuration.
- The stop signs are being relocated at the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent to improve intersection safety and promote consistency for T-intersection operations across the City. This will minimize potential points of vehicle conflict at both intersections and follows best practices and procedures in the Ontario Traffic Manual.
- Staff is following the procedure described in the Ontario Traffic Manual to reassign right-of-way at the two T-intersections and to inform the local community.

Recommendations

1. That the reconfiguration of stop sign control at the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent, as depicted in Attachment 2 to this report be approved;
2. That By-law 002-2013, being an amendment to the Consolidated Traffic By-law 284-94, be repealed;
3. That the entry for Charmaine Road in By-law 284-94, the Consolidated Traffic By-law, Schedule "B" – Part 1 be repealed;
4. That a By-law be enacted to amend By-law 284-94, the Consolidated Traffic By-law to establish stop controls on the north and south leg of the Sarracini Crescent and Charmaine Road intersection; and
5. That the City Clerk forward a copy of this report to York Regional Police.

Background

Traffic operations and road safety concerns at the intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent were expressed by the community.

Traffic operations and road safety concerns at the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent were brought forward by the community. Primary concerns include vehicles proceeding too quickly into the intersection where free-flow conditions exist and creating driver confusion when entering the intersections.

Charmaine Road is a two-lane local roadway that extends between Kiloran Avenue and Dorengate Drive in Woodbridge. In 2011, a new local road (Sarracini Crescent) was built as part of the Regency Estates Subdivision connecting Charmaine Road, creating two three-way T-intersections as shown in Attachment No. 1.

Charmaine Road is oriented north-south and does not currently require vehicles to stop at either intersection of Sarracini Crescent. Vehicles traveling westbound on Sarracini Crescent, which is oriented east-west, are required to stop at Charmaine Road. There are sidewalks along the west side of Charmaine Road and no sidewalks on Sarracini Crescent.

In response to the community, staff conducted an operational review of the intersections.

Council directed staff to implement a stop control on the west leg of Sarracini Crescent, as a result of discussions with area residents. Staff were also asked to monitor the intersection operations for the stop signs. Recently, intersection safety has re-emerged as a community concern and as a result staff conducted an operational review of both the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent.

Previous Reports/Authority

Intersection Stop Control at Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent Intersections, Regency Estates Subdivision 19T-08V07 January 29, 2013 (Item 13, Report No. 1): https://www.vaughan.ca/council/minutes_agendas/Extracts/01cw0115_13ex_13.pdf

Analysis and Options

Traffic reviews have determined the existing stop control configuration is not typical and is inconsistent with Provincial guidelines.

Staff conducted a site investigation at both intersections and found the existing stop control configuration can create a potential safety issue due to non-standard placement of the westbound stop sign control on Sarracini Crescent. The existing stop control at the two intersections is inconsistent with other T-intersections throughout the City and with the Provincial guidelines.

A potential conflict exists at the south intersection between a northbound vehicle on Charmaine Road making a left turn and a vehicle driving eastbound on Charmaine Road to Sarracini Crescent. The same type of conflict would occur at the north intersection between a southbound vehicle on Charmaine Road making a left turn at the intersection onto Sarracini Crescent and a vehicle driving eastbound on Charmaine Road to Sarracini Crescent. These conflicts could occur because there is no stop control on the intersecting leg of the intersection to control right-of-way. Please see Attachment No. 2 showing the existing conflict points and new configuration.

For a typical three-way T-intersection, the stop control is located on the single intersecting road, while the connecting road would remain free-flow. In this typical configuration, the stop control would typically be located on Charmaine Road, while Sarracini Crescent east-west traffic would operate as free-flow.

Relocating the stop signs at the intersections will be consistent with other similar T-intersections across the city.

Relocating the stop signs at the north and south side of both the intersections will minimize conflicting traffic points and align the two intersections with typical intersection configurations throughout the City.

An all-way stop control is not warranted at both intersections based on the most recent traffic count data.

In Spring 2022, traffic reviews were conducted at both the north and south intersections of Charmaine Drive and Sarracini Crescent to determine if all-way stop controls met warrant requirements.

The City's all-way stop control warrant analysis follows the guidelines set out by the Provincial guidelines (Ontario Traffic Manual, Book 5 for Regulatory Signs), and considers the minimum vehicular volumes required accident hazards, and sight restrictions at the intersection.

Based on the data collected on April 7, 2022, at the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent concluded that traffic volumes at both the intersections do not meet the warrant requirement to justify installation of all-way stop controls. Based on traffic review, the installation of all-way stop controls is not recommended at both intersections.

Staff recommend amending the stop controls as per the Provincial Guidelines (Ontario Traffic Manual).

In the interim and as per procedures outlined in the Ontario Traffic Manual, Book 5 for regulatory signs, additional stop signs have been installed to create temporary all-way stop controlled intersections at both the north and south end of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent to reduce driver confusion and the potential for conflicts. After the intermediate period, the unwanted stop signs will be removed, leaving only the desired stop sign controls.

Warning signs advising drivers as to the date when the all-way stop controls will be removed are posted in advance of the intersection. The community has been informed of the implementation which will occur by the end of November, following Council's approval.

Financial Impact

The capital cost associated with the procedure to install temporary signs and permanent signs is estimated to be \$1,000 and is supported in the approved 2022 Operating Budget. The on-going cost to maintain the signs and pavement markings (stop bars) is estimated to be \$100 per annum and will be incorporated into future year Operating Budgets.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

York Regional Police will be responsible for enforcing the rules of the road and the compliance with stop signs. As such, a copy of this report will be forwarded to them upon approval of the recommendations by Council.

Conclusion

Amending the stop sign control is recommended at both the north and south intersections of Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent to improve traffic operations and align the stop sign configuration with the Provincial guidelines and provide consistency with other intersections across the City.

For more information, please contact:

Peter Pilateris, Director, Transportation and Fleet Management Services, ext. 6141.

Attachments

1. Location Map.
2. Existing and recommended stop control at Charmaine Road and Sarracini Crescent Intersection and typical vehicle conflict points.

Prepared by:

Mark Ranstoller, Senior Traffic Technologist, ext. 6117

In consultation with:

Rebecca Hall-McGuire, Legal Counsel, ext. 8475

Approved by



Zoran Postic, Deputy City Manager,
Public Works

Reviewed by



Nick Spensieri, City Manager