

Info Pillars on City Sidewalks

Date:	December 6, 2011
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	All

City Council Decision

City Council on November 29, 30 and December 1, 2011, referred Motion MM14.5 to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Janet Davis, recommends that:

1. The City review and reconsider relocating any Info Pillar that occupies more than one third of the sidewalk.
2. The City not permit Info Pillars to be installed adjacent to bike lanes to eliminate blind spots and safeguard pedestrians and cyclists, and that existing Info Pillar installations in these locations be reviewed and/or that a modified design of the pillars be considered.
3. The City require Astral Media to restore decorative paving in locations where Info Pillars are installed.
4. City Council direct the appropriate City staff to create a system that notifies local Councillors and local BIAs of placement before installation so that conflicts with existing sidewalk uses are avoided.
5. City Council direct the appropriate City staff to protect sightlines for driveway and laneway exits onto streets.

Summary

The installation of 120 Info Pillars on City sidewalks is now underway and the positioning of this infrastructure is raising concerns from people who rely heavily on city sidewalks as

a mode of transportation.

Attached to this Motion are photographs from several different streets where the placement of these large info pillars impedes pedestrian flow, or blocks sightlines near alleys and driveways. For people who use wheelchairs and other mobility devices, and with winter coming, it is essential that sidewalk space be protected.

Additionally some of the sign placements impede local business activities. In the future, local Councillors should be consulted prior to installation on locations in their wards.

(Submitted to City Council on November 29. 30 and December 1, 2011 as MM14.5)