

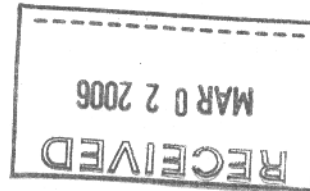
Fareed Amin, Deputy City Manager

Gary Welsh, P. Eng.  
General Manager  
Transportation Services Division

**Reply to:** Bob Bonner  
Traffic Operations  
17th Floor, Metro Hall  
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6  
**Tel:** 416-392-7712  
**Fax:** 416-392-1920  
**E-mail:** bbonner@toronto.ca

February 24, 2006

Councillor Michael Walker  
City of Toronto, Ward 22 – St. Paul's  
100 Queen St. W., Suite B26  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 2N2



Dear Councillor Walker:

**Re: Mount Pleasant Road and Manor Road East – Request to review pedestrian crossing times**

In response to a January 25, 2006 phone call from Ms. Rachael McCaig, we have reviewed the pedestrian crossing times at the above-noted intersection. The following discussion summarizes the details of our investigation.

The intersection of Mount Pleasant Road and Manor Road East is controlled by traffic signals. Mount Pleasant Road is a north-south, four-lane major arterial roadway, with a daily two-way traffic flow of approximately 39,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 50 km/h. Manor Road East is an east-west, two-lane collector roadway, with a daily two-way traffic flow of approximately 5,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 40 km/h.

At intersections controlled by traffic signals, we provide sufficient time for pedestrians to cross at a comfortable walking speed. This time is based on the average walking speed for the majority of adults, identified through surveys from many municipalities, including the City of Toronto, and equates to about 1.2 metres per second. In areas where we have identified a high percentage of pedestrians with slower average walking speeds (such as senior citizens and school children) we provide time for pedestrians to cross the road at a slower walking speed of about 1.0 metre per second or less.

Based on our study results, we will make signal timing modifications in order to provide pedestrians with a walking speed of 1.0 metres per second. Table 1 summarizes the existing crossing times and Table 2 summarizes proposed crossing times, which will be installed as soon as our schedule permits, based on a walking speed of 1.0 metres per second.

**Table 1: Existing pedestrian crossing times at 1.2m/sec.**

Crossing	Time Period	Crossing distance (metres)	Duration of the "Walk" phase (sec.)	Duration of the "Flashing Don't Walk" phase (sec.)	Total Pedestrian Crossing Time Provided (sec.)	Required Pedestrian Crossing Time (sec.)
Mount Pleasant Road	Morning peak period	23.1	8	13	21	20
	Off-peak periods	23.1	10	13	23	20
	Afternoon peak period	23.1	15	13	28	20
Manor Road East	Morning peak period	12.1	50	7	57	13
	Off-peak periods	12.1	28	7	35	13
	Afternoon peak period	12.1	43	7	50	13

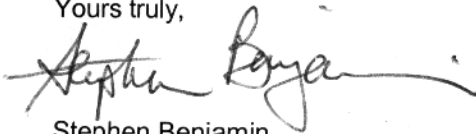
**Table 2: Proposed pedestrian crossing times at 1.0m/sec.**

Crossing	Time Period	Crossing distance (metres)	Duration of the "Walk" phase (sec.)	Duration of the "Flashing Don't Walk" phase (sec.)	Total Pedestrian Crossing Time Provided (sec.)	Required Pedestrian Crossing Time (sec.)
Mount Pleasant Road	Morning peak period	23.1	9	15	24	24
	Off-peak periods	23.1	9	15	24	24
	Afternoon peak period	23.1	13	15	28	24
Manor Road East	Morning peak period	12.1	46	8	54	15
	Off-peak periods	12.1	26	8	34	15
	Afternoon peak period	12.1	42	8	50	15

The total time provided for pedestrians to cross a road at a signalized intersection is the sum of the duration of the "Walk" and "Helping Hand" (Flashing Don't Walk) displays. As shown in table 2 above, we will increase the amount of time for pedestrians to cross Mount Pleasant Road at Manor Road East. The "Helping Hand" feature warns pedestrians not to start crossing when there is no longer adequate time for them to complete their crossing. If pedestrians have started to cross and the "Helping Hand" indication appears, there is still sufficient time for them to complete their crossing. For greater comfort, we suggest that all pedestrians, especially senior citizens and school children, always initiate their crossing at the start of the "Walk" indication. We have notified Ms. McCaig of our study results with a telephone call.

If you have any questions regarding this investigation, please contact Bob Bonner, Transportation Technologist, at (416) 338-5454.

Yours truly,



Stephen Benjamin  
Manager, Traffic Operations  
Toronto and East York District, West Area

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06-00140  
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