Parking Amendments – St. Clair Avenue West

Date: January 28, 2011
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards: St. Paul’s, Ward 21
Reference Number: Ts2011047te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting authority from City Council to amend parking regulations on St. Clair Avenue West, between Winona Drive and Vaughan Road, in order to increase the number of parking spaces and provide loading for goods and passengers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council rescind the parking regulations outlined in Appendix “A” attached to the report dated January 28, 2011 entitled, "Parking Amendments – St. Clair Avenue West", from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

2. City Council enact the parking regulations outlined in Appendix "B" attached to the report dated January 28, 2011 entitled, "Parking Amendments – St. Clair Avenue West", from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

Financial Impact

The funds in the estimated amount of $3,000.00, for the adjustment of signs are contained in the Transportation Services 2011 Interim Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

On July 8, 2010 City Council approved Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Item 34.11 entitled, “Amend No Stopping Regulations for Passenger Loading Platforms on Dedicated Streetcar Rights-of-Way” and thereby rescinded the designation of a “Safety Zone” for streetcar loading platforms integrated as part of a dedicated streetcar right-of-way.
way on sections of Bathurst Street, Fleet Street, Spadina Avenue, and St. Clair Avenue West.

This amendment gives staff the opportunity to implement site-specific regulations along the curb opposite a passenger loading platform that will allow goods and passenger loading activity to take place and in some situations it would provide additional on-street parking spaces.

**COMMENTS**

The St. Clair streetcar right-of-way was completed just over a year ago between Winona Drive and Vaughan Road in Ward 21. This section of roadway has the most commercial activity along St. Clair Avenue West in this ward. The safety zones for streetcar loading platforms and the associated stopping regulations were implemented with the streetcar right-of-way. Transportation Services staff have evaluated the operation of streetcar loading platforms and the safety zones. Based on the above-noted report the safety zones along this section of St. Clair Avenue West were rescinded.

This report deals with the appropriate amendments to the stopping regulations that are still by-lawed. Generally, stopping is prohibited at all times in the vicinity of streetcar loading platforms, which are all located at traffic control signals. Stopping is generally prohibited during the weekday morning and afternoon rush hours (7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday) between the platforms. At other times pay-and-display parking is in effect.

The parking regulations in “Appendix A” should be rescinded and parking regulations in Appendix "B" should be enacted. The existing and proposed parking regulations are illustrated in the attached drawings.

Most stopping prohibitions within 30.5 metres of traffic signals should be replaced with 30.5-metre parking prohibitions where possible. This change will provide loading for goods and passengers, outside of the weekday rush hour periods, as these loading activities are allowed in “No Parking” areas. Under the Uniform Traffic By-law parking is generally prohibited within 30.5 metres of traffic control signals and a separate by-law for each location is not required.

Most of the stopping prohibitions that are longer than 30.5 metres should be replaced with 30.5-metre parking prohibitions and the remainder of the stopping prohibition area should be converted to pay-and-display parking where possible. This change will allow for loading near traffic control signals and it will provide approximately 30 more parking spaces on this section of St. Clair Avenue West.

The additional parking will be provided in the following areas (approximately five spaces in each area):

- North side of St. Clair Avenue West, west of Arlington Avenue;
- North side of St. Clair Avenue West, west of Vaughan Road;
- South side of St. Clair Avenue West, east of Winona Drive;
- South side of St. Clair Avenue West, east of Arlington Avenue;
- South side of St. Clair Avenue West, east of Christie Street; and
- South side of St. Clair Avenue West, east of Wychwood Avenue.

The weekday rush hour stopping prohibitions should be maintained on both sides of St. Clair Avenue West to provide for proper flow of traffic during rush hours.

The proposed changes will not have any negative impact on TTC operations. Councillor Mihevc has been advised of the proposed changes and he supports them. If approved and installed, Transportation Services staff will monitor traffic operations at and near streetcar loading platforms and make any changes as required. If these changes prove to be successful a further report will be prepared for other sections of St. Clair Avenue West in the Toronto and East York District.

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SIGNATURE

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

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS
(1) Drawing No 421G-0231, dated January 2011
(2) Drawing No 421G-0232, dated January 2011
(3) Appendix “A” – Parking regulations to be rescinded
(4) Appendix “B” – Parking regulations to be enacted