**Accessible Loading Zone – No. 220 Cowan Avenue**

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>December 12, 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>Parkdale-High Park, Ward 14</td>
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**SUMMARY**

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

Transportation Services is recommending the designation of an accessible loading zone in front of Masaryk-Cowan Recreation Centre at No. 220 Cowan Avenue on the west side of the street. The accessible loading zone will operate at all times and will facilitate vehicles picking up/dropping off persons with physical disabilities visiting or working at this location. Implementation of the accessible loading zone can be accommodated without eliminating any existing legal on-street parking spaces.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Approve installation of an on-street accessible loading zone, on the west side of Cowan Avenue, from a point 48 metres south of Queen Street West to a point 11 metres further south.

2. Rescind the "No Stopping Anytime" regulation on both sides of Cowan Avenue, from Queen Street West to a point 95 metres further south.

3. Implement a "No Stopping Anytime" regulation on the east side of Cowan Avenue, from Queen Street West to a point 95 metres further south.
4. Implement a "No Stopping Anytime" regulation on the west side of Cowan Avenue, from Queen Street West to a point 48 metres further south, and from a point 59 metres south of Queen Street West to a point 36 metres further south.

5. Introduce a "No Standing Anytime" regulation on the west side of Cowan Avenue, from a point 48 metres south of Queen Street West to a point 11 metres further south.

Financial Impact
Funding for the installation of signs to delineate an on-street accessible loading zone in the estimated amount of $400.00 is available within Transportation Services Division 2013 Interim Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND
Transportation Services has been requested by Councillor Gord Perks to investigate establishing an accessible loading zone fronting the Masaryk-Cowan Community Centre at No. 220 Cowan Avenue, to facilitate pick-up/drop-off of persons with physical disabilities.

COMMENTS
Cowan Avenue, between Queen Street West and King Street West, operates in a one-way southbound direction on a pavement width of 6.1 metres. Stopping is prohibited at all times on both sides of Cowan Avenue, from Queen Street West to a point 95 metres south. There is no TTC service on Cowan Avenue.

A significant number of people with physical disabilities regularly visit the Masaryk-Cowan Community Centre located at No. 220 Cowan Avenue, whose entrance is located approximately 50 metres south of Queen Street West. Vehicles frequently stop illegally on the west side of Cowan Avenue in front of the centre to load/unload disabled persons. With no legal means in which to momentarily stop drivers have to ignore the stopping prohibition and as a result receive parking tickets.
Designating an on-street accessible loading zone on the west side of Cowan Avenue, from a point 48 metres south of Queen Street West to a point 11 metres further south, to operate at all times, is recommended. This regulation will allow motorists and Wheel-Trans vehicles to momentarily stop to load or unload a disabled person visiting the Masaryk-Cowan Community Centre at all times of the day. This regulation will not result in the loss of on-street parking spaces and it will not have a negative impact on traffic operations. Councillor Perks has been advised and supports this regulation change.

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SIGNATURE

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Acting Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS
(1) Drawing No. 421G-0949, dated December 2012