

Road Classification System Update

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| Date: | May 2, 2007 |
| To: | Public Works and Infrastructure Committee |
| From: | General Manager, Transportation Services |
| Wards: | All Wards |
| Reference Number: | p:\2007\ClusterB\tra\tim\pw07008tim |

SUMMARY

The Transportation Services Division has undertaken a review of the street designations contained in the current Road Classification System. The review process included input from divisional staff and consultation with all Ward Councillors. The process helped in determining the appropriate road classification for new streets assumed by the City and allowed for the re-examination of the classification of others whose current designation did not reflect the intended purpose or did not match the current functional operation of the road.

This report provides information on the background, review and consultation process used to develop the road classification changes and seeks approval from City Council to amend the current Road Classification System with the changes contained in the table included in Appendix 2 of this report, entitled "Road Classification Update – Table of Changes".

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Transportation Services Division recommends that:

1. the City of Toronto Road Classification System be updated by incorporating the changes contained in Appendix 2 of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

City Council, at its meeting of February 29 and March 1 and 2, 2000, adopted a Road Classification System for the City which consolidated and replaced the various road classification systems of the former seven pre-amalgamated municipalities. When City Council adopted the current Road Classification System, they also requested that the Transportation Services Division submit a staff report seeking City Council's approval of any future changes to the system requiring a road designation of Collector or higher.

COMMENTS

The City of Toronto Road Classification System, previously adopted by Council at its meeting of February 29 and March 1 and 20, 2000, designates streets into different groups or classes according to the type of service each group is intended to provide and is a fundamental tool in guiding urban development and road management. Grouping roads with similar functions can improve transportation planning, road infrastructure design, road maintenance, and traffic and road operations. With the aim of improving the function of the City's road network, each street has been designated with one of the following five road classifications: Expressway, Major Arterial, Minor Arterial, Collector and Local. The table contained in Appendix 1, entitled "Road Classification Criteria", approved by City Council at its meeting of February 29 and March 1 and 2, 2000 was used to designate every street into one of these five classifications.

The maintenance of the Road Classification System is an ongoing activity which ensures that the existing road network, and any new streets assumed by the City are correctly classified based on their current functional levels. As part of the latest exercise, an extensive two step consultation and review process was undertaken. The first step included canvassing input from district divisional staff. They undertook a comprehensive review of the road sections they felt required reclassification and provided the justification to support any change. The second step in the process involved consultation with all the Ward Councillors. Each Ward Councillor was advised of the proposed reclassification of streets within their respective wards and any comments received were taken into consideration in the development of the final road classification recommendations, included in Appendix 2, entitled "Road Classification Update – Table of Changes".

The table contains approximately 300 street sections, sorted by ward, that are proposed to be reclassified. The table also identifies the key characteristics/factors that were used as the bases for the reclassification of the road, including daily motor vehicle traffic volume,

flow characteristics, presence of traffic control signals, the presence of surface transit and desirable connections.

Updating the current Road Classification System with the recommended changes will ensure that the City's road network will continue to function efficiently and safely and be properly operated and managed.

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ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix 1: Road Classification Criteria
- Appendix 2: Road Classification Update – Table of Changes