

Executive Committee

(City Council on August 5 and 6, 2009 deferred consideration of Item EX33.18 to its next regular meeting on September 30, 2009)

EX33.18				Ward: 20
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Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment and East Bayfront Transit Environmental Assessment

Committee Recommendations

The Executive Committee unanimously recommends that:

With respect to the Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment:

1. City Council grant authority to Waterfront Toronto to issue a Notice of Completion following completion of the Environmental Study Report to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Transportation Services, substantially in the form outlined in the report (May 14, 2009) from the Deputy City Manager, Richard Butts, and to file the ESR for the Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment Study in the public record for 30 days in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.
2. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services and Waterfront Toronto, in consultation with the relevant City divisions, to study the opportunity to provide a new north-south road connection linking Queens Quay West to Lake Shore Boulevard opposite the Fire/EMS driveway, west of Rees Street, and if feasible, to bring forward the necessary report(s) to Council for consideration.
3. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services, the Director, Waterfront Secretariat and Waterfront Toronto, in consultation with the relevant City divisions, local Councillors and impacted stakeholders, to continue to refine the Preliminary Curb Management Plan appearing in Appendix 6 of the report (May 14, 2009) from the Deputy City Manager, Richard Butts, together with the development of a waterfront bus management strategy consistent with the timing of detailed design and the reconstruction of Queens Quay.
4. City Council authorize and direct the appropriate City officials take the necessary action to give effect thereto.
5. City Council direct that a traffic consultant be jointly hired by the Deputy City Manager for Waterfront Revitalization and the Chief General Manager of the Toronto Transit Commission, to address the various detailed design issues identified in the report.

With respect to the East Bayfront Transit Environmental Assessment:

6. City Council authorize the Chief General Manager of the TTC and the General Manager of Transportation Services to issue a Notice of Completion for the East Bayfront Transit Environmental Assessment, following the completion of the Environmental Study Report (ESR) substantially in the form outlined in the report (May 28, 2009) from the General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission, and place the report in the public record for a minimum 30-day period in accordance with the requirements under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Act.
7. City Council authorize the installation of traffic control signals at only the following intersections on Queens Quay East: Freeland Street, the westerly-most access to 95 Queens Quay East, Richardson Street, Sherbourne Street, and Proposed Street "D" (as shown in Exhibit 11) of the report (May 28, 2009) from the General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission, coincident with the reconstruction of Queens Quay East.
8. City Council require that any future proposals for the installation of additional signals on this section of Queens Quay East be supported by an independent technical audit, completed to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Transportation Services and the Chief General Manager of the TTC, to ensure that such signals can be installed in a way that does not negatively affect streetcar operations. This includes the signals suggested for Small Street, Bonnycastle Street and proposed "Street A" as shown in Exhibit 11 of the report (May 28, 2009) from the General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission.
9. City Council direct that the truck-movement control gate required for the eastern, egress-only, access from Redpath Sugar, be owned and operated by the TTC to ensure that priority for streetcar operations is maintained to optimal design.

Committee Decision Advice and Other Information

The Executive Committee requested:

1. The Deputy City Manager Responsible for the Waterfront and the Project Director, Waterfront Secretariat, working with the Chief General Manager of TTC and the President and CEO of Waterfront Toronto, report directly to Council on:
 - a. A resolution to issues between Waterfront Toronto and the TTC related to the funding of the Union Station Streetcar Loop;
 - b. Confirmation that safety and operational issues raised by Redpath Sugar concerning the proposed gate at the plant's easterly driveway have been satisfactorily addressed in the East Bayfront Transit EA; and
 - c. Confirmation that issues surrounding the right hand turn to Harbour Square at York Street have been discussed.
2. The General Manager of Transportation Services, in consultation with relevant City Divisions, to study and report on the opportunity to extend the path system south of Union Station to Queens Quay;
3. Staff to consider and report directly to City Council on the Mayor's motion to approve the following amendments:
 - a. Robertson Crescent - Create a controlled intersection for northbound buses only on the east segment of Robertson Crescent.

- b. Dan Leckie Way - No change be made to this intersection at this time.
 - c. Buses - Request that the Police explore the use of the "Denver Boot" as an enforcement tool for illegally parked buses.
 - d. New Road - Staff accelerate the process to build a new north-south street running between Queens Quay West and Lake Shore Boulevard, between Rees and Spadina, and explore metered on-street parking for the new street.
 - e. Yo Yo Ma Lane - Request Transportation staff to report on the cost and ramifications of extending Yo Yo Ma Lane north to Lake Shore Boulevard.
4. Staff to discuss the concerns raised by Brax Menezes, York Quay Neighbourhood Association, and attempt to come to a resolution.
 5. Referred the matter of the cycling gap in the Martin Goodwin Trail outlined by the Toronto Bicycling Network, to staff for consultation to determine how the issues raised can be resolved.
 6. Requested staff to report on the operational and safety concerns of the TTC.

Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Director, Waterfront Secretariat, and Chris Glaisek, Vice President, Planning and Design, Waterfront Toronto, gave a presentation to the Executive Committee on Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment.

Mitch Stambler, Toronto Transit Commission, answered questions from the Executive Committee.

Origin

(May 14, 2009) Report from Richard Butts, Deputy City Manager

Summary

The decision to proceed with the Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment (EA) followed a well-received international design competition in February 2006 which produced, as part of the winning design, a dramatic re-imaging of Queens Quay as Toronto's signature waterfront street. That summer, Waterfront Toronto (WT) modelled the winning design over a 10 day period, attracting a high level of public interest and support.

In September 2007, WT and the City of Toronto initiated the Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA study area is Queens Quay between Bathurst Street and Yonge Street. A companion EA, the East Bayfront Transit EA, has provided the opportunity to integrate the surface design investigation of Queens Quay between Yonge Street and Parliament Street. A separate report on the Transit EA, forwarded by the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), appears on this agenda.

The evaluation of a reasonable range of alternative solutions, which included extensive consultation with the public and review agencies, resulted in a Recommended Design which rebalances transportation functions on Queens Quay and greatly enhances the public realm. The Recommended Design involves the conversion of the two travel lanes north of the existing TTC median to a single lane in each direction. This frees up the two south lanes and sidewalk for the extension of the Martin Goodman Trail (MGT) through this corridor and an extensive pedestrian promenade. The TTC median remains in its current location.

An Executive Summary of the Environmental Study Report (ESR) appears in Appendix 1. The ESR itself is currently being completed by WT and will be submitted to the City for review. Once staff has completed its review, in accordance with the contents of this staff report and recommendations, a Notice of Study Completion will be issued by WT. The ESR is filed in the public record for a 30-day review period in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.

Background Information (Committee)

Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment Study
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21514.pdf>
 Appendix 1 - Executive Summary of the ESR - Queens Quay Revitalization EA
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21515.pdf>
 Appendix 2 - Evaluation Matrix of Alternative Planning Solutions
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21516.pdf>
 Appendix 3 - Alternative Design Concept Cross Sections
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21517.pdf>
 Appendix 4 - Evaluation Matrix of Alternative Design Concepts
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21518.pdf>
 Appendix 5 - The Recommended Design
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21519.pdf>
 Appendix 6 - Preliminary Curb Management Plan
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21520.pdf>

Background Information (City Council)

(July 28, 2009) Supplementary report recommending deferral from the Deputy City Manager (EX33.18b)
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-23454.pdf>

Communications (Committee)

(June 1, 2009) E-mail from Martin Koob (EX.Main.EX33.18.1)
 (June 1, 2009) E-mail from Ron Fletcher, Toronto Bicycling Network (EX.Main.EX33.18.2)
 (June 1, 2009) E-mail from Donna Flemming (EX.Main.EX33.18.3)
 (June 1, 2009) E-mail from Ulla Colgrass (EX.Main.EX33.18.4)
 (June 1, 2009) E-mail from Braz Menezes (EX.Main.EX33.18.5)
 (June 1, 2009) Letter from Cynthia A. MacDougall, McCarthy Tetrault (EX.Main.EX33.18.6)
 (June 1, 2009) Submission from Mark Flowers, Davies Howe Partners (EX.Main.EX33.18.7)
 (June 2, 2009) Submission from Kevin Currie, Chair, Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment (EX.Main.EX33.18.8)
 (May 28, 2009) Memo from Derek Dalgleish, Director, Transportation Planning, ENTR Consultants (EX.Main.EX33.18.9)
 (June 2, 2009) E-mail from Dennis Findlay (EX.Main.EX33.18.10)
 (June 2, 2009) Petition from V. Patel, Radisson Admiral Hotel and Deepak Ruparell, President, Silver Hotels (EX.Main.EX33.18.11)
 (June 2, 2009) Submission from Julie Beddoes, West Don Lands Committee (EX.Main.EX33.18.12)
 (May 25, 2009) Submission from James Harbell, Solicitor for Redpath Sugar Ltd. (EX.Main.EX33.18.13)
 (June 2, 2009) Presentation from Christopher Glaisek, VP Planning and Design, Waterfront Toronto (EX.Main.EX33.18.14)

Communications (City Council)

(June 3, 2009) E-mail from Dermot McKeown, C.H.A., General Manager, Radisson Admiral Hotel, Toronto Harbourfront (CC.Main.EX33.18.15)

Speakers (Committee)

Mr. Kevin Currie, Chair, Queens Quay Harbourfront BIA (Submission Filed)
 Mr. Deepak Ruparell, Radisson Admiral Hotel, Toronto Harbourfront (Submission Filed)
 Ms. Julie Beddoes, West Don Lands Committee (Submission Filed)
 Ms. Vicki Barron, Waterfront Regeneration Trust
 Mr. Mark Flowers, Davies Howe Partners (Submission Filed)
 Mr. Clay McFayden
 Mr. Jonathan Bamberger, President, Redpath Sugar Ltd
 Mr. Ron Fletcher, Toronto Bicycling Network (Submission Filed)
 Mr. Braz Menezes, York Quay Neighbourhood Association (Submission Filed)
 Ms. Ulla Colgrass, Chair., York Quay Neighbourhood Association (Submission Filed)
 Ms. Cynthia MacDougall, McCarthy Tetrault LLP (Submission Filed)
 Mr. Dermot McKeown, General Manager, Radisson Hotel
 Mr. James Harbell, Stikeman Elliott (Submission Filed)
 Mr. Dennis Findlay (Submission Filed)
 Councillor Adam Vaughan, Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

18a East Bayfront Transit Environmental Assessment: Streetcar Service on Queens Quay East Between Yonge Street and Parliament Street

Origin

(May 28, 2009) Report from the General Manager, Toronto Transit Commission

Summary

(May 28, 2009) Letter from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission.

Background Information (Committee)

East Bayfront Transit Environmental Assessment: Streetcar Service on Queens Quay East Between Yonge Street and Parliament Street

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21653.pdf>)

Report 14 from the May 28, 2009 meeting of the TTC

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21654.pdf>)