

## **Road Alterations – Front Street East**

<b>Date:</b>	January 27, 2012
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 28
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts2012047te.top.doc

### **SUMMARY**

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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 requesting Community Council authority to alter the roadway at George Street in the vicinity of Front Street East, as well as narrowing Front Street East between Jarvis Street and George Street to accommodate a sidewalk widening on the north side and a median.

This work will be completed in 2012 as part of a resurfacing of Front Street East, between Jarvis Street and Parliament Street.

The proposed road alterations, along with similar improvements previously approved for Berkeley Street and Princess Street at Front Street East will improve the pedestrian environment on Front Street East, between Jarvis Street and Parliament Street, with minimal impact to traffic operations.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:**

1. Approve the narrowing of George Street, from Front Street East to a point 20 metres north, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G – 0320, dated April 2011, attached to the report from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District dated January 27, 2012.

2. Approve a median along Front Street East, between Jarvis Street and George Street and a narrowing of Front Street East, from Jarvis Street to a point 61.6 metres east of Jarvis Street, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G – 0343, dated May 2011, attached to the report from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District dated January 27, 2012.
3. Prohibit stopping at all times on the east side of George Street from Front Street East to a point 20 metres north.
4. Prohibit stopping at all times on the west side of George Street from Front Street East to a point 30.5 metres north.
5. Rescind the "No Parking Anytime" regulation on the east side of George Street, between King Street East and Front Street East.
6. Rescind the "60 Minute Maximum 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m." parking regulation on the west side of George Street, between The Esplanade and King Street East.
7. Rescind the "60 Minute Maximum 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m." parking regulation on the east side of George Street, between Front Street East and King Street East.
8. Amend the "pay-and-display parking, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, for a maximum duration of 3 hours at a rate of \$2.00 per hour" regulation on the east side of George Street, between Front Street East and Adelaide Street East, to operate between King Street East and Adelaide Street East.

### **Financial Impact**

The construction of these proposed improvements, and the improvements previously approved at Berkeley Street and Princess Street, will be completed as part of the Transportation Services Capital Works project for the reconstruction and resurfacing of Front Street East between Jarvis Street and Parliament Street. The incremental cost for the narrowing of George Street, estimated at \$40,000.00, will be paid for with funding approved in the 2012 Transportation Services Capital Budget Account CTP711-10 for Public Realm Improvements. The narrowing and construction of a median on Front Street East, between Jarvis Street and George Street, estimated at \$160,000.00 will be paid for with Section 37 funds and through a contribution from the St. Lawrence Market Business Improvement Area.

### **DECISION HISTORY**

At its meeting of August 17, 2010 (Item TE36.128), Toronto and East York Community Council referred a letter dated August 16, 2010, from Councillor Pam McConnell respecting the Pam Am and Parapan Am Games Promenades to the Director of the Public Realm Section of Transportation Services, in consultation with staff from Urban Design, Community Planning, Cycling Infrastructure, and Traffic Operations. Included in this letter is a request for a report on Pan Am Games Promenades for:

"Front Street from Cherry Street to Bathurst Street to connect the Pan Am Games athletes' village and training centre to Pan Am Games facilities in the downtown and Railways Lands".

In 2015 Toronto will host the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. The games will bring over 250,000 visitors to the City. Front Street will be a primary route for visitors who will be accessing venues and amenities during the games. The Promenade Plan will assist in creating a number of improvements to the public realm and pedestrian connections during the games and after.

In addition, at its meeting of July 12, 2011 (Item TE8.49), City Council approved the narrowing of both Berkeley Street and Princess Street, in the vicinity of Front Street East, in order to improve the pedestrian environment. These improvements were identified during preliminary work for the promenade plan and were originally scheduled to be constructed in 2011 as part of the resurfacing of Front Street East.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

The Pan Am and Parapan Am Games Promenade plans are ongoing. Front Street East, between Sherbourne Street and Parliament Street was originally scheduled to be resurfaced as part of the Transportation Services Capital Works Program of 2011. This work was deferred to 2012 and is now part of a project to resurface a longer stretch of Front Street East from Jarvis Street to Parliament Street this year. This provides a further opportunity for pedestrian improvements in the section of Front Street East between Jarvis Street and Sherbourne Street.

Traffic Operations staff has reviewed the potential for build-outs along Front Street East at George Street and Frederick Street in order to improve the pedestrian environment. We have also reviewed the design of Front Street East between Jarvis Street and George Street to identify potential pedestrian improvements.

## **COMMENTS**

Front Street East is 17.4 metres wide between Jarvis Street and George Street, and 15.2 metres wide from George Street to Sherbourne Street. It is a 4 lane minor arterial roadway, with mainly commercial land use, which runs east/west. In general, there is pay-and-display parking on both sides of Front Street East, subject to peak period parking or stopping prohibitions. From west to east, traffic control signals are located at Jarvis Street, George Street, and Sherbourne Street and there is stop control on Frederick Street at Front Street East. There is no TTC service on the subject sections of Front Street East or George Street.

### Front Street, between Jarvis Street and George Street (Drawing No. 421G-0343)

This proposal was developed with input from members of the St. Lawrence Market Business Improvement Area. It involves the narrowing of Front Street on the north side and installation of a median. This is accomplished by narrowing the left-turn storage lane and the westbound curb lane. The narrowing will provide more sidewalk space (an additional 2.7 metres approaching the Jarvis Street intersection), pedestrian storage at the

intersection, and reduce the crossing distance on the north and east legs. Also, the median will provide pedestrians with a refuge when crossing mid-block while providing continuity aesthetically east and west of Jarvis Street.

#### Front Street East and George Street (Drawing No. 421G-0320)

This proposal involves a build-out of the northwest corner and west curb on George Street. This will better align the southbound lane on George Street with the receiving lane south of Front Street East. The build-out will provide more sidewalk space, pedestrian storage at the intersection, and reduce the crossing distance on the north and west legs. In order to maintain traffic flow, we recommend that stopping be prohibited, for the length of the build-out, on both sides of George Street, north of Front Street East. Introducing a stopping prohibition in place of the existing parking prohibition will reduce loading opportunities in the area. However, loading activities could take place on Front Street East. The proposed curb modifications and traffic regulations should have no significant impacts on traffic operations.

During the course of this investigation a number of inconsistencies were discovered between the by-laws and the regulations posted on street. This report will rectify these inconsistencies.

### **CONTACT**

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### **SIGNATURE**

Andrew Koropeski, P.Eng.  
Director, Transportation Services  
Toronto and East York District

### **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Drawing No. 421G-0320, dated April 2011
- (2) Drawing No. 421G-0343, dated May 2011

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