



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Toronto Bicycle Station User Fees**

<b>Date:</b>	November 3, 2008
<b>To:</b>	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
<b>From:</b>	Gary Welsh, General Manager, Transportation Services
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards
<b>Reference Number:</b>	p:2008\ClusterB\tra\tim\pw08022tim

**SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to obtain authority to amend the Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 441, to establish Bicycle Station user fees. In response to the Toronto Bike Plan (Recommendation 9-3) and the Sustainable Transportation Initiatives: Short Term Proposals report (Recommendation 3a), both approved by City Council, the Transportation Services Division, City Planning Division and Facilities and Real Estate Division have worked together to design and construct Toronto’s first Bicycle Station at Union Station. The Bicycle Station is currently under construction and will be open to the public in Spring 2009, providing 180 secure bicycle parking spaces and change room facilities, as well as office space for administrative staff. The operation of the Bicycle Station will be partially funded through user fees, including a one-time registration fee and a variety of parking plan options for cyclists. The user fees recommended in this report are based on comparable fee structures for successful Bicycle Stations in Chicago, Seattle and Long Beach, California.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. Approve amendments to the Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 441, to establish the following Bicycle Station fees, including GST, effective January 1, 2009:
  - A. Registration Fee of \$25.00;
  - B. 1-Day Parking Fee of \$2.00;
  - C. 1-Month Parking Plan Fee of \$20.00;
  - D. 4-Month Parking Plan Fee of \$60.00;
  - E. Access Card Replacement Fee of \$25.00; and

- F. Overstay Fee of \$10.00 per day to a maximum of \$90.00 for bicycle left parked longer than 48 consecutive hours.
2. Authorize and direct the appropriate City Officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The 2009 operating funds for the Union Station Bicycle Station are included in the Transportation Services 2009 Operating Budget submission. The estimated 2009 gross operating costs are \$52,000.00 offset by an estimated \$26,000.00 in user fees, resulting in net operating costs of \$26,000.00.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and concurs with this financial impact statement.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

City Council at its meeting of October 22 and 23, 2007, adopted the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Item PW9.2, entitled “Sustainable Transportation Initiatives: Short-term Proposals,” including Recommendation No. 3a which directed the Executive Director, Facilities and Real Estate, to assess the feasibility of a bicycle station in the redevelopment of Union Station.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cc/decisions/2007-10-22-cc13-dd.pdf>.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

The Toronto Bike Plan recommends that staff undertake a feasibility study to determine the viability of operating a bicycle station to serve Toronto cyclists (Recommendation No. 9-3).

Bicycle Stations are an increasingly popular approach to providing secure bicycle parking and are becoming an integral component of municipal bicycle parking strategies. Bicycle Stations encourage bicycle commuting by providing protection from theft, vandalism and inclement weather. They are typically located near major transportation hubs and high-employment centres.

## **COMMENTS**

The Union Station Bicycle Station involves the remediation and renovation of a 190 square metre area in the York West Teamway to create a secure, access controlled, indoor bicycle parking facility to serve bicycle commuters. The Bicycle Station will provide approximately 180 secure bicycle parking spaces and will include a small office space and a change room. The Bicycle Station will be a staffed facility, which will operate on a 24-hour basis, providing access for registered members and non-registered drop-in customers during regular weekday staffed hours and access for registered members only during after-hours and on weekends. The Union Station Bicycle Station is currently under

construction and will be open to the public in the Spring of 2009. A second Bicycle Station is in the design stage and will be constructed in conjunction with the revitalization of Nathan Phillips Square.

The Bicycle Stations will operate on a fee-based system to offset the annual operating costs and to control access to and use of the facility. The user fees recommended in this report are based on comparable fee structures for successful bicycle parking facilities in Chicago, Seattle and Long Beach, California. The fees include: a one-time registration fee to cover the cost of providing the electronic access card; a variety of parking plan options to suit different users' needs; an access card replacement fee to cover the cost of lost access cards; and a penalty fee for leaving a bicycle longer than 48 hours. All fees have been set so as to encourage use of the bicycle station and promote bicycle commuting in Toronto.

**TABLE 1 - Proposed Bicycle Station User Fees (GST Included)**

Service	Amount	Comments
Registration Fee	\$25.00	One-time membership fee for access card
1-Day Parking Fee	\$2.00	For non-members
1-Month Parking Plan Fee	\$20.00	Unlimited access for one calendar month
4-Month Parking Plan Fee	\$60.00	Unlimited access for four calendar months
Access Card Replacement Fee	\$25.00	Cost for replacing lost access card
Overstay Fee	\$10.00/day \$90.00 max	Fee for bicycles left longer than 48 consecutive hours - maximum \$90.00

The fees recommended in this report will apply to the Union Station Bicycle Station and to future Bicycle Station bicycle parking facilities.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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