

Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Infrastructure and Engineering Services
Engineering Division

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Siddharth Dhiman, Project Manager, Transportation
Date: July 15, 2024
Subject: Traffic By-law Update for Erieau Road and Intersection of Victoria Street – London Road (Communities of Harwich and Thamesville)

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Municipal Traffic and Parking By-Law 245-2004 be amended as follows and as per Appendix A:

1. A "No Stopping" zone be implemented on Erieau Road, between Drury Line and Gate 3 of the Ridge Landfill.
2. Northbound right turns be prohibited for heavy vehicles at the intersection of Victoria Street and London Road.

Background

Erieau Road (Community of Harwich)

Erieau Road serves as the main route for trucks destined for the Ridge Landfill. Near the landfill, the shoulder of Erieau Road is unsuitable for heavy trucks. Despite there being space for stopping and parking within the boundary of the landfill, some trucks park and stop their vehicles on the shoulder and grass boulevard areas of Erieau Road before entering or after leaving the Ridge Landfill. This activity damages the shoulder on the roadside of Erieau Road and occasionally leads to trucks becoming stuck. The landfill operator (Waste Connections of Canada), and the Public Works Division have engaged with trucking operators to discourage parking on Erieau Road, but the issue persists.

Victoria Road and London Road Intersection (Community of Thamesville)

At the intersection of Victoria Street and London Road in the Community of Thamesville, shown in Figure 1, the northbound right turn movement experiences significant heavy truck volumes: typical heavy truck volume for this movement is on a higher end, though this volume can significantly increase when Highway 401 is closed.

Due to the skew of the intersection and the tight (approximately 5 m) curb radius, as shown in Figure 1 below, large trucks can encounter difficulty when negotiating the northbound right turn. Based on field reviews by staff, it was determined that the rear wheels of semi-trucks can run up onto the sidewalk when making this turn, resulting in the trailer striking traffic signal poles at the intersection as well as general concerns regarding pedestrian safety.



Figure 1: Intersection of Victoria Street and London Road (Source: Google Street View)

An alternate route that avoids this problematic northbound right turn movement already exists: Railroad Street is currently designated as a truck route and signage on Victoria Street northbound suggests Railroad Street for heavy trucks headed toward London, as shown in Figure 2 below.

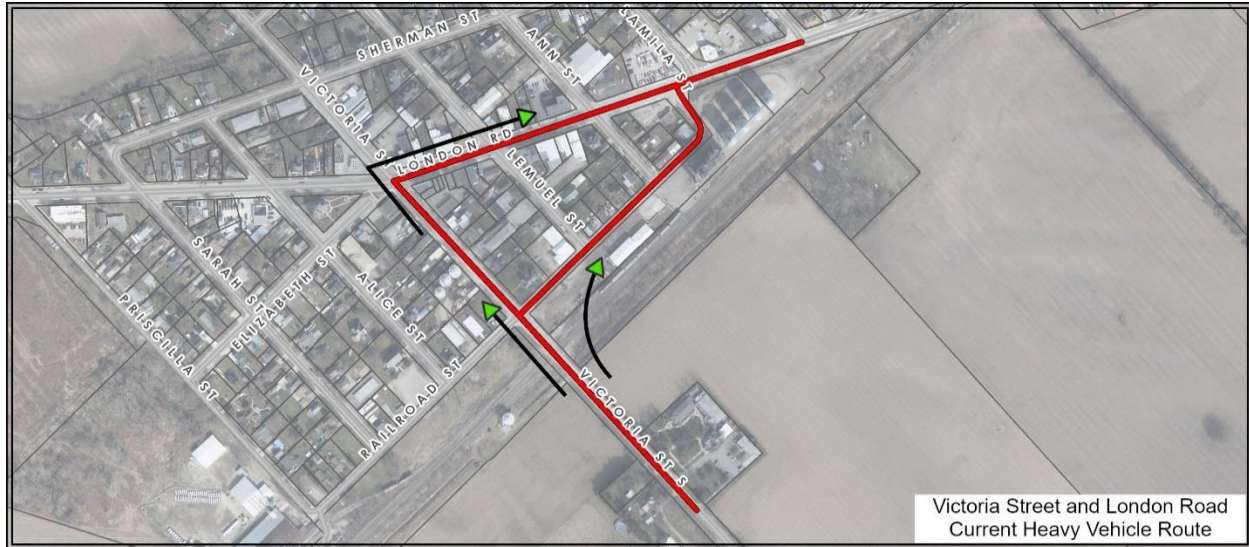


Figure 2: Current Heavy Vehicle Route

Comments

Erieau Road – Community of Harwich

A No Stopping zone on both sides of Erieau Road between Drury Line and Ridge Landfill Gate 3 (2.5 km) is recommended, as shown in the Figure 3 below.



Figure 3: No stopping zone on Erieau Road

Victoria Street – Community of Thamesville

A northbound right turn prohibition for heavy vehicles Victoria Street and London Road is recommended, as shown in the Figure 4 below. Additional advanced signage will be

provided on Victoria Street for northbound drivers directing eastbound heavy trucks to the existing truck route on Railroad Street.

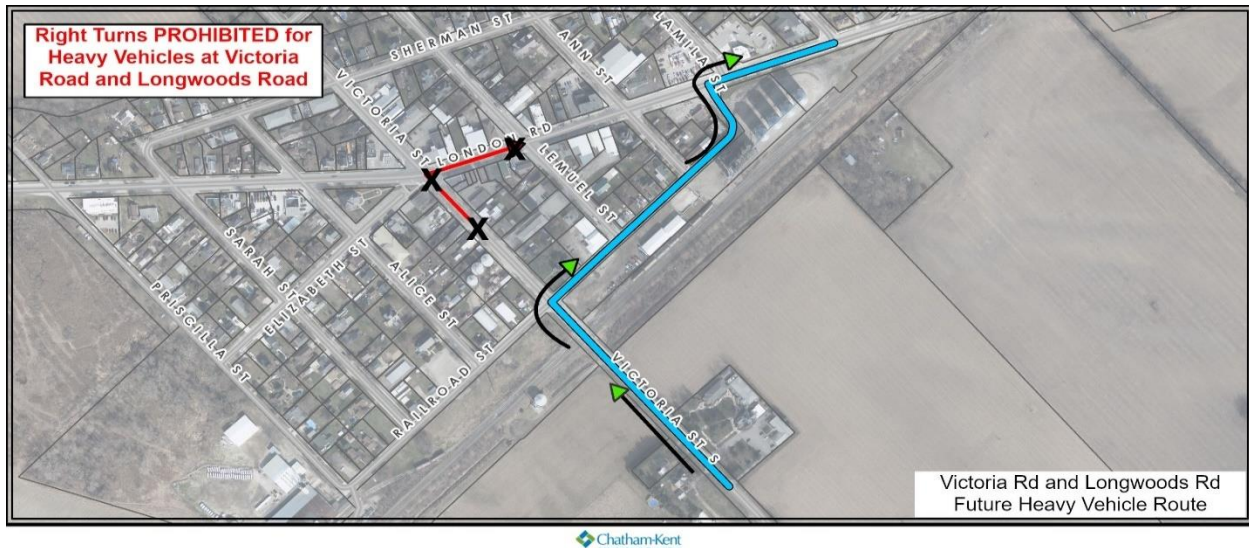


Figure 4: Current Heavy Vehicle Route

Council Term Priorities

This report supports the following Council Term Priorities:

Deliver Excellent Service	Promote Safety & Well-Being	Grow Our Community	Ensure Environmental Sustainability
			5.c

Consultation

Waste Connections of Canada (the Ridge Landfill operator) was consulted regarding the traffic regulation changes on Erieau Road.

Communication

Public communication will be achieved through the installation of appropriate traffic regulation signs.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ)

This report does not have implications related to diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.

Financial Implications

Approximately 12 new sign installations are required to be implement in the right turn prohibition and No Stopping zone. The estimated cost to complete this sign work is \$7,000.

This work will be funded from the Miscellaneous Traffic Projects Capital Project, which has sufficient funds to conduct the work.

Location	Description	Estimated cost (excl. HST)
Erieau Road	Addition of new no-stopping signs	\$5,000.00
Victoria Road	Addition of new prohibited turn signs	\$2,000.00
Total		\$7,000.00

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Attachment: Appendix A – Amendments to Traffic and Parking By-Law 245-2004

C: Cathy Smith, Major Projects Manager, Waste Connections of Canada

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