



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Parking Amendments – Poplar Plains Road

<b>Date:</b>	October 16, 2009
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	St. Paul's, Ward 22
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts09178te.top.doc

#### SUMMARY

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This staff report is about a matter which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services is recommending amendments to the parking/stopping regulations on Poplar Plains Road in the vicinity of Brown Public School. These amendments will improve general traffic and school bus operations at Brown Public School and on Poplar Plains Road, improve sight lines near a pedestrian crossover, and discourage motorists from parking and blocking residential driveways in the area.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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**Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:**

1. Rescind the “15-minute maximum parking, from 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday” regulation, on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from Balmoral Avenue (east branch) to Lynwood Avenue.
2. Rescind the “No Stopping, from 12:01 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., and from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Monday to Friday and anytime Saturday and Sunday” regulation on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from Balmoral Avenue (east branch) to Lynwood Avenue.
3. Prohibit stopping at all times on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from a point 36.5 metres north of Balmoral Avenue (east branch), to a point 77 metres further north.

4. Restrict parking to a maximum of 15 minutes, from 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from the east branch of Balmoral Avenue to a point 36.5 metres north; and from a point 113.5 metres north of the east branch of Balmoral Avenue to Lynwood Avenue.
5. Prohibit stopping, from 12:01 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., and from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Monday to Friday and anytime Saturday and Sunday, on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from the east branch of Balmoral Avenue to a point 36.5 metres north; and from a point 113.5 metres north of the east branch of Balmoral Avenue to Lynwood Avenue.
6. Adjust the existing “School Bus Loading Zone” regulation on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, currently from a point 9.8 metres north of the north curb of Balmoral Avenue to a point 20.7 metres further north to indicate, from a point 84.5 metres north of the east branch of Balmoral Avenue, to a point 29 metres further north.

### Financial Impact

Type of funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services 2009 Operating Budget	\$500.00

### ISSUE BACKGROUND

At the request of Councillor Michael Walker, on behalf of representatives of Brown Public School, Transportation Services investigated a request to prohibit stopping at all times on a section of Poplar Plains Road near Brown Public School to enhance operational safety and resolve an issue involving parked vehicles blocking residential driveways in the area.

### COMMENTS

#### Road Characteristics

Poplar Plains Road, between the east branch of Balmoral Avenue and Lynwood Avenue, is a collector road that operates one-way northbound on a pavement width of 6.1 metres. There is no TTC service on Poplar Plains Road. A Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) is located on Poplar Plains Road at the north side of the west branch of Balmoral Avenue. The following parking regulations are in effect on Poplar Plains Road, from the east branch of Balmoral Avenue to Lynwood Avenue.

#### East Side

- Parking is permitted for a maximum period of 15-minutes from 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

- Stopping is prohibited from 12:01 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., Monday to Friday and anytime on Saturdays and Sundays.
- A “School Bus Loading Zone” is located from a point 84.5 metres north of the east branch of Balmoral Avenue, to a point 29 metres further north.

The area where 15-minute parking is allowed is delineated by advisory signs as a “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Area”.

### West Side

- Stopping is prohibited from 7:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- Parking is allowed at other times for a maximum period of three hours.

The overnight permit parking system does not operate on this section of Poplar Plains Road.

### **Investigation**

The 15-minute maximum parking regulation in the “Student Pick-up/Drop-off Area” on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from the east branch of Balmoral Avenue to Lynwood Avenue, is intended to accommodate parking by parents and guardians of children being picked-up/dropped-off at the Brown Public school and the Unicorn Daycare Centre, located within the school. Our site investigation, which was conducted with representatives of Brown Public School, noted that many parents when in the process of picking-up/dropping off and/or escorting their children into the school:

- parked their vehicles in close proximity to the PXO;
- partially block driveways leading to the school’s parking lot;
- block driveways of adjacent homes along the street; and
- encroached into the “School Bus Loading Area”.

### **Resolution**

Based on staff’s investigation and with the agreement of school staff it is prudent to rescind the 15-minute parking regulation and prohibit stopping at all times on the east side of Poplar Plains Road, from a point 36.5 metres north of Balmoral Avenue (east branch), to a point 77 metres further north. This area will encapsulate the PXO, entrances to the school parking lot and the “School Bus Loading Zone” and residential driveways where parking has been problematic. Although the total area is 77 metres in length, this will only result in the loss of 3 parking spaces within the existing “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Area”. However, the “No Stopping Anytime” regulation will discourage parking and thereby enhance safety for pedestrians using the PXO, improve school bus

operations, and generally enhance safety for all persons traveling along this section of Poplar Plains Road.

During our investigation it was also noted that the location of the “School Bus Loading Zone” does not coincide with the described location within Chapter 400, Schedule XI of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code. Recommendation No. 6 of this report serves to “housekeep” the by-law and bring it in to line with the signed regulation on the street.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services

## **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

(1) Drawing No. 421F-9801 dated October 2009

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