Parking Amendments – Bathurst Street

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>August 10, 2012</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Toronto and East York Community Council</td>
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<td>From:</td>
<td>Acting Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District</td>
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<td>Wards:</td>
<td>St. Paul's, Ward 21</td>
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<td>Reference Number:</td>
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**SUMMARY**

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to amend the no stopping weekday afternoon rush-hour period regulation on the east side of Bathurst Street, between Burton Road and Rosemary Lane. As this staff report concerns a major arterial roadway with regular TTC service, City Council approval is required.

The intent of this proposal is to reduce traffic congestion and improve TTC bus service on Bathurst Street, between Burton Road and Rosemary Lane, during the weekday afternoon rush-hour period.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council amend the "No Stopping from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays" regulation on the east side of Bathurst Street, from Adelaide Street West to Dewbourne Avenue, so that it is in effect from Adelaide Street West to Burton Road.

2. City Council rescind the "No Stopping from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays" regulation on the east side of Bathurst Street, from Dewbourne Avenue to Rosemary Lane.

3. City Council enact a "No Stopping from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday" regulation, on the east side of Bathurst Street, from Burton Road to Rosemary Lane.

**Financial Impact**

Funds to undertake the necessary signage adjustments in the estimated amount of $1,200.00 are contained in the Transportation Services Division 2012 Operating Budget.
ISSUE BACKGROUND
Councillor Joe Mihevc’s office has received complaints regarding the inconsistencies of the signed afternoon stopping prohibition on Bathurst Street, between Burton Road and Rosemary Lane. The inconsistencies in the times when vehicles are allowed to be parked during the shoulder periods force motorists to merge into a single lane of traffic during the afternoon peak period.

Accordingly, Transportation Services has reviewed this request from Councillor Mihevc to adjust the stopping regulation during the weekday afternoon peak period on the subject section of Bathurst Street, to improve the operational flow of northbound traffic and discourage traffic infiltration onto the local residential roads in the adjacent neighbourhood.

COMMENTS
Bathurst Street, between Burton Road/Strathearn Road and Rosemary Lane, is a major arterial roadway operating two-way on a pavement width of approximately 14.0 metres. The speed limit is 50 km/h with a two-way traffic volume of approximately 25,000 vehicles a day. The TTC operates Bathurst No. 7 bus route on this section of roadway.

The by-lawed parking regulations in effect for the east side of the subject section of Bathurst Street are as follows:

- No stopping from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the east side of Bathurst Street, from Adelaide St. West to Dewbourne Avenue;

- No stopping 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the east side of Bathurst Street, from Dewbourne Avenue to Rosemary Lane;

- No parking 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the east side of Bathurst Street, from Heathdale Road to a point 29 metres south of Rosemary Lane;

- Maximum two-hour parking limit from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturdays, from Dewbourne Avenue to Rosemary Lane; and

- Maximum three-hour parking limit for all other times and days.

Afternoon peak volume period generally occurs between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. However, traffic studies have confirmed that the weekday afternoon peak period on major arterial roadways has extended into the shoulder periods at the beginning and end of these times. This may be attributed, in part, to workplaces allowing flexible working hours, and a general increase in traffic volumes.
In this location a large portion of northbound traffic uses Bathurst Street and then Eglinton Avenue West to access the northbound Allen Road.

We have also noted there is some inconsistency in the times when the weekday afternoon stopping regulation is signed on this section of Bathurst Street.

Traffic studies conducted in this area revealed approximately 1,000 vehicles travel northbound on Bathurst Street from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.. These studies also indicated volumes of approximately 500 vehicles for the half-hour period between 3:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., and 950 vehicles per hour between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m..

Therefore, extending the weekday afternoon peak hour stopping prohibition on the east side of Bathurst Street to apply from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, is recommended and will in turn address the current signed inconsistencies.

The properties abutting the subject section of Bathurst Street are mainly low-rise apartment buildings or single family dwellings with off-street parking facilities. There are no commercial businesses within the subject area. Parking will continue to be allowed on the east side of Bathurst Street, between Burton Road and Rosemary Lane, outside of the restricted weekday morning and extended afternoon rush-hour periods for affected residents.

The adoption of these recommendations will reduce traffic congestion, improve surface transit service and also reduce traffic infiltration during the extended weekday afternoon peak period hours. The TTC is endorsing extending the afternoon peak period hours to improve their service.

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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-0769, dated July 2012
(2) Drawing No. 421G-0770, dated July 2012