



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Road Alteration – King Street West, west of Wilson Park Road

Date:	July 9, 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:	Ts10109te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to narrow the north side of King Street West, on the west side of Wilson Park Road, for the purpose of realigning the curb to provide a safer crossing environment for pedestrians crossing the intersection.

The proposal is to narrow the north side of King Street West, from a width of 21.2 metres to a width of 14.7 metres on the north side of King Street West, from Wilson Park Road to a point 30 metres further west.

This initiative will be undertaken as part of the TTC street-car track allowance replacement scheduled in September, 2010, between Queen Street West and Close Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the narrowing of King Street West, from a width of 21.2 metres to a width ranging between 14.7 metres and 18.7 metres by realigning the north curb from Wilson Park Road to a point about 30 metres west, generally as shown on the attached print of Drawing No. 421G-0065, dated June 2010, attached to the report dated July 9, 2010 entitled, “Road Alteration – King Street West, west of Wilson Park Road”, from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for this road alteration in the estimated amount of \$35,000.00 is available within Transportation Services Capital Program under Project No.10TSP-06RD.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Toronto Water is currently replacing the watermain on King Street West, between Queen Street West and Close Avenue, this work began in May 2010.

Following replacement of the watermain on King Street West, between Queen Street West and Close Avenue, the TTC street-car track allowance will be replaced, with road resurfacing and sidewalk restoration to follow in 2011. In conjunction with this work, Councillor Gord Perks requested staff to consider narrowing the width of King Street West, immediately west of Wilson Park Road to provide a safer crossing environment for pedestrians on the north side of King Street West.

COMMENTS

King Street West is a major arterial roadway with a daily two-way traffic flow of approximately 20,000 vehicles and a speed limit of 50 km/h. Public transit service is provided on King Street West by the “504-King” streetcar, which operates in a mixed traffic environment.

Wilson Park Road, is a local road that operates in a one-way northbound direction, from King Street West to Queen Street West. The pavement width of the street is about 6.2 metres. The street has a daily traffic volume of about 1,000 vehicles and a posted speed limit of 30 km/h. There is no TTC service on Wilson Park Road.

The curb alignment on the north side of King Street West is off-set east and west of Wilson Park Road. This change in alignment creates a safety risk for pedestrians crossing at the intersection and increases potential conflict with motorists turning into the street from King Street West. Turning motorists sometimes are more preoccupied with making sure there is a gap in on-coming traffic through which to turn instead of noticing whether or not pedestrians are crossing the road into which they are turning. This exposes pedestrians to greater risk if caught on the road while an inattentive motorist is turning.

Narrowing the width of King Street West on the west side of Wilson Park Road to match the curb line on the easterly side of the intersection will reduce pedestrians’ exposure to turning traffic, and generally provide a safer crossing environment.

If approved, this work will be undertaken as part of the scheduled TTC street-car track allowance replacement in September 2010, with road resurfacing and sidewalk restoration plans to follow in 2011 on King Street West, from Queen Street West to Close Avenue.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Peter Noehammer, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Drawing No. 421G-0065, dated June 2010

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