



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Student Pick-Up/Drop-Off and School Bus Loading Zone
– Seaforth Avenue**

Date:	March 26, 2012
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Parkdale High-Park, Ward 14
Reference Number:	Ts2012058te.top.doc

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

Transportation Services has investigated a request to establish a "School Bus Loading Zone" and a "Student Pick-up/Drop-off Area", with short-term parking on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, between Lansdowne Avenue and O'Hara Avenue, to serve Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School (78 Seaforth Avenue).

Establishing a "School Bus Loading Zone" on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, between Lansdowne Avenue and West Lodge Avenue will provide direct loading/unloading of children onto the public sidewalk at the main entrance into Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School.

Delineating a "Student Pick-up/Drop-off Area" on the north side of Seaforth Avenue and allowing parking for a maximum of 15-minutes, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday will enable parents picking-up or dropping-off children at Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School to legally park for a short duration. This will resolve many of the parking concerns at this school and provide up to 8 parking spaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Approve the amendments outlined in Appendix "A" and "B" attached to the report (March 26, 2012) from the Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and

East York District, to introduce a school bus loading zone and a student pick-up/drop-off area, with short term parking, on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, between Lansdowne Avenue and O'Hara Avenue.

Financial Impact

Funding for the installation of signs in the estimated amount of \$1,000.00 is available within the Transportation Services 2012 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services has investigated a request from Vice Principal, Mr. Trevor Douglas to introduce a "School Bus Loading Zone" and a "Student Pick-up/Drop-off Area", with short-term parking on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, between Lansdowne Avenue and O'Hara Avenue to serve Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School (78 Seaforth Avenue).

COMMENTS

Seaforth Avenue is a local roadway operating two-way, from Lansdowne Avenue to West Lodge Avenue, reverting to a one-way eastbound direction to O'Hara Avenue on a pavement width of 6.2 metres. The posted speed limit is 40 km/h. The TTC does not operate service along Seaforth Avenue.

The following parking regulations are in effect on Seaforth Avenue, from Lansdowne Avenue to O'Hara Avenue:

North side

- Parking is prohibited at all times.

South side

- Parking is prohibited, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.;
- Parking is otherwise allowed for a maximum period of 3-hours; and
- Parking is allowed by permit only from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily.

Investigation

Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School has an enrolment of students ranging from junior kindergarten to Grade 8. Many parents currently drive their children to this school. This results in a high demand for short-term parking on Seaforth Avenue and West Lodge Avenue. There is no specifically designated student pick-up/drop-off area or short duration parking allowed in the vicinity of this school. Vehicles are constantly coming and going at the school at peak arrival and dismissal times. Parents generally park illegally on both Seaforth Avenue and West Lodge Avenue obstructing the two-way traffic operation on the streets. Toronto Police Service, Parking Enforcement officers are frequently on hand issuing parking tickets to illegally parked vehicles as a means of discouraging inappropriate parking behaviour.

Despite the foregoing some consideration for parents transporting children to/from school is required. The Vice Principal at Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School has requested that a "Student Pick-up/Drop-off Area" be delineated and that short-term parking be allowed on Seaforth Avenue to help accommodate the parking demands of parents at times when children are coming and going at the schools and to clearly identify an area where this activity can safely take place.

In addition the Vice Principal is also requesting a "School Bus Loading Zone" on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, between West Lodge Avenue and a point 40 metres further west at the main entrance to Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School to facilitate those students currently being transported by bus.

Currently school buses are stopping to pick-up/drop-off students on the north side of Seaforth Avenue at the main entrance to Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School which by law requires the operator to activate the red flashing lights. During this process motorists on Seaforth Avenue must now stop in all directions until the lights are deactivated. Establishing a school bus loading zone will allow school bus drivers to pick-up/drop-off students without engaging their red flashing lights, and thus maintain uninterrupted traffic flow along Seaforth Avenue.

Proposed Parking Regulation Changes

Delineating a "Student Pick-up/Drop-off Area" (SPDA) on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, from West Lodge Avenue to O'Hara Avenue is feasible. In conjunction, parking would be restricted to a maximum period of 15 minutes from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. This will provide a total of eight (8) parking spaces.

On-street parking is currently prohibited at all times on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, between West Lodge Avenue and O'Hara Avenue. To maintain this parking prohibition outside of the proposed 15 minute parking restriction it is recommended that parking be prohibited from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Monday to Friday. Parking should also be prohibited on this side at all times on Saturday and Sunday. This regulation will assist two-way traffic flow on this narrow street outside of school arrival and departure times.

Establishing a "School Bus Loading Zone" on the north side of Seaforth Avenue, from a point 18 metres west of West Lodge Avenue to a point 40 metres further west will provide direct loading and unloading in front of Parkdale Junior/Senior Public School and maintain uninterrupted traffic flow along Seaforth Avenue.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Drawing No. 421G-0627, dated March, 2012
- (2) Appendix "A" – Regulations to be Rescinded on Seaforth Avenue
- (3) Appendix "B" – Regulations to be Implemented on Seaforth Avenue

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