

May 28, 2009

Ms. Ulli Watkiss
City Clerk
City of Toronto
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Dear Ms. Watkiss:

At its meeting on Thursday May 28, 2009 the Commission considered the attached report entitled, "East Bayfront Transit Environmental Assessment: Streetcar Service on Queens Quay East Between Yonge Street and Parliament Street."

The Commission adopted the Recommendation contained in the report, as listed below:

It is recommended that the Commission:

1. Request that Toronto City Council:
 - a) 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 this report, 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;
 - b) 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), coincident with the reconstruction of Queens Quay East;
 - c) 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; and

- d) 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;

2. Note that:

- the project provides for streetcars operating in a new tunnel section east of the existing streetcar tunnel at Queens Quay West and Bay Street, through a portal on the south side of Queens Quay East between Yonge Street and Freeland Street, and on a surface transit right-of-way on the south side of Queens Quay East between Freeland Street and Parliament Street;
- the recommended design includes a 38-metre overall right-of-way on Queens Quay East incorporating a dedicated streetcar right-of-way south of two through auto lanes (one in each direction), a continuous Martin Goodman Trail, and generous sidewalks and median space separating the uses in the corridor;
- the *East Bayfront Transit EA* project is being undertaken and funded by Waterfront Toronto as part of a larger project to reconstruct Queens Quay between Bathurst Street and Parliament Street;
- approval for the transit elements of the overall project are in two parts:
 - i) the *East Bayfront Transit EA* addresses the section east of Yonge Street, which is the subject of this report, and
 - ii) a separate City staff report, entitled *Queens Quay Revitalisation EA Study*, addresses the section west of Yonge Street;
- the development of the preferred design has been a joint initiative between Waterfront Toronto, the City of Toronto, and the TTC and has included an extensive public input process and a significant emphasis on excellence in urban design;
- the recommended design addresses City of Toronto Council's concerns related to assessing alternate cross-section design options for Queens Quay East and minimising the curb-to-curb distance on the roadway to improve pedestrian access;
- this report has been prepared jointly by TTC staff and City of Toronto staff who concur with the recommendations;

- TTC and Waterfront Toronto staff are developing a Delivery Agreement for the TTC to undertake the design and construction of the transit elements of the project to ensure that the resulting transit facilities are acceptable to the TTC;
 - conditional on appropriate funding approvals by Waterfront Toronto, road, transit and associated urban realm improvements are planned for design in 2010/2011 and construction in 2012/2014. Opening day for the transit operation is expected to be in 2014;
 - initially, streetcar service on the line would operate on Queens Quay East between Union Station and a temporary streetcar loop east of Parliament Street. The design of the new line permits future operation further east when development occurs in the Lower Don and Port Lands areas; and
 - the light rail vehicles required for the operation of this service have been included in the TTC's order of new low-floor streetcars to replace the existing aging fleet;
2. Forward this report to the Executive Committee of the City of Toronto, to be considered in conjunction with the Queens Quay Revitalization EA staff report on June 2, 2009); and,
 3. Forward this report to Waterfront Toronto and Councillor McConnell for information.

The Commission also approved the following motions:

1. That TTC staff be requested to continue to work with Redpath Sugar to resolve outstanding issues, with the exception of an additional traffic light, related to access and egress to their site and to report back to the Commission.
2. Request that the Board of Waterfront Toronto:
 - a) Revise their Long Term Plan to include \$50 million for the planned expansion of the Union Station streetcar loop;
 - b) Not proceed with further development in the East Bayfront area until funding is confirmed for all of the transit facilities required to operate streetcars on Queens Quay East, including funding for the Union Station streetcar loop consistent with City Council's "Transit First" policy in the waterfront.

The foregoing is forwarded to the Executive Committee of the City of Toronto to be considered in conjunction with the Queens Quay Revitalization Environmental Assessment staff report on June 2, 2009.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Vincent Rodo
General Secretary
1-11
Attachment