



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Extension of Taxicab Stand – Richmond Street West,
North side, between York Street and Bay Street**

Date:	January 18, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 28
Reference Number:	Ts10004te.top.doc

SUMMARY

The Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel on January 1, 2010 closed the on-site taxicab facility in the Motor Court area of the hotel. The Motor Court is located on the west side of the hotel, with access previously provided for taxis from York Street via a driveway between Queen Street West and Richmond Street West. As a result, taxis which typically would have waited on-site for their fares will need to be relocated off the hotel property.

Transportation Services is seeking authority to extend the easterly limit of the existing 2-vehicle taxicab stand, located on the north side of Richmond Street West east of York Street, to provide three additional taxicab spaces. In order to provide 3 additional taxicab spaces, the bus pickup/drop off zone will need to be reduced by 16.5 metres. This change will not impact significantly on bus loading/unloading operations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. Amend the Taxicab Stand regulation, currently in place for 2 taxicabs on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 28 metres east of York Street and a point 37 metres east of York Street, to operate for 5 taxicabs on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 28 metres east of York Street and a point 63.5 metres east of York Street.
2. Rescind the existing ‘No Stopping 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday except Public Holidays’ regulation, currently in effect on the north side of Richmond Street West, between York Street and a point approximately 47 metres east.

3. Rescind the existing ‘No Stopping 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday except Public Holidays’ regulation, currently in effect on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 47 metres east of York Street and a point 36.0 metres west of Berti Street.
4. Prohibit stopping on the north side of Richmond Street West, between York Street and a point approximately 63.5 metres east of York Street, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., except Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays.
5. Prohibit stopping on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 63.5 metres east of York Street and a point 36 metres west of Berti Street, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday except Public Holidays.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Division Interim 2010 Operating Budget	\$ 1000.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel is making changes to the Motor Court area of the hotel. Until this year, taxis were allowed to enter the Motor Court area from a driveway on York Street, between Richmond Street West and Queen Street West, and wait in the Motor Court area to serve passengers leaving the hotel. The driveway from York Street is now closed. As a result, taxis are no longer permitted on-site to pick up passengers. The hotel has notified taxicab companies of this change to the Motor Court area.

Transportation Services, in consultation with Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel staff and representatives for Beck, Diamond, Co-op, and Independent Taxi Companies and the Pacific Western Airport Shuttle Bus Service, has reviewed the feasibility of relocating the easterly limit of the existing 2-vehicle taxicab stand on the north side of Richmond Street West, east of York Street, by 16.5 metres to accommodate the increased on-street parking need for taxis.

COMMENTS

The Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel is bounded by Richmond Street West (south), Queen Street West (north), York Street, and Bay Street. The Motor Court is located on the west side of the property and is used primarily by passengers arriving/departing the hotel. Driveways exist to/from Richmond Street West and Queen Street West. The driveway from York Street is now closed.

Richmond Street West is a 4-lane one-way westbound major arterial road. The intersections of Richmond Street West with York Street and Bay Street, are controlled by traffic control signals. The TTC operates downtown express bus routes 141, 142, 143,

144, and 145 during the weekday peak periods on Richmond Street West. Bus stops are provided westbound at York Street and just west of Bay Street.

From York Street to the east, the parking regulations on the north side of Richmond Street West allow for a 2-vehicle taxicab stand, immediately east of York Street; a loading area for motor coaches and an airport express bus; a motor coach parking area; and a zone for deliveries. Stopping is prohibited during weekday morning and afternoon peak periods, with the exception of the Motor Coach Loading Area where stopping is only prohibited during the a.m. peak period on weekdays.

The 2-vehicle Taxicab Stand on the north side of Richmond Street West could be extended by reducing the existing bus loading area by 16.5 metres from 42 metres to 25.5 metres in length. This would result in 3 additional taxicab spaces and one less bus loading space. The resultant space remaining for bus loading is still sufficient to accommodate the airport express bus service.

We have consulted with representatives for Beck, Diamond, Co-op, and Independent Taxi Companies, and Pacific Western Airport Shuttle Bus Service regarding this matter.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421F-9897, dated January 2010

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