Reduction of Motor Coach Parking Zone – Richmond Street West, north side, between York Street and Bay Street

Date: August 15, 2011
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards: Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 28
Reference Number: Ts2011160te.top.doc

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is seeking authority to reduce the size of the motor coach parking zone located on the north side of Richmond Street West, between York Street and Bay Street. This zone allows buses to park from 6:30 p.m. of one day to 7:30 a.m. of the next following day, Monday to Friday and anytime Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays.

We are recommending that the motor coach parking zone be reduced by 36 metres. The proposed reduction in the length of the motor coach parking area will result in a clear and unobstructed curb side area for loading and unloading opportunities for Premises No. 80 Richmond Street West and improve sightlines for pedestrians. This change will reduce the number of available bus parking spaces by at least one, however, it should not impact significantly on motor coach operations.

RECOMMENDATIONS
Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council amend the "Bus Loading Zone" regulation, currently in place on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 89 metres east of York Street and a point 121 metres further east, which permits buses to park from 6:30 p.m. of one day to 7:30 a.m. of the next following day, Monday to Friday and anytime Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays, to be in effect between a point 89 metres east of York Street and a point 85 metres further east.

2. City Council amend the "no parking anytime" regulation currently in place on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 89 metres east of York Street
and a point 121 metres further east, to be in effect between a point 89 metres east of York Street and a point 85 metres further east.

3. City Council designate a “Delivery Vehicle Parking Zone” and restrict parking of delivery vehicles within this "Delivery Vehicle Parking Zone" to a maximum duration of 30 minutes, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and from 6:30 p.m. of one day to 7:30 a.m. of the next following day, Monday to Friday and at all times Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays, on the north side of Richmond Street West, from a point 174 metres east of York Street to a point 36 metres further east.

Financial Impact

The estimated cost of sign fabrication and installation is $1,000.00. These funds are contained in the Transportation Services 2011 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services, in consultation with the property managers of Premises No. 80 Richmond Street West, has reviewed the feasibility of reducing the length of the motor coach parking zone adjacent to their property, to facilitate deliveries and to assist tenants when moving.

COMMENTS

Richmond Street West is a 4-lane one-way westbound major arterial road. The intersections of Richmond Street West with York Street and Bay Street are controlled by traffic control signals. The TTC operates downtown express bus routes 141, 142, 143, 144, and 145 during the weekday peak periods on Richmond Street West. Bus stops are provided westbound at York Street and just west of Bay Street.

From York Street to the east, the parking regulations on the north side of Richmond Street West allow for a 2-vehicle taxicab stand, immediately east of York Street; a loading area for motor coaches and an airport express bus; a motor coach parking zone; and a zone for deliveries. Stopping is prohibited during weekday morning and afternoon peak periods, with the exception of the Motor Coach Loading Area where stopping is only prohibited during the a.m. peak period on weekdays.

Motor coaches are permitted to park on the north side of Richmond Street West, between a point 89 metres east of York Street and a point 121 metres further east, from 6:30 p.m. of one day to 7:30 a.m. of the next following day, Monday to Friday and anytime Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays. The existing 121-metre length extends easterly and occupies the frontage of Premises No. 80 Richmond Street West. When buses are parked overnight, the entrance to the building is blocked making loading and unloading activities, deliveries and moving for tenants difficult. Furthermore, observations indicate that the visibility of pedestrians who cross in this vicinity is obscured by these buses.
To improve this condition, the motor coach parking zone on the north side of Richmond Street West could be reduced by 36 metres from 121 metres to 85 metres in length. This 36-metre area in the vicinity of Premises No. 80 Richmond Street West could be designated as a "Delivery Vehicle Parking Zone" and be used by abutting businesses in this area for loading and unloading purposes. At least one motor coach parking space would be compromised.

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SIGNATURE

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS
(1) Drawing No. 421G-0422, dated August 2011