



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Front Yard Parking Appeal – 150 Earls court Avenue

Date:	January 24, 2013
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services – Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 17 – Davenport
Reference Number:	p:\2013\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc130030-tp

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Etobicoke York Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services has reviewed an appeal by the owners of 150 Earls court Avenue to legalize an existing unauthorised front yard parking pad. We do not recommend approving front yard parking at this location since it does not meet the requirements of City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918. The owner will be given an opportunity to make a deputation before Community Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Etobicoke York Community Council:

1. Refuse the application for front yard parking at 150 Earls court Avenue, and require the applicant to remove the existing front yard parking pad at no expense to the municipality, and restore the area to 'soft' landscaping by February 28, 2014.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to the City as a result of adopting this report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The property owners of 150 Earls court Avenue, a single family detached home without legal on-site parking, submitted an application to legalize an existing unauthorised front yard parking pad at this location. The applicant was advised that the property does not meet the regulations of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918. The applicant subsequently submitted an appeal requesting that Etobicoke York Community Council consider their proposal.

Attachment 1 shows the site location. Attachment 2 illustrates the proposed front yard parking pad. Attachment 3 is a photograph of the site.

COMMENTS

Applicable regulations

Front yard parking is governed by the criteria set out in the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918, Parking on Residential Front Yards and Boulevards. The relevant provisions include:

- prohibit front yard parking where on-street parking permits are authorized on the same side of the street;
- limit the number of vehicles that can be licensed to one;
- limit the size of the parking area to 2.6 m by 5.9 m in dimension;
- minimum parking space requirement of 2.2 m in width;
- minimum parking space requirement of 5.3 m in length;
- minimum parking space requirement of 2.2 m in width by 5.3 m in length;
- prohibit front yard parking where the property has access to an existing parking facility or where adequate space for parking can be provided on the lot;
- a minimum of 50% of the front yard on private property must be landscaped open space, of which 75% must be maintained as soft landscaping;
- a minimum of 50% of the City boulevard fronting the property must be landscaped open space, of which 75% must be maintained as soft landscaping;
- the parking space to be constructed perpendicular to the sidewalk;
- parking area paved with semi-permeable material such as ecostone or turf stone or equivalent permeable paving treatment acceptable to the General Manager of Transportation Services; and
- a formal poll be conducted to determine if there is neighbourhood support for the application, and that such poll has a favourable result.

Reasons for not approving

The property does not meet the above noted criteria for the following reasons:

- permit parking is authorised on the same side of the street on an alternating side basis and is less than 90% allocated;
- the landscape open space cannot be provided on private property; and
- the soft landscaping cannot be provided on both private property and the City boulevard.

Poll Results

The City Clerk conducted a poll of all residents in the City's assessment information system who either own property or reside on both sides of Earls court Avenue, from 150 to 186 on the even side, including 120 Hope Street, and 151 to 185 on the odd side, including 118 Hope Street.

At the Ward Councillor's request, the poll was conducted in English, Italian, and Portuguese. The poll was conducted by the Clerks' office from September 13, 2012 to October 12, 2012.

Total owners/tenants/residents polled	120	-----
Returned by post office	0	-----
Total eligible voters (total polled minus returned by post office)	120	100%
No reply	88	73%
Total ballots received (response rate, %)	32	27%
In favour of parking (of ballots received, %)	13	41%
Opposed to parking (of ballots received, %)	15	47%
Spoiled ballots	4	12%

The Code states that a poll will be considered valid when at least 25 per cent of the ballots mailed out have been returned. This poll satisfies the minimum response rate. The survey results show that the majority of respondents object to this application.

Other factors

Permit parking is authorised on the alternating sides of Earls court Avenue, between Hope Street and Morrison Avenue, within permit parking area 3A. There are no on-street parking permits registered to this address.

Total number of parking permits in area 3A	927	Total permits issued as of January 23, 2013	451
Permits available	476	% of permits allocated	49%

Total number of permit parking spaces on Earls court Avenue between Hope Street and Morrison Avenue	4	Total permits issued to residents as of January 23, 2013	2
Permits available	2	% of permits allocated	50%

A curb cut and depressed ramp will be required should this application be successful, thus, resulting in the loss of an on-street permit parking stall.

Currently, there are four properties on Earls court Avenue, between Hope Street and Morrison Avenue that are licensed for front yard parking.

Alternate recommendations

While the property is not eligible for front yard parking since it does not satisfy Municipal Code requirements, should Community Council decide to grant this appeal, it could be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. the parking area shall be a minimum of 2.2 m wide and shall not exceed 2.6 m wide by 5.9 m in perpendicular length;
2. the applicant shall surface the front yard parking area with semi-permeable materials, such as, ecostone pavers, interlocking pavers or an equivalent paving treatment that is acceptable to the General Manager, Transportation Services;
3. the remaining front yard shall consist of 'soft' landscaping;
4. any encroachments into the municipal road allowance, such as, stairs curbstones, retaining walls/toe walls, shall be located not less than 0.50 metres from the edge of sidewalk closest to the Earls court Avenue street line, and the existing hedge shall be maintained at a height of not more than 0.85 m, measured from the surface of the front yard parking pad;
5. the applicant shall pay the enforcement and inspection fee of \$653.93 (HST included), specified for unauthorized front yard parking pads under Chapter 918-26 of the Toronto Municipal Code;
6. the applicant shall pay for the planting of a tree on City property in the general area of the property, preferably on the same street, as per the requirements of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918, Parking on Residential Front Yards and Boulevards;
7. the applicant shall pay all applicable fees and comply with all other criteria set out in the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918, Parking on Residential Front Yards and Boulevards; and
8. the applicant shall satisfy these conditions at no expense to the municipality by February 28, 2014.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Steven T. Kodama, P.Eng.

Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke York District

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map
Attachment 2: Proposed Plan
Attachment 3: Photograph