

Committee of the Whole (1) Report

DATE: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

WARD: 4

TITLE: U-TURN PROHIBITION REVIEW ON ILAN RAMON
BOULEVARD, SOUTH OF LEBOVIC CAMPUS DRIVE

FROM:

Shanon Kalra-Ramjoo, Acting Deputy City Manager, Public Works

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

This report seeks Council approval to implement a U-turn prohibition on Ilan Ramon Boulevard south of Lebovic Campus Drive to Laskin Drive to improve traffic operations.

Report Highlights

- A traffic operations review reported excessive U-turn movements on Ilan Ramon Boulevard at the Lebovic Campus Drive intersection impacting traffic operations.
- Implementing a U-turn prohibition on Ilan Ramon Boulevard, south of Lebovic Campus Drive, is expected to reduce traffic conflicts among road users and improve overall road safety.
- It is therefore recommended that a U-turn prohibition be implemented on Ilan Ramon Boulevard from Lebovic Campus Drive to Laskin Drive.

Recommendations

1. That the implementation of a U-turn prohibition on Ilan Ramon Boulevard south of Lebovic Campus Drive to Laskin Drive be approved;
2. That a By-law be enacted to amend By-law 284-94, the Consolidated Traffic By-law, to add a U-turn prohibition on Ilan Ramon Boulevard, from Lebovic Campus Drive to Laskin Drive; and
3. That the City Clerk forward a copy of this report to York Regional Police.

Background

Staff have installed centreline bollards on Ilan Ramon Boulevard to address community safety concerns.

Ilan Ramon Boulevard is a two-lane collector roadway with an urban cross-section, a 26 to 32 metre right-of-way, and a pavement width of 14.0 to 18.0 metres. Additionally, sidewalks are present on both sides of the roadway. Ilan Ramon Boulevard and Lebovic Campus Drive is a signalized intersection, with designated left-turn lanes on all approaches.

In response to community safety concerns raised in late 2021, staff have installed centerline bollards on Ilan Ramon Boulevard, from the centre-median southward to a point beyond the school driveways. This was intended to prevent vehicles exiting the school driveways from making through or left turn movements. A U-turn prohibition exists on Ilan Ramon Boulevard from Marc Santi Boulevard to the northern driveway of the Kimel Centre's parking lot to restrict southbound traffic making U-turns. These measures have improved traffic operations and safety in the area.

Motorists have been by-passing the bollards and performing U-turns which has negatively impacted traffic flow. As a result, additional bollards have been installed.

Motorists travelling northbound on Ilan Ramon Boulevard to access the school driveway on the west side have been bypassing the bollards by continuing north and making U-turns at the end of the centre median, at the intersection. This has created traffic operational concerns due to the limited road space. Making U-turns would result in conflicts with parked vehicles and would require three-point turns, disrupting the flow of traffic.

To address this, staff have installed additional bollards from the end of the centre-median to the Ilan Ramon Boulevard and Lebovic Campus Drive intersection. This has partially reduced the number of U-turns.

Previous Reports/Authority

[N/A](#)

Analysis and Options

Despite the installation of additional bollards, U-turn traffic movements continue to occur creating traffic operational concerns.

Data collection was conducted on November 1, 2023, and on June 11, 2024, demonstrating that the number of U-turns has decreased from 75 to 29 before versus after the bollards were implemented, respectively. The traffic study results show that the U-turns are now occurring at the Ilan Ramon Boulevard and Lebovic Campus Drive intersection. U-turn movements close to the intersection lead to conflicts with pedestrians and motorists. Further, the study shows that vehicles travelling northbound making a U-turn conflict with the vehicles travelling southbound and with vehicles travelling eastbound making a right turn at the intersection.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Number of U-turns</u> |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| November 1, 2023 | 7 AM – 8 PM | 75 |
| June 11, 2024 | 7 AM – 8 PM | 29 |

A U-turn prohibition is proposed on Ilan Ramon Boulevard, from Lebovic Campus Drive to Laskin Drive to improve road safety.

The proposed U-turn prohibition will discourage motorists from making U-turn maneuvers on Ilan Ramon Boulevard. This will minimize the potential conflict with road users along Ilan Ramon Boulevard improving traffic operations and road safety.

Financial Impact

The capital cost associated with installing the U-turn signs is estimated to be \$350 and is supported in the approved 2024 Operating Budget. The ongoing maintenance cost for the signs is expected to be \$150 per year and will be included in future operating budgets as part of the regular budgeting process.

Operational Impact

Roads Operations will be installing the U-turn signage.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

York Regional Police will be informed on the U-turn prohibition.

Conclusion

It is recommended that a U-turn prohibition be implemented on Ilan Ramon Boulevard, from Lebovic Campus Drive to Laskin Drive to improve traffic operations.

Attachment

1. Ilan Ramon Blvd. – U-turn prohibition Map.

For more information, please contact:

Steven Fantin, Director, Transportation and Fleet Management Services, ext. 6141.

Margie Chung, Manager, Traffic Engineering, ext. 6173.

Prepared by

Sunil Kumar, Senior Traffic Technologist, ext. 6125.

Grace Mulcahy, Traffic Project Coordinator and Liaison Specialist, ext. 6339.