



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

School Bus Loading Zone – Wellesley Street West

Date:	October 19, 2009
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 27
Reference Number:	Ts09181te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is seeking approval from City Council to designate a “School Bus Loading Zone”, on the north side of Wellesley Street West, from a point 33 metres east of Queen’s Park Crescent East to a point 50 metres further east to enhance loading/unloading of buses transporting students to/from St. Joseph’s College, located at 74 Wellesley Street West.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. Rescind the existing “No Parking Anytime” prohibition on the north side of Wellesley Street West, from a point 33 metres east of Queen’s Park Crescent East to a point 50 metres further east.
2. Authorize installation of a “School Bus Loading Zone” on the north side of Wellesley Street West, from a point 33 metres east of Queen’s Park Crescent East to a point 50 metres further east.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services 2009 Operating Budget	\$1,000.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services has investigated a request by the Toronto Catholic District School Board to introduce a “School Bus Loading Zone” fronting St. Joseph’s College at 74 Wellesley Street West.

COMMENTS

St. Joseph's College is located on the north side of Wellesley Street West between Queen's Park Crescent East and Bay Street, and its campus occupies most of this block length.

Wellesley Street West between Queen's Park Crescent East and Bay Street currently operates as a two-way minor arterial roadway, with one lane in each direction, and pay and display parking allowed on both sides of the street in conjunction with dedicated bicycle lanes. A "No Parking Anytime" section is also provided adjacent to the pay and display parking on the north side of Wellesley Street West, just east of Queen's Park Crescent East and is currently used by school buses to load and unload students. The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates the 94-Wellesley bus route on this section of Wellesley Street West.

Currently, no formal loading area for school buses exists on this section of Wellesley Street West for St. Joseph's College. School buses are using the "No Parking Anytime" section mentioned above to pick-up and discharge students. Under these conditions, school bus drivers must activate the red flashing lights during loading/unloading operations, bringing traffic flow to a stop on this section of Wellesley Street West. There is no demand for students to cross the street before or after boarding/leaving the bus.

Identifying a "School Bus Loading Zone" on the north side of Wellesley Street West, from a point 33 metres east of Queen's Park Crescent East to a point 50 metres further east will provide school buses with an area near the entrance to St. Joseph's College where they can stop to load/unload safely. Buses will not have to activate their flashing lights so traffic flow on this section of Wellesley Street West will be maintained.

CONTACT

Joe Gallippi, Transportation Technologist
Traffic Operations, Toronto and East York District
Telephone: 416-338-5404; Fax: 416-392-1920
e-mail: jgallipp@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

(1) Drawing No. 421F-9822, dated October 2009

P:\2009\Cluster B\TRA\Toronto and East York District\TOP\ts09181te.top.doc – cag