

December 2, 2016

Action Plan: Avenue Rd and Castlefield Ave.

Dear Resident,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for providing ongoing feedback on the traffic issues at the intersection of Avenue Rd and Castlefield Ave. Residents have notified me of collisions, non-compliance to the speed limits and non-compliance to the new signage prohibiting left turns and through movement from Castlefield Ave. during peak hours. I have outlined actions taken to date, as well as my plan moving forward. Should you have any specific concerns for your street or community, please contact my office, so that we can update you on current initiatives or look into your concerns.

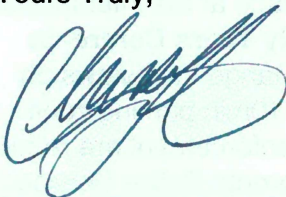
Action Plan for Avenue Rd and Castlefield:

- ✓ **Traffic Study at intersection to identify cause of collisions-** Identified that the majority of collisions that have occurred in the last 5 years have been as a result of the left turn and through movements off of Castlefield Avenue during peak traffic hours.
- ✓ **Implementation of left turn and through movement prohibitions-** As a result of the above traffic study, I requested that North York Community Council change the bylaws to implement left turn and through movement prohibitions off of Castlefield Avenue during peak hours. This request was adopted and the prohibitions are now in place at the intersection.
- ✓ **Short term drop off and pickup area for the North Toronto Early Years Centre-** In response to the need for a safe drop off/pickup area, I worked to change the bylaws on Castlefield Avenue in front of the Early Years Centre to allow for a 10min parking zone.
- ✓ **Ongoing requests for police enforcement-** Requests for police enforcement are regularly made through my office and local residents but it is rare to have Toronto Police Services (TPS) respond by posting an officer at the intersection. They do not have enough staff to provide enforcement and enforcement does not have any future impact in deterring infractions.
- **Advanced signage on Castlefield Avenue:** In the coming weeks the City will be implementing advanced warning signs further east and west of the intersection. These signs will notify motorists of the turn and through movement prohibitions allowing them to take a different route before approaching the intersection.
- **Pedestrian barriers on east side of Avenue Rd from Castlefield Ave. to St Clements:** Over the past year I have been advocating for pedestrian barriers to be implemented on the east side of Avenue Rd directly across from Allenby school. Staff recently finished the design work in conjunction with all impacted city divisions and will be implementing the barriers in the coming weeks.
- **Advocating for "Watch Your Speed" signs:** The "Watch Your Speed" signs use electronic radar to display the speed of oncoming vehicles. Studies have shown that these signs can reduce the operating speed of vehicles by up to 10km/hr and have shown a decrease in the number of vehicles travelling over the speed limit, ranging from 3% up to 34% in some

cases. Currently, the City only has a limited number of these signs and most of them can only be used in remote locations because they are fixed to large trailers. I have asked Transportation Services staff to create a plan, subject to Council approval, that would allow for public funding of these signs. The ultimate goal is to have one of these signs in front of every school but Avenue Rd in front of Allenby school is a priority. A report on this plan will be coming to Public Works and Infrastructure Committee in Q1 2017.

- **Advocating for School Zone Photo Radar:** Over the past two years I have been advocating for photo radar in school zones. The Province of Ontario recently agreed to allow municipalities the ability to install and operate photo radar signs around school zones. This program would work similarly to the "Watch Your Speed" signs except the vehicle owner would receive a ticket by mail when the vehicle is photographed speeding. The City of Toronto is currently working with the Provincial government to finalize the details of the program.
- **Awareness campaign-** Working with Toronto Police Services and Allenby School to promote awareness of our concerns for this intersection through local initiatives. Focus on safe streets initiatives in all communications from my office including; my website, e-newsletter and hardcopy newsletters. Spotlight on Avenue Rd and Castlefield Ave. to come in next newsletter.

Yours Truly,



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