

## **Closure of a Portion of Crawford Street, South of King Street West to Caniff Street (Trinity-Niagara)**

*(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)*

**The Toronto Community Council recommends that:**

- (1) City Council support the closing of Crawford Street between King Street West and Caniff Street;**
- (2) appropriate officials initiate all actions to give effect to Recommendation No. (1); and**
- (3) staff be directed to investigate the integration of the Urban Arts Garden into the park design, in consultation with the Ward Councillors.**

**The Toronto Community Council submits the following report (December 2, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner of Urban Planning and Development Services:**

Purpose:

To respond to the joint request of Councillor Pantalone and Councillor Silva respecting the possibility of closing a portion of Crawford Street for a distance of one block, between King Street West and Caniff Street.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

Possible financial obligations relate to the construction phase of removing the street and extending the proposed park. Funds have been secured for the park improvements through previous planning approvals, however, no determination has been made as to whether they are sufficient to cover the increased costs.

Recommendations:

- (1) That City Council support staff investigating the feasibility of closing Crawford Street between King Street West and Caniff Street or other options to increase the size of the park.
- (2) That staff be directed to investigate the integration of the Urban Arts Garden into the park design in consultation with the Ward Councillors.

Background:

As part of the previous office development scheme for the former Massey lands south of King Street West, west of Strachan Avenue, funds were secured to provide for a park adjacent to the

historic building located at 915 King Street West. These funds are available for the design and construction of the park.

The road pattern constructed on the Massey lands was intended for office development previously approved. The lands are now being developed as predominantly residential.

An application has been received by the owners of the historic building to integrate the historic building into a condominium development. Once the new development has been completed, the development of the park can proceed.

### The Proposal

The Ward Councillors have suggested that the proposed park could be extended to the west, by taking over a portion of Crawford Street for a distance of one short block, adjacent to the park land.

### Traffic & Safety Issues

Both the Toronto Transit Commission and WheelTrans have been contacted, and staff are informed that neither operator uses this portion of Crawford Street as part of scheduled routes. The Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services has indicated there is a need for further investigation as to what the closure would mean in terms of traffic circulation and any possible concerns emergency services such as the Police Department may have.

A large amount of residential development is occurring on the blocks adjacent to the proposed park. The potential impact of the street closure, taking away the access to King Street West, must be considered.

### Conclusion:

The potential benefits of an expanded park adjacent to 915 King Street West should be evaluated in terms of any possible implications on traffic and pedestrian circulation within the Massey lands. Further investigation is required considering the needs of the many development applications currently being processed for the blocks adjacent to the proposed park.

### Contact:

Name: Rollin Stanley, West Section  
Telephone: 392-0424  
Fax: 392-1330  
E-Mail: rstanley@city.toronto.on.ca

---

The Toronto Community Council reports, for the information of Council, having also had before it during consideration of the foregoing matter, a communication from Anne Bermonte, Acting

Executive Director, Toronto Arts Council; and a copy thereof is on file in the office of the City Clerk.