

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM55.70	ACTION			Ward:All
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Demarcating Public from Private Property - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services and the City Solicitor to report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee in the first quarter of 2015 on a recommended process and corresponding implementation guidelines to create visual aids demarcating the City of Toronto property line on major commercial thoroughfares.

Summary

City of Toronto roadways, sidewalks, boulevards, also known as roads or street allowance are maintained under the purview of Transportation Services. This property is also referred to as "City property."

When the term City property is used, it often refers to the City's road allowance or the Public Right-of-Way. On the majority of City streets, the property line between public and private land ownership is not physically marked and therefore invisible to the human eye, especially incidents when the buildings are set back from the property lot line. As such, some confusion over the ownership, responsibility, enforcement and maintenance of these lands can arise.

New York City had worked with private property owners to create visual aids, such as elegant bronze plates or visually discreet, thin bronze and granite bands to demarcate the boundary separating private and public property. Similar visual markers have been used in the City of Toronto, but are not common. These types of markers can be installed in various Toronto locations of prominence to assist the general public, property owners, Municipal Licensing and Standards by-law enforcement, the Toronto Police Service, and other City staff to comprehend true placement of property lines and to ensure accurate enforcement and obligations of by-laws and other applicable legislative frameworks.

(Submitted to City Council on August 25 and 26, 2014 as MM55.70)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM55.70