



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Traffic Control Signals – Queens Quay East and Lower Sherbourne Street/Dockside Drive (East)

Date:	May 14, 2012
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 28
Reference Number:	Ts2012113te.top

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is requesting authority from City Council to install traffic control signals at the intersection of Queens Quay East and Lower Sherbourne Street/Dockside Drive (East).

The installation of traffic control signals at this location will enhance safety for pedestrians crossing Queens Quay East to access the campus and/or Sherbourne Commons. It will also facilitate the new TTC bus service to George Brown College.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the installation of traffic control signals at the intersection of Queens Quay East and Lower Sherbourne Street/Dockside Drive.
2. City Council approve the introduction of compulsory southbound turns at the intersection of Queens Quay East and Lower Sherbourne Street/Dockside Drive.
3. City Council approve the implementation of one-way southbound operation on Lower Sherbourne Street, between a point 30 metres north of Queens Quay East to Queen Quay East.

Financial Impact

The estimated cost of installing traffic control signals at the intersection of Queens Quay East and Lower Sherbourne Street/Dockside Drive is approximately \$180,000. All costs associated with this installation will be paid for by Waterfront Toronto.

BACKGROUND

Sherbourne Common consists of a park on both the south (opened September 2010) and north (opened July 2011) sides of Queens Quay East.

The new George Brown College (GBC) Health Campus is located on the south side of Queens Quay East, just west of Lower Sherbourne Street. The new campus building is planned to open in September 2012 and 3270 students and 560 staff are expected. It is expected that the majority of students and staff will travel to and from the Campus by public transit, on foot or by bicycle.

In order to provide appropriate public transit to George Brown, the TTC will be extending the 6 Bay bus route to the campus and increasing its frequency to provide a convenient connection to Union Station and destinations north on Bay Street. The TTC is also proposing to increase the frequency of the 75 Sherbourne bus route and possibly extend the 65 Parliament bus route in the future. The 75 Sherbourne bus stop will be located on the north side of Queens Quay East near the east leg of Dockside Drive.

All of these changes in the area will create a significant demand for pedestrian crossings at Queens Quay East and Lower Sherbourne Street. Transportation Services has been working with Waterfront Toronto, George Brown College, and the Ward Councillor to develop a solution to address this demand.

COMMENTS

Queens Quay East, in the vicinity of Sherbourne Street, is a two-way, four-lane minor arterial roadway. Lower Sherbourne Street, at Queens Quay East, is a one-way 6.0 metre wide southbound minor arterial roadway with a contraflow bicycle lane. It has a "Stop" sign posted for southbound traffic on Lower Sherbourne Street at Queens Quay East. Dockside Drive, is a two-way, two lane collector roadway with "Stop" control posted at the east and west intersections with Queens Quay East. On Queens Quay East, signals are located 475m to the east at Lake Shore Boulevard/Parliament Street and 315m to the west at Lower Jarvis Street.

Traffic Control Signals

The opening of Sherbourne Common has resulted in a demand for pedestrians to cross Queens Quay East in the vicinity of Lower Sherbourne Street. Also, George Brown College, with approximately 3800 students and staff, will create a significant demand for pedestrians to cross in this same area at all times of the day. These future pedestrian volumes will satisfy the warrants to justify traffic control signals. As well, the installation of traffic control signals at this intersection will assist TTC buses, which will be making a northbound left turn from Dockside Drive to Queens Quay East.

Lower Sherbourne Street

Lower Sherbourne will be aligned with Dockside Drive (East) on the south side of Queens Quay East. Some changes have already been made to the east side of the street to allow for completion of Sherbourne Common. The full realignment is dependant upon redevelopment of the property on the northwest corner and related acquisition of land.

In the meantime, Lower Sherbourne Street, at Queens Quay East, is narrow (approximately 6.0 metres) and as such operates one-way southbound with a contraflow bicycle lane. The regulation to formalize this one-way operation is required.

Given the current offset between Lower Sherbourne Street and the east leg of Dockside Drive, the southbound through movement would result in conflicts with northbound left turns out of Dockside Drive. Therefore, this movement will be prohibited by introducing southbound compulsory turns. Alternate access is accommodated via Queens Quay East and the west entrance onto Dockside Drive. Once the full realignment of Lower Sherbourne Street is complete, two-way operation can be reinstated and the through movement to Dockside Drive can be allowed.

CONTACT

Troy Caron, Transportation Technologist
Traffic Operations, Toronto and East York District
Phone: (416) 338-5452; Fax: (416) 392-1920
e-mail: tcaron@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Jacqueline White, P Eng.
Acting Director
Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

(1) Drawing No. 421G-0688, dated May 2012

P:\2012\Cluster B\Tra\TEYDist\top\ts2012113te.top.doc