



Report: TES-RTS-15-09

Region of Waterloo
Transportation and Environmental Services
Rapid Transit

To: Chair Tom Galloway and Members of the Planning and Works Committee

Date: September 15, 2015 **File Code:** A02-30/PW

Subject: Lane designations and reserved lanes on Hespeler Road (Regional Road #24) at various intersections, City of Cambridge

Recommendation:

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo amend Traffic and Parking By-law 06-072, as amended, to:

- a) Remove from Schedule 16, Southbound Right-turn Lane Designation on Hespeler Road (Regional Road 24) at Dunbar Road;
- b) Remove from Schedule 16, Northbound Left-turn, Right-turn on Hespeler Road (Regional Road 24) at Pinebush Road/Eagle Street (Regional Road 39);
- c) Add to Schedule 16, Northbound Left-turn, Left-turn, Right-turn on Hespeler Road (Regional Road 24) at Pinebush Road/Eagle Street (Regional Road 39);
- d) Add to Schedule 16, Northbound Right-turn on Hespeler Road (Regional Road 24) at Munch Avenue/Isherwood Avenue;
- e) Add to Schedule 24, Reserved Bus Lane, Southbound Hespeler Road (Regional Road 24) from Coronation Boulevard/Dundas Street (Regional Road 8) to 20 Metres North of Coronation Boulevard/Dundas Street (Regional Road 8);
- f) Add to Schedule 24, Reserved Bus Lane, Southbound Water Street (Regional Road 24) from Coronation Boulevard/Dundas Street (Regional Road 8) to 25 Metres South of Coronation Boulevard/Dundas Street (Regional Road 8);

in the City of Cambridge, as outlined in Report TES-RTS-15-09, dated September 15, 2015.

Summary:

NIL

Report:

ION Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) construction has been completed and service began on September 7, 2015 allowing more convenient access to Cambridge's shopping, employment and recreational facilities. ION BRT links the Ainslie Street transit terminal in Cambridge with the Fairview Park Mall transit terminal in Kitchener through a 17 kilometre route. Stops are located at the Ainslie Street transit terminal, Sportsworld Crossing, Fairview Park Mall (with a connection to ION LRT in 2017) and various locations along Hespeler Road as follows:

- Hespeler Road/Water Street at Dundas Street/Coronation Boulevard (the Delta);
- Hespeler Road at Can-Amara Parkway;
- Cambridge Centre Mall;
- Hespeler Road at Pinebush Road/Eagle Street;

ION BRT will help build transit ridership along Cambridge's busiest corridor by providing an efficient and reliable transit option. To achieve this goal, ION BRT vehicles will take advantage of special service features such as limited stops, transit signal priority and queue jumps (to provide preference to buses at signalized intersections) along Hespeler Road, and bus bypass shoulders along Highway 401 and Highway 8.

In order to improve travel times for transit riders, queue jump lanes and a reserved transit only lane has been constructed along Hespeler Road. Queue jumps will be accommodated via right-turn only lanes at the intersections of Hespeler Road and Munch Avenue/Isherwood Avenue (northbound and southbound) as well as Hespeler Road at Pinebush Road/Eagle Street (northbound only). However, the queue jump process will involve a combination of exclusive transit signal timing, lane designation and buses excepted signage. The lane designation with buses excepted signage will officially make the lanes a right-turn only movement lane and buses will be exempted from having to make a right-turn so that they can continue with the rest of their route north or south along Hespeler Road. In addition, a traffic signal head at these locations with a vertical white bar and right-turn signal indication will advise when bus drivers and right-turning motorists in the designated right-turn lane may proceed in advance of regular traffic.

Similarly, at the intersection of Hespeler Road and Dundas Street/Coronation Boulevard a southbound transit only lane has been constructed. This reserved lane will allow exclusive phasing for transit vehicles moving southbound through the intersection. A

traffic signal head displaying a vertical white bar will advise when bus drivers can proceed through the intersection in advance of regular traffic.

To accommodate the queue jump lanes and the transit only lane, the following lane designation changes are required along Hespeler Road at the noted intersections:

- Add the second left-turn lane for the new northbound left-turn from Hespeler Road onto Eagle Street;
- Add a northbound right-turn lane on Hespeler Road at Munch Avenue/Isherwood Avenue;
- Add reserved bus lane designation on Hespeler Road southbound crossing Coronation Boulevard/Dundas Street; and
- In addition to the above, it is also recommending to remove the southbound right-turn lane designation on Hespeler Road at Dunbar Road. This change is required because the southbound curb lane was previously constructed as a shared right-turn/through lane and the traffic and Parking By-law was not updated to reflect the new configuration.

See Appendix A for illustrations.

Recognizing that these required changes are for regulatory signs, an amendment to the Regional Municipality of Waterloo Traffic and Parking By-law 06-072 is required and being recommended by staff.

Corporate Strategic Plan:

This report addresses the Region's goal to expand the bus network (Conventional Transit) and begin to integrate it with the future Light Rail Transit System (Strategic Action 3.1.2).

Financial Implications:

The estimated cost to install the proposed signage inclusive of pavement marking is \$2,500.00 plus HST and is included in the Council approved ION budget.

Other Department Consultations/Concurrence:

This report was prepared with input from Transportation and Environmental Services.

Attachments

Appendix A – Intersection Figures

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Approved By: Thomas Schmidt, Commissioner, Transportation and Environmental Services

Appendix A

Figure 1 – Recommended Southbound Right-turn Lane Designation Removal at Hespeler Road and Dunbar Road



Figure 2 – Recommended Lane Designation Changes at Hespeler Road/Eagle Street/ Pinebush Road

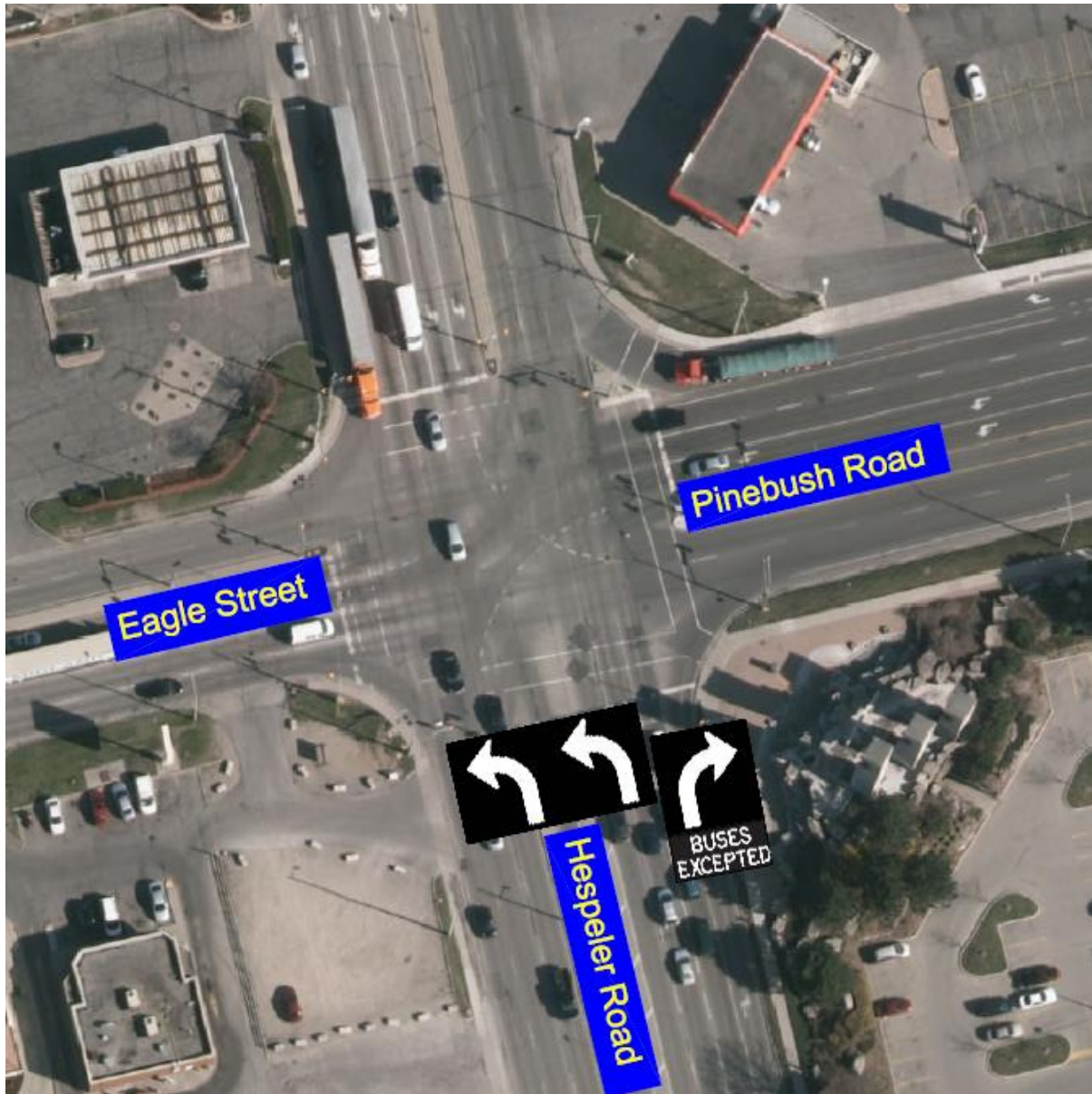


Figure 3 – Recommended Lane Designation Changes at Hespeler Road and Isherwood Avenue/Munch Avenue



Figure 4 – Recommended Transit Only Lanes on Hespeler Road at Dundas

Street/Coronation Boulevard

