Stopping Prohibition – Queen Street West

Date: February 25, 2011

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District

Wards: Parkdale-High Park, Ward 14

Reference Number: Ts2011064te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to prohibit stopping at all times on the north side of Queen Street West, from a point 25.6 metres west of Noble Street to a point 44.2 metres further west.

Vehicles parked immediately adjacent to the Emergency Medical Services building/driveway at No. 1288 Queen Street West sometimes severely restrict sight lines for paramedics when exiting this facility on emergency medical calls. To provide adequate sight lines it is recommended that a "No Stopping Anytime" regulation be implemented on the north side of Queen Street West, immediately east and west of the driveway entrance. Two parking spaces will be lost at this location but further amendments to parking regulations signed further west of this location will result in a net gain of five parking spaces in the immediate area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit stopping at all times on the north side of Queen Street West, from a point 25.6 metres west of Noble Street to a point 44.2 metres further west.

Financial Impact

Funds to undertake the necessary signage adjustments in the estimated amount of $500 are contained in the Transportation Services Division 2011 Operating Budget. Implementation of this proposal also will require relocating and installing a new parking machine in this area. The Toronto Parking Authority has advised that the estimated cost of this work is about $17,500, for which funds are available in the Toronto Parking Authority's 2011 Operating Budget.
ISSUE BACKGROUND
At the request of Councillor Gord Perks and senior EMS staff, Transportation Services investigated the feasibility of prohibiting stopping on the north side of Queen Street West immediately east and west of the driveway at the Emergency Medical Services building, No. 1288 Queen Street West to improve sight lines for paramedics.

COMMENTS
Queen Street West is a major arterial roadway operating two-way on a pavement width of 14.1 metres. The speed limit is 50 km/h. The Toronto Transit Commission operates the 501-streetcar on Queen Street West.

Site investigation indicated that a "No Standing Anytime" regulation is signed on the north side of Queen Street West, from a point 34.2 metres west of Noble Street (about 2 metres east of the EMS driveway) to a point 70.3 metres further west. This regulation is not outlined in the traffic by-law and there is no apparent reason for having this regulation at this location. However, further investigation revealed that the signs delineated a "transit loading zone" for a TTC stop near No. 1296 Queen Street West. This streetcar stop was recently relocated to a point east of Noble Street, coinciding with the opening of the Dufferin Street extension under the railway corridor.

To improve sight lines for paramedics at the EMS building staff recommend implementing a "No Stopping Anytime" regulation on the north side of Queen Street West, from a point 25.6 metres west of Noble Street to a point 44.2 metres further west. This will eliminate two parking spaces immediately east of the driveway. In conjunction with this, the "No Standing Anytime" signs indicating the redundant transit loading zone will be removed. This will provide an additional 7 parking spaces west of the EMS building, resulting in a net gain of 5 parking spaces on this section of Queen Street West.

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SIGNATURE

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS
(1) Drawing No. 421G-0262, dated February 2011