

## **Members' Motion submitted to Transportation Committee**

Meeting date: 22 June 2023

Moved by: Councillor W. Lo

**Motion Title: Motion – Decommissioning the Strandherd/Crestway bus-only left turning lane**

ACS File No.: ACS2023-OCC-CCS-0104

Ward: Barrhaven East (24)

**Motion d'un membre soumise au Comité des transports**

Date de la réunion : le 22 juin 2023

Motion du : Conseiller W. Lo

**Titre de la motion : Motion – Mise hors service de la voie de virage à gauche réservée aux autobus à l'angle de la promenade Strandherd et de la promenade Crestway**

Dossier n° (ACS) : ACS2023-OCC-CCS-0104

Quartier : Barrhaven-Est (24)

### **MOTION:**

**WHEREAS the Nepean Woods Park and Ride (the park and ride) near Strandherd/Woodroffe was opened in 2014 to accommodate expected increases in transit usage from the community, including overflow usage from Fallowfield Park and Ride; and,**

**WHEREAS park and ride usage has remained far below expected usage levels since its opening, at an average of 16 per cent capacity before the COVID-19 pandemic and just two per cent capacity since the height of the pandemic; and,**

**WHEREAS correspondingly, transit service—and therefore transit vehicles accessing the park and ride—has been low since the park and ride's opening; and,**

**WHEREAS the project initially included a set of double left turning lanes from westbound Strandherd into the park and ride's access roadway; and,**

**WHEREAS the outer left turning lane was converted to an exclusive bus-only left turning lane some time between 2015 and 2017 to address conflicting movements between transit vehicles and general traffic following the opening of the plaza at 3091 and 3101 Strandherd Drive, which has an access off the west side of the park and ride's access roadway; and,**

**WHEREAS the traffic signalling pattern since the introduction of the bus-only left turning lane includes a transit priority signal to allow transit vehicles to turn left from Strandherd before general traffic; and,**

**WHEREAS following the expiration of the transit priority cycle, all traffic from both the general traffic left turning lane and the bus-only left turning lane is permitted to turn left from Strandherd, thereby reintroducing the conflict the transit priority signal was intended to avoid, as vehicles from the general traffic left turning lane must move from the left lane to the right lane within 50 metres of completing the turn to access 3091 and 3101 Strandherd; and,**

**WHEREAS transit vehicles do not always arrive at the signal in time to take advantage of the transit priority signal and are permitted to complete the left turn concurrently with general traffic after the transit priority signal has expired; and,**

**WHEREAS the conflicting traffic movements have potential to be unsafe, as some impatient general traffic vehicles may turn right from the left lane in the path of a moving bus in the right lane; and,**

**WHEREAS the very low usage and traffic flows at the park and ride do not justify an exclusive bus-only left turning lane into the park and ride, especially not the potentially dangerous traffic conflicts created by the transit priority measure meant to deconflict traffic.**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the exclusive bus-only left turning lane into the Nepean Woods Park and Ride on the westbound Strandherd Drive onto Crestway Drive be decommissioned until transit and traffic use and flows warrant its reimplementation; and,**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the exclusive bus-only left turning lane into the Nepean Woods Park and Ride, on the westbound Strandherd Drive onto Crestway Drive, be hatched off by appropriate road markings, leaving only one left turning lane and thereby combining all west-to-south left turning traffic to a single left turn lane; and,**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the exclusive bus-only left turning lane overhead reserved bus lane sign and the priority signal heads be removed, including for redeployment to another location requiring their use.**

#### **TRANSIT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Transit Services Department staff will be available at the meeting to respond to questions if required.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Traffic Services estimate the costs to revise the markings, signage and signal displays as requested would be approximately \$17,500.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Staff will be available at the meeting to respond to questions if required.

### **Disposition:**

If carried at Committee, this motion will be submitted to City Council for consideration on 13 September 2023.

Staff will implement the recommendations in this motion, as appropriate.