

Installation of Chain Link Fence and Two Portable Classrooms - Queen Victoria Public School (High Park)

(City Council on November 23, 24 and 25, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Toronto Community Council recommends the adoption of the following report (October 29, 1999) from the Manager, Right of Way Management, Transportation Services, District 1:

Purpose:

To report on a request to install a 1.2 m high chain link fence and two portable classrooms within portions of the public right of way fronting 100 Close Avenue. As there is no specific provision for the installation of portable classrooms in Chapter 313, Streets and Sidewalks, of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code, we are required to report to your Committee.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

Not applicable.

Recommendation:

That City Council approve the continued maintenance on a temporary basis of the chain link fence and two portable classrooms within portions of the public right of way fronting 100 Close Avenue.

Background:

Mr. Rose, Acting Superintendent Maintenance and Construction, Toronto District School Board, 155 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P6, has submitted a request to install an additional two portable classrooms and a 1.2 m high chain link fence within the public right of way fronting 100 Close Avenue, Queen Victoria Public School, on a short term basis (2-3 months) until the new school at this site has been completed. Ms. Dorothy Calot, school principal, indicated that the school is desperately overcrowded and although they have tried to make adjustments to accommodate students and programs the current situation is intolerable.

Given that the completion of the new school is not anticipated until the end of December 1999 or later, she is asking for more classroom space by using two additional classroom portables. She emphasizes that their needs are immediate.

Comments:

For your Committee's information, there is construction underway of a new school to replace the existing school at this site, 100 Close Avenue, and it is anticipated that the construction of the

school will not be completed until the end of December 1999 or in early 2000. It has become apparent that the enrolment of the students in September far exceeded the capacity of the old school. In order to address some of their needs, the school board had arranged to install two portable classrooms on site within private property. According to Dorothy Calot, the principal of the school, the current situation is intolerable and therefore, she is asking for an additional two classroom portables to be installed within portions of the public right of way fronting 100 Close Avenue (Attachment No. 1). In addition, they are requesting permission to install a 1.2 m high chain link fence 0.41 m back of the City sidewalk in the vicinity of the portables.

Staff have inspected the site and determined that there is no area on private property to accommodate this proposal. Furthermore, we have determined that the installation of the two portable classrooms and 1.2 m high chain link fence will not impact negatively on the area.

Details of the installation of the chain link fence and classroom portables are on file with this Department.

Conclusions:

As the chain link fence and classroom portables are short term temporary installations and will not negatively impact the public right of way, permission should be granted. However, because there is an immediate need to address the current situation, we have approved the issuance of a temporary street occupation permit authorizing the installation of the chain link fence and classroom portables. Both Ward Councillors concurred with the approval.

As there are no specific provisions for the installation of the portable classrooms in Chapter 313, Streets and Sidewalks, of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code, we are reporting on the proposal.

Contact:

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(A copy of Attachment 1(September 30, 1999) from Ms. Dorothy Calot, Principal, Toronto District School Board, referred to in the foregoing report, was forwarded to all Members of the Toronto Community Council with the agenda for its meeting on November 9, 1999, and a copy thereof is on file in the office of the City Clerk)