
**The installation of Taxicab Stands at various locations
in the central area of the City**

Date:	December 21, 2006
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	St. Paul's, Ward 22; Toronto Centre – Rosedale, Ward 27; and Toronto Centre – Rosedale, Ward 28
Reference Number:	Ts07023tey.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services, after working with representatives of the taxicab industry, Mayor Miller's office and various Councillors has identified 14 potential taxicab stand locations that could be added in the central area of the City.

Taxicab Stands could be implemented at the locations outlined and during the operational periods indicated in this report without adversely affecting traffic operations or the safety of other road users.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Taxicab Stands be implemented on the sections of Bay Street, Bloor Street East/West, Bremner Boulevard, Cumberland Street, King Street West, Wellington Street West, Yonge Street and York Street, outlined and for the operational periods indicated in Appendix 1, attached to this report;
2. The stopping, standing and/or parking regulations be rescinded on the sections of Bay Street, Bloor Street East/West, Bremner Boulevard, Cumberland Street, King Street West, Wellington Street West, Yonge Street and York Street, as outlined in Appendix 2, attached to this report;

3. Stopping, standing and/or parking regulations be implemented on the sections of Bay Street, Bloor Street East/West, Bremner Boulevard, Cumberland Street, King Street West, Wellington Street West, Yonge Street and York Street, as outlined in Appendix 3, attached to this report;
4. The Taxicab Stand on the south side of King Street West, from a point 138.7 metres east of York Street to a point 21.3 metres further east thereof, be rescinded; and
5. The Taxicab Stand on the north side of King Street West, from a point 41.0 metres west of Bay Street to a point 51.9 metres further west, operating at anytime, except 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, be adjusted to indicate anytime, except 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Type of funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Division 2007 Operating Budget interim appropriations.	\$5,000
Additional funding request for current budget year	Not applicable	nil
Funding required for next budget year	Not applicable	nil
Total financial impact		\$5,000

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In July 2006, staff from Mayor Miller's office and Councillor Howard Moscoe met with a representative group of drivers from the taxicab industry. They drew up a list of approximately 25 locations where installation of taxicab stands was suggested. We then met with Mr. Mohammad Reza Hosseinioun, representing the drivers, and visited each location with him to determine if new taxicab stands or modifications to existing taxicab stands could be provided. Mr. Hosseinioun also provided a list of five additional locations where drivers have requested taxicab stands.

The result was a list of 14 potential taxicab stands. This list was presented at a follow-up meeting on September 7, 2006, attended by staff from Mayor Miller's office, Councillor Kyle Rae's office, Councillor Pam McConnell's office, Councillor Michael Walker's office, Councillor Howard Moscoe, Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong, several taxicab drivers and staff from Transportation Services, Municipal Licensing and Standards, and the Toronto Police Service.

COMMENTS

We recognize the taxicab industry as a part of the transportation network in Toronto, and the reliance that many businesses, the citizens of Toronto and the tourist industry place on taxicabs. Therefore, providing additional locations where taxicabs may legally stand in the downtown core in particular, has merit. Our investigation identified potential taxicab stands at the 14 locations outlined below and shown on the attached prints of Drawing Nos. 421F-8594 to 421F-8607, inclusive.

Proposed Taxicab Stands

- Bay Street, east side, north of Front Street West (at 161 Bay Street);
- Bay Street, east side, north of Wellington Street West (at Commerce Court);
- Bloor Street East, south side, east of Church Street (at 175 Bloor Street East);
- Bloor Street West, south side, east of Bay Street (at 55 Bloor Street West);
- Bremner Boulevard, north side, east of Rees Street (near Rogers Centre/CN Tower);
- Cumberland Street, north side, east of Avenue Road (at the Four Seasons Hotel);
- King Street West, north side, east of York Street (near 130 King Street West);
- King Street West, south side, east of York Street (at 55 King Street West);
- King Street West, north side, east of Bay Street (at Scotia Plaza);
- Wellington Street West, south side, west of Yonge Street (at BCE Place);
- Wellington Street West, south side, west of Bay Street (at 79 Wellington Street West);
- Yonge Street, east side, south of Roehampton Avenue (near 2299 Yonge Street);
- York Street, west side, south of King Street West (beside 145 King Street West); and
- York Street, east side, north of Adelaide Street West (beside 130 Adelaide Street West).

The taxicab stands proposed on Bremner Boulevard and Cumberland Street will operate at all times. Those proposed for Bloor Street East/West, King Street West, Wellington Street West and York Street, will operate at all times except during the morning and afternoon rush hour periods, Monday to Friday. "No Stopping" regulations are in effect on these streets during rush hours to enhance public transit operation and movement of higher traffic volumes.

The taxicab stands proposed at the Bay Street locations will be in areas where the Bay Street Urban Clearway operates from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. “No Stopping” regulations are in effect on Bay Street during these hours. Accordingly, the taxicab stands on Bay Street will operate only between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., Monday to Friday and at all time on weekends.

The taxicab stand proposed on the east side of Yonge Street, south of Roehampton Avenue will operate from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday only. This location is intended to partially address the loss of spaces at the taxicab stand on the west side of Yonge Street, south of Eglinton Avenue, (at Eglinton subway station) during the morning rush hours when stopping is prohibited on the west side of the street.

Our initial investigation suggested taxicab stands might be installed in the morning rush hours only on the east side of Yonge Street, across from Eglinton and Davisville subway stations. However, upon further review, we determined that installing taxicab stands at these locations could interfere with busing operations at Eglinton subway station and would result in the loss of parking spaces near Davisville subway station. Therefore, it is not advisable that taxicab stands be installed at these locations.

We also looked at installing taxicab stands at the Art Gallery of Ontario and Royal Ontario Museum. However, it was agreed in our discussion with the taxicab drivers that consideration of these locations be deferred until major construction projects at these venues is completed.

Rescindment of one taxicab stand (not correctly defined in the by-law) and an adjustment to another on King Street West are required and outlined in our recommendations. All other changes to existing regulations required to enable installation of the taxicab stands listed above are outlined in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 attached to this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Proposed Taxicab Stands

Appendix 2 – Stopping, Standing and Parking Regulations to be Rescinded

Appendix 3 – Stopping, Standing and Parking Regulations to be Implemented

Drawing No. 421F-8594

Drawing No. 421F-8595

Drawing No. 421F-8596

Drawing No. 421F-8597

Drawing No. 421F-8598

Drawing No. 421F-8599

Drawing No. 421F-8600

Drawing No. 421F-8601

Drawing No. 421F-8602

Drawing No. 421F-8603

Drawing No. 421F-8604

Drawing No. 421F-8605

Drawing No. 421F-8606

Drawing No. 421F-8607

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