

TO: MAYOR & COUNCILLORS
FROM: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
SUBJECT: **NOM: IMPROVING TRAFFIC SAFETY**
PURPOSE: To seek Council support of the Notice of Motion (NOM) for staff to be directed to explore the feasibility assessment to review the implementation of pedestrian safety measures at signalized intersections.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT staff be directed to undertake a feasibility assessment to review the implementation of pedestrian safety measures such as no right turn on red lights at all intersections where there were over 5 or more casualty crashes involving pedestrians from 2018 – 2022.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The feasibility assessment to review pedestrian safety is aligned with Council-adopted goals, policies, and targets within Burnaby's Transportation Plan (2021) that supports safe and accessible mobility in the transportation system.

2.0 BACKGROUND

At the City Council meeting on December 11, 2023, Councillor Gu and Councillor Santiago provided a NOM to request improvements in pedestrian safety at intersections with high casualties and fatalities. The NOM was referred to the Transportation Committee meeting on January 25, 2024.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

At the Transportation Committee meeting held on January 25, 2024, the Chair, Councillor Lee, brought forward the NOM for discussions. The NOM will direct staff to undertake a feasibility assessment to review the implementation of pedestrian safety measures, such as no-right-turn-on red lights for intersections, where there were over 5 or more casualty crashes involving pedestrians between 2018 and 2022. Once the feasibility assessment is completed, the findings and recommendations will be shared with the Transportation Committee and Council.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable at this time.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable at this time.

On behalf of the Transportation Committee,

Councillor Richard Lee, Chair

Councillor Daniel Tetrault, Vice Chair

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Kathy Ho, P.Eng., PTOE, Senior Manager, Transportation, and reviewed by Amy Choh, P.Eng., PMP, Director Engineering, Transportation.

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: IMPROVING TRAFFIC SAFETY

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Mayor write a letter to the Provincial Government to request the installation of speed and red light intersection safety cameras in the City of Burnaby, prioritizing intersections with 50 or more crashes that resulted in injuries or fatalities from 2018-2022 and provide all revenue from additional speed and red light cameras to municipalities as grants to be invested in traffic safety improvements; and,

THAT staff be directed to explore the feasibility of implementing pedestrian safety measures such as no right turn on red lights at all intersections where there were over 5 or more casualty crashes involving pedestrians from 2018 – 2022.

REPORT

Burnaby City Council, at the Open Council meeting held on December 11, 2023, received the attached Notice of Motion regarding Improving Traffic Safety and **REFERRED** the Notice to the Transportation Committee for further review.

The Notice of Motion is being forwarded to the Transportation Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Blanka Zeinabova
Sr. Manager Legislative Services

TO: MAYOR & COUNCIL

FROM: COUNCILLOR GU AND COUNCILLOR SANTIAGO

SUBJECT: IMPROVING TRAFFIC SAFETY

PURPOSE: To request the Mayor to write a letter to the Provincial Government to request improvements in traffic safety at intersections with high casualties and fatalities, and to explore the feasibility of implementing no right turn on red lights at high pedestrian crash intersections.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Mayor write a letter to the Provincial Government to request the installation of speed and red light intersection safety cameras in the City of Burnaby, prioritizing intersections with 50 or more crashes that resulted in injuries or fatalities from 2018-2022 and provide all revenue from additional speed and red light cameras to municipalities as grants to be invested in traffic safety improvements; and,

THAT staff be directed to explore the feasibility of implementing pedestrian safety measures such as no right turn on red lights at all intersections where there were over 5 or more casualty crashes involving pedestrians from 2018-2022.

BACKGROUND

In 2021, Council unanimously approved the City's Transportation Plan, which included a target of zero serious injuries and zero deaths by 2050. These goals are inclusive of motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians.

ICBC data shows that in the City of Burnaby during the period of 2018-2022, there were 16,108 casualty crashes (crashes resulting in injury or fatality), which averages to be 3,222 per year or 8.8 per day. Most crashes in British Columbia happen at intersections, and speed was the number one contributing factor in fatal crashes in British Columbia and the Metro Vancouver region between 2018 and 2022.

Speed cameras are shown to rank among the most cost-effective interventions, with warning signs to let drivers know that the intersection has cameras. Stopping for red lights and observing speed limits help to prevent collisions, and reduce the severity of injuries and fatalities if collisions occur. These cameras can be quickly implemented, reduce preventable vehicular injuries and deaths, and provide revenue that could be directed towards more road safety initiatives, such as addressing neighbourhood road safety

infrastructure requests, including but not limited to sidewalks, pedestrian-controlled crossing signals, and flashing beacons.

Allowing right turns on red lights also increases the risk to vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, seniors, and People with Disabilities. The City of Burnaby can explore the feasibility of changing these rules where intersection casualty crashes are high.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None.

DISCUSSION

Under the *Motor Vehicle Act*, the Provincial Government has authority over moving vehicular traffic. However, municipalities are at the frontlines of and bear the costs of responding to vehicular collisions (i.e. fire, police) as well as infrastructure improvements in preventing incidents from occurring. Advocacy towards the Provincial Government to ensure municipalities have the adequate tools to prevent serious injuries and fatalities is necessary.

Disallowing right turns on red lights is in the jurisdiction of municipalities, and is one immediate step that the City of Burnaby can take towards reducing the risk to vulnerable road users.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNCILLOR GU AND COUNCILLOR SANTIAGO