



## Point St Mark Dr & Gore Rd intersection (south leg) Comments from August – September 2020 engagement

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our August informal 3-question poll and sending us your comments and emails on the future design of the intersection of Point St. Mark Drive and Gore Road. All comments have been reviewed by the technical team and the information will help us in designing the final intersection for a right-out only onto Gore Road.

We received a healthy amount of responses and we are happy with the level of engagement. The results were conclusive and gives the City good direction in preparing the design of the intersection that will restrict vehicular access to provide a right turn only onto Gore Rd. See below for a summary of the results.

- 210 responses (52% identified as living in the PSM neighbourhood 40% identified as not living in the PSM neighbourhood, and 8% preferred not to say.
- Response to how you want to permanently see the intersection
  - 39% said they want to open the south leg of the intersection to allow right turns only onto Gore Rd,
  - 31% want the entrance into Gore Rd permanently closed,
  - 22% want the south leg permanently open and;
  - 9% are not sure.

In total we received 71 comments that have been categorized into the following six themes:

1. Vehicle access and road design (includes options for permanently open and permanently closed)
2. Right-out only
3. Safety
4. Cycling / pedestrian / transit
5. Environment
6. Other

For responses to your questions and comments we have provided a summary of what we heard and addressed the questions and comments. Later this fall, further information will be forthcoming on the City's public engagement platform "Get Involved" and will offer residents more details on the final design of the intersection and an opportunity for residents to provide questions or comments to the project team.

## **1. Theme: Vehicle access and road design**

A few comments were received from residents who responded to the survey with opinions on whether or not the intersection at Gore Rd and Point St. Mark should be fully opened or fully closed. Those commenting on a fully opened intersection wanting to realize the benefits of easy vehicular access to/from the bridge. Those commenting on a fully closed intersection concerned with existing traffic and vehicle speeds within the neighbourhood and the likelihood that those concerns would be further worsened with the opening of the bridge and unrestricted vehicle turning movements at the intersection of Gore Rd and Point St. Mark.

The concern with traffic short-cutting within the Point St. Mark neighbourhood following completion of the Third Crossing bridge has been a long-standing concern with area residents and first identified during the environmental assessment phase of the project over 10 years ago. Short-cutting traffic using local roads instead of collector and arterial roadways to complete trips between various origins and destinations is not an accepted practice for traffic management. Short-cutting traffic results in higher vehicle volumes and speeds on local roads with the associated problem of neighbourhood complaints, reduced road safety, and increased calls for police enforcement. In many cases these roads require traffic calming measures such as traffic humps, electronic speed signs, curb extensions and other measures to retrofit existing local roads to help reduce traffic volume and speeds. The reconstruction of the intersection of Gore Rd and Point St. Mark Dr offers a proactive opportunity to address the potential for short-cutting traffic within the neighbourhood and avoid the aforementioned problems and the future necessity for retrofitting the local roads such as Point St. Mark Dr and Barker Dr with traffic calming measures. More information on the final intersection design with a right-out only from Point St. Mark Dr onto Gore Rd will be provided as part of next phase of engagement on the City's Get-Involved site so please stay tuned.

## **2. Theme: Right-out only**

A few comments were received from survey respondents that are concerned with additional traffic within the Point St. Mark neighbourhood as a result of the Third Crossing bridge, however it is recognized that the neighbourhood still needs an additional access/egress beyond the intersection at Hwy 15 and Point St. Mark/Grenadier to support access for emergency service vehicles and would benefit from the right-out only to facilitate traffic movements within the neighbourhood. Some respondents questioned whether a left-out turning movement from Point St. Mark Dr onto the bridge could be permitted while another suggested that the prevention of this turning movement would result in drivers making illegal u-turns in an attempt to travel westbound across the bridge.

The project team determined that a right-out only turning movement from Point St. Mark Dr onto Gore Rd is a feasible design that allows for egress out of the Point St. Mark neighbourhood. The intersection geometry will need to be designed to allow for this turning movement while preventing other turning movements that would allow traffic to enter into the neighbourhood and contribute to possible short-cutting. The provision of a left-out turning movement from Point St. Mark Dr onto the bridge would open the throat

of the intersection further and likely encourage illegal right turns into the neighbourhood from east bound traffic travelling across the bridge or possibly even encourage illegal left turns into the neighbourhood from west bound traffic travelling along Gore Rd and further worsen the concern with short-cutting.

Unfortunately, the use of signage to restrict turning movements into the neighbourhood during peak travel times or enforcing time of day restrictions are not effective because they require regular and on-going police and bylaw enforcement in order to have any effect and are therefore not recommended.

### **3. Theme: Safety**

A few comments were received with respect to road safety. Respondents were concerned that increased traffic due to short-cutting within the Point St. Mark neighbourhood would result in higher speeds and create safety concerns for pedestrians and children living in the neighbourhood.

The final design that incorporates the right-out only intersection will address the potential concern for short-cutting and road safety issues with increased vehicular traffic and speed. The final design will also provide access into the neighbourhood for emergency service vehicles. The project team will be meeting with emergency service providers to review the intersection design and incorporate requirements their requirements for access under emergency situations.

More information on the final intersection design with a right-out only from Point St. Mark Dr onto Gore Rd that depicts traffic flow, pedestrian crossings and other details will be provided as part of the City's upcoming Get-Involved site, so please stay tuned.

### **4. Theme: Cycling / pedestrian / transit**

A number of respondents to the survey provided comments regarding cycling and pedestrian safety with a request that the intersection of Point St. Mark Dr and Gore Rd accommodate these needs.

The final design of the intersection will provide appropriate infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists. This will include line painting on the south leg of the intersection to provide a pedestrian crossing and cycle cross-ride for users on the multi-use pathway located along the southside of Gore Rd. In addition, the intersection will include a signalized pedestrian crossing to enable pedestrians and cyclists to cross Gore Rd on the west side of the intersection and gain access into the Library on the north side or Point St. Mark neighbourhood on the south side.

Active transportation infrastructure will be constructed along Gore Rd in order to provide connectivity to transit facilities located at the intersection of Highway 15 and Gore Rd.

### **5. Theme: Environment**

A couple of comments were received relating to streetscaping the request to preserve and protect the trees located along the south side of Gore Rd.

The project team is working on the final design that aims to protect all of the existing trees located on the south side of Gore Rd between Point St. Mark Dr and Hwy 15. These trees are in good health and provide a beautiful streetscape and shade canopy along this section of Gore Rd.

#### **6. Theme: Other**

The project team appreciates the input on the design of Point St. Mark and Gore Rd intersection provided through the informal opinion survey. This information will help to supplement the final design that the project team is completing. Further information will be forthcoming on the City's public engagement platform "Get Involved" and will offer residents more details on the final design of the intersection and an opportunity for residents to provide questions or comments to the project team.

### **Stay informed**

Learn more about Third Crossing at our website: [ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca](http://ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca)

Contact the project team through email: [thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca](mailto:thirdcrossing@cityofkingston.ca)

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**HATCH**

**SYSTRA**

 **Kiewit**

