



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Amendments to the Snow Emergency Provisions of City of Toronto Code Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking

Date:	October 22, 2013
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:\2013\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough District\pw1374.doc

SUMMARY

It is being proposed that amendments be made to the parking and standing during snow emergencies provisions in City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking.

This report proposes that the references in Municipal Code Chapter 950 to "snow emergencies", "an emergency condition", "emergency condition", "an emergency", "snow emergency" and variations thereof be changed to "major snow storm condition" and grammatical variations thereof. This proposed amendment does not change the intention of the Code Chapter. However, the change better describes the conditions.

Also proposed is to allow not only the Mayor but also the General Manager of Transportation Services to both declare a "major snow storm condition" and extend a "major snow storm condition". When this condition is declared, parking and standing of vehicles on portions of specific roadways is prohibited and parking/standing on or blocking streetcar tracks on portions of specific roadways is prohibited.

In addition to the above-noted amendments to the wording, this report also recommends that portions of certain streets be added to the Schedule of streets where parking and standing is prohibited during major snow storm conditions and/or added to the Schedule of streets where parking/standing on or blocking streetcar tracks is prohibited during major snow storm conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking, to remove any reference to "snow emergencies", "an emergency condition", "emergency condition", "an emergency", "snow emergency", and grammatical variations thereof, where appropriate, and replace with reference to "major snow storm conditions" and grammatical variations thereof.
2. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to declare a "major snow storm condition" subject to the same terms and conditions that apply to the Mayor's authority, as set out in Municipal Code Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking, as amended by Recommendation 1.
3. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to extend the declaration of a "major snow storm condition" subject to the same terms and conditions that apply to the Mayor's authority, as set out in Municipal Code Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking, as amended by Recommendation 1.
4. City Council approve the amendments to the schedule of streets where parking and standing is prohibited during major snow storm conditions, as outlined in Appendix "A" attached to the report dated October 22, 2013 from the General Manager, Transportation Services.
5. City Council direct the appropriate City Officials to prepare the necessary bills to make such by-law amendments as may be required to give effect to Council's decision.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from adoption of this report.

COMMENTS

City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking, prohibits the parking and standing of a vehicle on certain highways, prohibits the parking or standing of vehicles on a streetcar track, and prohibits the parking or standing of a vehicle so as to block the passage of a streetcar on certain highways during a period when a snow emergency condition has been declared by the Mayor. Although this condition is rarely called within the City of Toronto, it is essential that the ability to declare such a condition exists should it be considered necessary to declare in order to ensure the clearing of snow and the efficient flow of traffic.

A "snow emergency condition" as contained within the Municipal Code is wording that may lead to some reluctance for senior staff and the Mayor to declare, especially considering this condition could be enacted when at least 5 centimetres of snow has

accumulated. In order to more accurately reflect these conditions, it is proposed to amend the references to "snow emergency", "emergency condition" and variations thereof in City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 950 to refer to a "major snow storm condition" and variations thereof.

Under the Municipal Code, only the Mayor is able to declare a snow "emergency condition". Further, under the Municipal Code, only the Mayor is able to extend the declaration of a snow "emergency condition". The proposal is to also allow the General Manager, Transportation Services Division, to both declare and extend a snow "emergency condition", to be referenced as a "major snow storm condition".

Additional locations have been identified where it is recommended that parking and standing be prohibited during major snow storm conditions, in order to improve traffic flow and facilitate snow-clearing operations. These locations include portions of Eglinton Avenue West, Ingram Drive, Kingston Road, Lawrence Avenue West, Queen's Quay West, Trethewey Drive, Weston Road, and Wilson Avenue, as set out in Appendix A to this report. There are more streets to be added to the Schedule. However, as the regulation of on-street parking and standing on those streets are delegated as they do not have an established TTC route, further reports will be submitted to the appropriate Community Council.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Appendix "A"

APPENDIX “A”

Parking and Standing during Major Snow Storm Conditions Regulations to be Enacted

Parking and Standing During Major Snow Storm Conditions – Schedule 950-501A

<u>Street</u>	<u>Between</u>
Annette Street	Jane Street to Dundas Street West
Dupont Street	Edwin Avenue to Lansdowne Avenue
Eglinton Avenue West	Dufferin Street to Trethewey Drive
Greenwood Avenue	Dundas Street East to Queen Street East
Ingram Drive	Keele Street to Sheffield Street
Kingston Road	Midland Avenue to Brimley Road
Kingston Road	St. Clair Avenue to Markham Road
Kingston Road	Warden Avenue to Birchmount Road
Queens Quay West	Bathurst Street and 50m west of Bay Street

Parking/Standing On or Blocking Streetcar Tracks during Major Snow Storm Conditions – Schedule 950-501B

<u>Street</u>	<u>Between</u>
Queens Quay West	Bathurst Street and 50m west of Bay Street