



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Refusal of a sidewalk boulevard café extension permit application located at 718 College Street

Date:	May 24, 2012
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Marcia Stoltz, Acting Manager, Municipal Licensing & Standards, Licensing Services
Wards:	Ward 19 Trinity Spadina

SUMMARY

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

To report on the refusal to issue a permit by Municipal Licensing & Standards in the matter of an extension application for a sidewalk boulevard café permit located at 718 College Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Municipal Licensing and Standards recommends that the Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Deny the application for the proposed boulevard café extension located at 718 College Street.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

An application for the extension of the boulevard café permit located at 718 College Street was received on March 16, 2011 from the business owner representing 2268986 Ontario Ltd, operating as Crawford. The application submitted was seeking permission for an extension to the boulevard café permit for 8.46 square meters, which would accommodate approximately 6 extra patrons.

The business owner representing 2268986 Ontario Ltd, operating as Crawford was issued a café permit on November 10, 2011 for 4.36 square meters which accommodates approximately 3 people.

One of the provisions of the code is that boulevard cafes shall provide 2.13 meters clearance from the curb and/or any street furnishings (i.e. tree planters, poles, and benches) in order to maintain adequate pedestrian space.

The extension of the café operation at this location would reduce the sidewalk space to 0.44 metres to sustain pedestrian traffic and will create a meandering pattern for pedestrian traffic in this area and make passage difficult for those with assisted mobility needs. The concept of a pedestrian clearway is not only to maintain the permitted distances but also to ensure pedestrians do not have to walk in a jogged fashion around fixed obstacles.

All entrance paths/sidewalks in a public right of way and/or walkways for pedestrians and persons using mobility are recommended to be a minimum of 1675mm (1.675 metres) wide to allow two wheelchairs or scooters to pass one another. In no case should sidewalks be less than 1525 mm (1.52 metres) wide where two-way traffic is expected.

On May 18, 2012 a refusal letter was sent to the business owner representing 2268968 Ontario Ltd operating as Crawford advising the applicant that the boulevard café extension application was denied due to insufficient sidewalk space.

A letter dated May 18, 2012 was received by Municipal Licensing & Standards from the business owner representing 2268968 Ontario Ltd to appeal the decision of the denial for a boulevard café application.

COMMENTS

In accordance with the provisions of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code 313-36, boulevard cafes shall provide 2.13 meters clearance from the curb and/or any street furnishings (i.e. tree planters, poles, and benches) in order to maintain adequate pedestrian space and to provide a clear pathway for pedestrian traffic.

Council has approved the Vibrant Streets Document in order to create streetscapes where pedestrian traffic moves freely and unencumbered and to ensure that the placement of street furnishings, cafes and marketing areas and other features is better aligned to support pedestrian traffic.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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APPENDICES

1. Sketch of boulevard café
2. Photos of proposed café area