

# TORONTO STAFF REPORT

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May 29, 2000

To: Economic Development and Parks Committee

From: Joe Halstead, Commissioner Economic Development, Culture and Tourism

Subject: TTC Witt and PCC Streetcars -- Inclusion in the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties  
All Wards

Purpose:

To recommend that Council recognize the symbolic and historical significance of the TTC's remaining Witt and PCC streetcars.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Council declare Witt car 2766 and PCC cars 4500 and 4549 to be symbols of the City and important objects to be preserved in their historic livery;
- (2) Council include Witt car 2766 and PCC cars 4500 and 4549 in the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties; and
- (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

At its meeting on January 17, 2000, the Economic Development and Parks Committee had before it a proposed resolution that would declare the TTC's remaining Witt and PCC streetcars to be historic objects. The Committee requested the Commissioner Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, to report thereon.

Comments:

The Toronto Transit Commission is an integral part of Toronto and its streetcars are strongly associated with the Commission's and city's identities. As the proposed resolution from the Economic Development and Parks Committee notes, the Presidents' Conference Committee (PCC) cars were designed specifically for the TTC and introduced in 1938. The PCC car is still the "Red Rocket" to many Torontonians.

It is fitting that the TTC's only remaining Witt and PCC cars be maintained and included in the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

At its meeting on February 21, 2000, the Toronto Preservation Board adopted the following recommendations:

- (a) that the Toronto Preservation Board support the proposed resolution of Council that Council declare Witt car 2766 and PCC cars 4500 and 4549 to be symbols of the City and important objects to be preserved in their historic livery; and
- (b) that Council include Witt car 2766 and PCC cars 4500 and 4549 in the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

Conclusion:

Staff respectfully request that Council recognize the symbolic and historical significance of the TTC's remaining Witt and PCC streetcars and that they be included on the City of Toronto's Inventory of Heritage Properties.

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