

**Pedestrian Link
Intersection of King Street West and Shaw Street to
Liberty Village**

Date:	December 22, 2006
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Community Planning, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Ward 19, Trinity-Spadina
Reference Number:	File No. 06 198435 SPS 00 TM

SUMMARY

To report on a proposed pedestrian link connection from Shaw Street, south of King Street West, to the Liberty Village area, along with the work plan for achieving this pedestrian link.

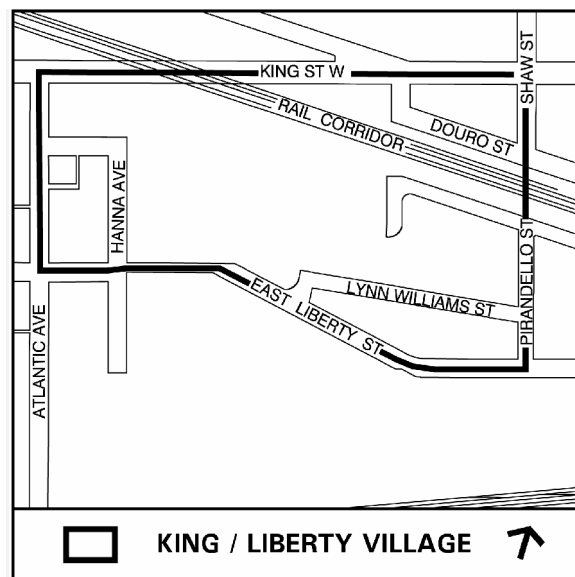
RECOMMENDATION

The City Planning Division recommends that:

The Chief Planner and Executive Director of the City Planning Division report to Toronto and East York Community Council in the 3rd quarter of 2007 on an implementation plan and financial implications to implement a pedestrian link from Shaw Street south of King to the Liberty Village Area.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Planning Division will report to Community Council on any financial implications which may arise through this



study process.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At Toronto and East York's Community Council Meeting on September 13, 2006, a Communication from Deputy Mayor Pantalone was received by Community Council with a recommendation that the Chief Planner report to the next meeting of Community Council on a pedestrian tunnel connection (from Shaw Street south of King Street West) to the Liberty Village area, along with a work plan for achieving this pedestrian connection.

COMMENTS

Members of the community have raised the issue of integrating the communities north and south of the CN rail tracks that bisect Liberty Village from the community surrounding King Street, between the King Street underpass and Strachan Avenue.

The area to the south of the CN rail tracks is now known as King Liberty. These former industrial lands are being redeveloped into a mixed-use neighbourhood with streets, parks, commercial, office and approximately 5,000 residential and live/work units. A retail mall including a large grocery store has been built as part of the King Liberty redevelopment.

The community to the north of the CN rail tracks utilizes the grocery store and the adjacent commercial businesses that are located in the King Liberty neighbourhood. The grocery store is physically located within close proximity to King Street and is within view of King Street, however, due to the location and configuration of the rail tracks, there is not a direct route to get to the grocery store.

In recognizing that a pedestrian crossing in this vicinity would be desirable, a \$100,000.00 Section 37 contribution was secured as part of the rezoning process for the King Liberty neighbourhood, to cover a portion of the cost. In addition, the commercial property owners in the King Liberty neighbourhood have expressed an interest in contributing towards a pedestrian link.

Steering Group

The City Planning Division recognizes that a pedestrian crossing would be a significant contribution towards city building in the area and that further study is needed. Staff recommends that a steering group be set up to carry out the study. The steering group would consist of staff from Parks, Technical Services, Transportation Services, Community Planning, CN Rail, GO Transit and any other relevant parties as determined through the process. Monthly meetings of the steering group will be held.

Work Program

In order to analyze the opportunity to create a pedestrian link across the rail corridor, the following work program is suggested:

- analyze the approaches to both sides of the rail corridor to determine the best location for the link, how much space would be required and other improvements to the sidewalk/road network connecting to the link
- analyze pedestrian desire lines and destinations on both sides of the rail corridor
- determine the physical criteria for the tunnel and logistics of construction under the rail corridor
- review any implications for future expansion/changes to rail service in the area
- review any other pedestrian links being proposed in the vicinity eg. pedestrian bridge to be built across the rail corridor between Spadina Avenue and Bathurst Street and bridge at the foot of Abell Street on the north side of the corridor

Based on the analysis and technical review, the work group would then prepare:

- a preliminary proposal for the location, size and alignment of the tunnel
- a cost estimate
- possible sources of funds and financial implications for the City.

It is recommend that the steering group provide the results of this technical review in a report to Community Council in the third quarter of 2007.

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SIGNATURE

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