

July 30, 2010



## City Council Committee Report

**To: Mayor & Council**

**Fr: Richard Perchuk, Operations Manager**

**Re: Downtown Traffic 2010 Update**

### **Recommendation:**

**THAT** City of Kenora Traffic Bylaw 127 – 2001 be amended to include the following addition to Schedule "N":

#### Schedule "N" Prohibited Turning Movements

#### Add:

<u>HIGHWAY/FACING TRAFFIC</u>	<u>TURN PROHIBITED</u>	<u>TIMES/DAYS</u>
Main Street South, South bound onto First Street South	LEFT	Between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

### **Background:**

On June 29, 2010, two public meetings were held for those wishing to voice concerns and provide comments regarding traffic and pedestrian flow from the Roundabout to the Second Street and Main Street Intersection.

The minutes from the meetings and comments provided by the public were consolidated by Heather Kasprick; a copy is attached to this report.

Traffic light suppliers have indicated that changes to the lights can be done, but caution should be used, as the changes may cause more problems with the overall operation. The following is a summary of the primary concerns of pedestrian and traffic flow along the Main Street corridor with comments and solutions:

#### Main Street and Second Street South:

1. Safety issue with flashing green light for vehicles northbound on Main conflicting with pedestrian walk north bound on Main (Tilley's corner).
2. Pedestrians having to physically activate the walk signals.
3. No synchronization of traffic lights from First thru to Second and Matheson.

**Comments/Solutions:**

- Conflict of flashing green and pedestrian walk – according to the Highway Traffic Manual – there is no conflict. The pedestrian has the right-of-way when the crosswalk is signaled.
- Pedestrian activated signals – changing this would result in the lights reverting to a regular rotation and would eliminate the 7:00 pm to 7:00 am phase for thru traffic north bound on Main and west bound from Second. Push button activation will be maintained.
- Synchronization of traffic lights from First to Second and Matheson Intersection. This is planned for the future. Underground wiring will be required between the two traffic controllers.
- Visually Assisted push button pedestrian walk signals could be installed at Matheson and Second Street intersection, 8 buttons required at an estimated cost of \$20,000.

**Main Street and First Street South:**

1. Length of time for pedestrian walk to activate and the duration of the walk signal.
2. Flashing green for left turn from Main onto First is too short.
3. Traffic backs up on Main waiting for vehicles trying to make the left turn.

**Comments/Solutions**

- Representatives from Tacel (traffic light supplier) suggested the pedestrian walk at First and Main be changed to activate the walk sign quicker once the button has been pushed and to decrease the length of the walk phase. This will make this intersection more pedestrian friendly, while still keeping traffic moving along Main.
- The short flashing green for left turning vehicles onto First can be corrected by eliminating the flashing green and prohibiting left turns between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm daily. Signage would be required.

**Main Street and McClellan Avenue:**

1. Pedestrian crosswalk across Main Street is poorly delineated (granite crosswalk).

**Comments/Solutions**

- Main at McClellan pedestrian crosswalk will be painted (on the asphalt – not the granite) and signage advising of a pedestrian crosswalk will be installed.

**Roundabout:**

1. Motorists do not use turn signal.
2. Motorists speed within the roundabout.
3. Motorists are ignoring pedestrian crossings.

**Comments/Solutions:**

- Tab signage can be added to the large green and white roundabout signs advising motorists to “watch for pedestrians, reduce speed and signal intention prior leaving the roundabout”

**Budget:** Operations Operating Budget

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

Resolution and By-law required.

Distribution: R. Perchuk, K. Brown