



## STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

### Islington Avenue – Boulevard Parking

<b>Date:</b>	December 16, 2008
<b>To:</b>	Etobicoke York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director Transportation Services – Etobicoke York
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 7 – York West
<b>Reference Number:</b>	p:\2009\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc090017-tp

#### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to respond to Etobicoke York Community Council's request that the Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District, report to its January 13, 2009 meeting on the process used to recapture the City of Toronto boulevards along Islington Avenue between Steeles Avenue West and Finch Avenue West.

#### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications for Transportation Services that arise from considering this report.

#### **DECISION HISTORY**

At its meeting of October 7, 2008, Etobicoke York Community Council directed Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District, and Municipal Licensing and Standards, Etobicoke York District to take appropriate action to recapture the City of Toronto's boulevards along the section of Islington Avenue, between Finch Avenue West and Steeles Avenue West by December 31, 2008.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

The properties abutting the section of Islington Avenue, between Finch Avenue West and Steeles Avenue West, are occupied mainly by commercial plazas that have existed since the 1960s. Nearly all of these properties have paved the Islington Avenue boulevard and use it for overflow parking purposes. Attachment No. 1 shows a map of the subject area.

The boulevards on this portion of Islington Avenue are very wide, varying in width between six to ten metres. As a result, a substantial portion of the parking areas for these commercial properties encroaches into the municipal boulevard. With the exception of one property owner on the west side of Islington Avenue who currently leases boulevard parking stalls on the south side of Van Hill Avenue, none of these properties have boulevard parking agreements with the City.

In early summer of 2008, the local Councillor's office raised the issue of the unauthorized boulevard parking, requesting that we take measures to achieve compliance. Pursuant to this request, we gave written notice to all affected property owners in June 2008, advising them that boulevard parking without municipal authorization is illegal, and that any vehicles found parking in the municipal boulevards are subject to tagging and towing, effective July 30, 2008. A second, and final, notice was issued on September 9, 2008, advising owners that vehicles parked in these areas are still subject to tagging and towing, and that the City will, at its earliest opportunity, take additional measures to prevent illegal boulevard parking, including the installation of barrier curb.

During the period from October 10 through October 30, 2008, City staff confirmed the location of municipal street lines, installing pavement markings to show the limits of the public and private property and installed some signage.

On Wednesday, November 19, 2008, staff began relocating existing precast concrete curb stones to the street line (the boundary between public and private property) to ensure that parking occurs entirely on private property. Before we could complete the work, we were advised by City Legal staff that an Application for a declaration and an injunction had been issued and served on the City of Toronto.

Work was scheduled to recommence on December 17, 2008, but could not be carried out on account of a significant snowfall that day and has been rescheduled so that it could be completed by year's end as directed by Etobicoke York Community Council. However, as this matter is before the courts, work may once again be halted pending further direction.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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John Niedra, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment No. 1: Map