



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Hydrant Relocations - St. Clair Avenue West

Date:	May 5, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services President, Toronto Parking Authority Director, District Operations, Toronto Water
Wards:	St. Paul's, Ward 21
Reference Number:	P:\2010\Cluster B\TW\te10014

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Staff Report is to reply to the Toronto East York Community Council Decision Document No. TE32.124 dated March 9, 2010 and specifically to report on the feasibility of relocating the existing mid-block fire hydrants along St. Clair Avenue West between Bathurst Street and Winona Drive closer to the corners so as to increase available parking spaces.

In the process of putting together this report, staff from Transportation Services, Technical Services, Toronto Water, and the Toronto Parking Authority all investigated the existing conditions along St. Clair Avenue West and provided comments on possible ways to increase available parking spaces.

The review conducted by Transportation Services concluded that the fire hydrants at Nos. 838, 722, 596, and 566 St. Clair Avenue West could potentially be relocated from their existing locations to adjacent "No Parking" zones.

The Toronto Parking Authority indicated that the relocation of the hydrants would increase the on-street inventory by one or two spaces per location. The relocation of the hydrants would not impact on the Authority's cost or have any other operational impacts.

Field investigations conducted by Toronto Water staff revealed that this stretch of St. Clair Avenue West is serviced by eleven fire hydrants on the north side and two on the south side of the street, with horizontal spacing between hydrants presently ranging from 47.3 metres to 178.5 metres. Ontario Regulation 350/06 (Building Code Act, 1992) Section 3.2.5.7 (2) regulates the maximum spacing between fire hydrants to be 90 metres.

The hydrants identified by Transportation Services for potential relocation at Nos. 566, 596, 628, 722, and 838 St. Clair Avenue West cannot be relocated to the side street intersections as the spacing would exceed the required minimum of Ontario Regulation 350/06.

Technical Services, reported that the issue of relocating the existing mid-block fire hydrants to the corners was addressed in 2009, and that all the hydrants that could be moved were already moved during the TTC track reconstruction. There was one additional hydrant that was to have been installed at Arlington Avenue during the TTC track reconstruction. Due to unresolved issues at the time of construction however, the installation of the hydrant was delayed until the spring of 2010. Once this hydrant is installed, the existing 178.5 metre spacing reported by Toronto Water will be reduced.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff of Toronto Water, Transportation Services and the Toronto Parking Authority recommend that:

1. in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.2.5.7 (2) of Ontario Regulation 350/06, the existing fire hydrants at Nos. 566, 596, 628, 722, and 838 St. Clair Avenue West not be relocated to create additional parking spaces.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact for this activity.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of March 9, 2010, the Toronto and East York Community Council directed Transportation Services, Toronto Water, and the Toronto Parking Authority to investigate the feasibility of relocating all mid-block fire hydrants to the corners.

The businesses along the length of St. Clair Ave. W. articulated very clearly during the St. Clair Transit Improvement Environmental Assessment (EA) that preserving and maximizing on-street public parking was an important objective. The key strategy to implement this objective was to move the hydrants where possible from mid-block locations to corners where parking is prohibited.

During the design phase of the project, city engineers further assured stakeholders that hydrants were going to be moved, where feasible. When construction started in April 2009, a number of hydrants were relocated to allow for more parking spaces. However, as this report concludes, if the hydrants located in front of Nos. 566, 596, 628, 722, 838 St. Clair Avenue West were relocated to the corners, then additional hydrants would need to be installed mid-block to maintain the 90 metre spacing requirement. Relocating these hydrants would not increase the number of available parking spaces. Therefore, these hydrants were not relocated during construction.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

To increase available on-street parking along St. Clair Avenue West between Bathurst Street and Winona Drive as per business owners' comments during the St. Clair Transit Improvement EA.

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SIGNATURES

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