



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

School Bus Loading Zone – Westminster Avenue

Date:	May 19, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Parkdale-High Park, Ward 14
Reference Number:	Ts10078te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is seeking authority to amend the existing parking regulations on the south side of Westminster Avenue, east of Roncesvalles Avenue, to reduce the length of the student pick-up/drop-off zone abutting the rear of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School to introduce a school bus loading zone. The change will facilitate the loading/unloading of buses transporting students to/from St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, 116 Fermanagh Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Adjust the existing 15-minute maximum parking limit from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday on the south side of Westminster Avenue, from a point 9 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 102 metres further east thereof to apply from a point 9 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 60 metres further east.
2. Adjust the existing parking prohibition from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the south side of Westminster Avenue, from a point 9 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 102 metres further east thereof to apply from a point 9 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 60 metres further east.

3. Approve installation of a “School Bus Loading Zone” on the south side of Westminster Avenue, from a point 69 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 42 metres further east.
4. Contingent upon the approval of Recommendation No. 3, prohibit stopping, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the south side of Westminster Avenue, from a point 69 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 42 metres further east.

Financial Impact

Funding for the installation signs in the estimated amount of \$500.00 is available within Transportation Services 2010 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services staff has investigated a request from the Toronto Catholic District School Board to introduce a school bus loading zone on the south side of Westminster Avenue abutting the rear of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School at 116 Fermanagh Avenue.

COMMENTS

Westminster Avenue is a local roadway operating one-way in an eastbound direction, from Roncesvalles Avenue to Sorauren Avenue on a pavement width of 7.3 metres. The posted speed limit is 30 km/h (in the presence of traffic calming measures). The TTC does not operate service along this section of Westminster Avenue.

The following parking regulations are in effect on the subject section of Westminster Avenue:

North side

- parking is prohibited at all times.

South side

- parking is prohibited from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, from a point 9 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 102 metres further east;
- parking is allowed for a maximum period of 15 minutes from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, from a point 9 metres east of Roncesvalles Avenue to a point 102 metres further east (student pick-up/drop-off area);
- parking is allowed by permit only from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily; and
- parking is otherwise allowed for a maximum period of three hours.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board in preparation to begin renovations at St. Pius X Catholic School, located at 71 Jane Street is relocating students to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School for a period of approximately two years, commencing with the new school term in September 2010. These students will be transported by bus from St. Pius

X Catholic School and dropped off/picked up at the rear of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, where it abuts onto Westminster Avenue.

To facilitate these transportation needs, a “School Bus Loading Zone” operating between the hours of 8:00 and 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday is required on the south side of Westminster Avenue. School buses when picking-up and dropping-off students are required by law to activate their red flashing lights. During this process motorists must stop in all directions until the lights are deactivated. Establishing a school bus loading zone permits school bus drivers to pick up or drop off students without activating the flashers, thereby maintaining uninterrupted traffic flow on the street.

To accommodate the “School Bus Loading Zone” staff recommends reducing the length of the existing student pick-up/drop-off area where parking is allowed for a maximum period of 15 minutes as noted earlier in this report, from a length of 102 metres to a length of 60 metres. This will eliminate about 7 of the short-term parking spaces on Westminster Avenue during the hours that the school bus loading zone is in operation. The student pick-up/drop-off area will still provide about 12 parking spaces for parents/guardians picking up or dropping off children at the school.

The amendments to parking operation on Westminster Avenue noted in this report will not impact on area residents with overnight parking permits since they will still be allowed to park within the school bus loading zone outside of the 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday period.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

(1) Drawing No. 421G-0015, dated May 2010

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