



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Traffic Regulations – Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue

<b>Date:</b>	May 15, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
<b>Wards:</b>	Parkdale-High Park, Ward 14
<b>Reference Number:</b>	Ts2013120te.top.doc

#### SUMMARY

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Transportation Services is requesting authority from City Council to amend the traffic regulations at the intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue. The proposed improvements at this intersection will provide better guidance to southbound motorists and will enhance safety for all users. These changes will result in the loss of about two on-street parking spaces.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council amend the "No Stopping, Anytime" regulation on west side of Roncesvalles Avenue, between a point 63 meters south of Boustead Avenue and a point 112 metres north, to operate between Boustead Avenue and a point 63 metres south.
2. City Council enact a "No Stopping, Anytime" regulation on the west side of Dundas Street West, between Boustead Avenue and a point 73.4 metres north.
3. City Council designate the easterly southbound lane on Dundas Street West, between a point 51.4 metres north of Boustead Avenue and a point 22 metres further north, anytime, for southbound left-turning traffic (streetcars excepted).
4. City Council designate the westerly southbound lane on Dundas Street West, between a point 51.4 metres north of Boustead Avenue and a point 22 metres further north, anytime, for southbound straight-through traffic.

## **Financial Impact**

Funds to undertake the necessary sign and pavement marking adjustments in the estimated amount of \$2,000.00 are contained in the Transportation Services Division 2013 Operating Budget.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

In response to several requests from Councillor Perks and the public, Transportation Services reviewed the operation of the intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue. The review identified a number of improvements to provide better guidance to southbound motorists and enhance the safety and efficiency of the intersection.

## **COMMENTS**

Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue intersect in a 'Y-type' intersection controlled by traffic signals. Dundas Street West is a four-lane minor arterial roadway with a speed limit of 50 km/h and a daily, two-way traffic volume of about 18,000 vehicles. Roncesvalles Avenue is a two-lane minor arterial roadway with a speed limit of 50 km/h and a daily, two-way traffic volume of about 11,000 vehicles. Northbound right turns from Roncesvalles Avenue, to Dundas Street West, and eastbound left turns from Dundas Street West, to Roncesvalles Avenue, are prohibited at all times.

TTC service at this intersection is provided by the 505 Dundas streetcar and the 504 King streetcar. Transit stops are provided for streetcars in both directions on Dundas Street West, east of Roncesvalles Avenue. Transit platforms are provided for streetcars in both directions on Roncesvalles Avenue, south of Boustead Avenue.

Southbound motorists on Dundas Street West have the option of making a left turn to continue along Dundas Street West or proceeding straight-through onto Roncesvalles Avenue. During the busiest eight-hour period of a typical weekday, there are about 2,300 southbound left turns and 1,500 southbound straight-throughs made at this intersection. Motorists making these movements are directed with overhead and curb side guidance signage. These lane designations have not been by-lawed and are not regulatory.

The following operational and safety concerns have been reported at the intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue:

- Southbound motorists in the median lane on Dundas Street West continue straight onto Roncesvalles Avenue, conflicting with southbound motorists and cyclists proceeding through the intersection from the curb lane of Dundas Street West;
- Southbound motorists and cyclists in the curb lane of Dundas Street West make left turns to proceed easterly on Dundas Street West, conflicting with TTC streetcars proceeding through the intersection from the centre lane;

- There is insufficient storage provided in the southbound curb lane for through motorists on Dundas Street West; and
- Pedestrians crossing Roncesvalles Avenue often fail to push the pedestrian pushbuttons. To safely cross the south leg of Roncesvalles Avenue, pedestrians must activate the pedestrian signal with the pushbuttons.

Toronto Police Service collision records for the five-year period ending December 31, 2012 disclosed a total of 35 collisions at this intersection. Further review determined that 14 of these 35 collisions could be potentially attributed to conflicts between southbound movements on Dundas Street West at Roncesvalles Avenue.

To improve the safety and operation for all users at this intersection, the following short and long term modifications are proposed:

#### Short Term Modifications

- To provide better direction for southbound motorists, the southbound curb and median lanes on Dundas Street West can be designated as exclusive straight-through and left-turn lanes, respectively. Southbound streetcars in the median lane will be exempt from the mandatory left-turn movement. These designations will provide better guidance to southbound motorists and will be indicated with pavement markings and regulatory signs. The existing guidance signs will be removed;
- Pay & Display parking is currently permitted on the west side of Dundas Street West, beginning at a point about two vehicle lengths north of the southbound stop bar. To provide increased storage for southbound traffic entering Roncesvalles Avenue, the existing "No Stopping, Anytime" regulation on the west side of Dundas Street West can be extended an additional two vehicle lengths further north. This modification will reduce the likelihood of the southbound curb lane queue spilling into the median lane and will result in the loss of two on-street parking spaces;
- To provide further reinforcement to motorists in the southbound curb lane of Dundas Street West, pavement markings will be installed in the curb lane east of Roncesvalles Avenue to deter movements into this lane; and
- Signage will be installed for pedestrians, directing them to use their pushbuttons when crossing Roncesvalles Avenue, south of Dundas Street West.

The noted improvements will be monitored to determine the success in reducing the complaints and collision frequency for southbound motorists at Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue.

## Long Term Modifications

Consideration can be given to permanently install a transit/cyclist platform on the south side of Dundas Street West, immediately east of Roncesvalles Avenue. This modification will physically close the curb lane to through movements, providing a physical deterrent to motorists attempting to proceed in this lane.

Transportation Services will monitor the success of the recommended short term modifications, and if necessary, will report further on any physical modifications recommended.

Councillor Perks has been advised about the proposed modifications.

### **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- 1087 dated May 2013

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