



**STAFF REPORT  
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Toronto Triathlon Festival – 2016, 2017 & 2018 Road Closures**

<b>Date:</b>	February 11, 2016
<b>To:</b>	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Economic Development and Culture General Manager, Transportation Services
<b>Wards:</b>	Wards 13, 14, 19, 20, 26, 28, 29, 30 and 31
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2016\Cluster B\TRA\Toronto and East York District\TOP\Pw16001te.top.docx

**SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to seek City Council authority to close portions of the Gardiner Expressway (east bound lanes) and Don Valley Parkway (north bound lanes) to accommodate the 2016, 2017 and 2018 Toronto Triathlon Festival event.

On July 22, 2012 the inaugural Toronto Triathlon Festival (TTF) was staged in Toronto using parts of Lake Ontario and the downtown core including the Gardiner Expressway (east bound lanes), the Don Valley Parkway (north bound lanes) and the Martin Goodman Trail. At the 2015 Festival, over 1,300 athletes participated, collecting over \$25,000 for local charities with an estimated \$1.4 M in economic activity for the City of Toronto.

Since 2012, City staff and stakeholders have reported that the festivals have operated effectively with minimal public concern.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The General Manager, Economic, Development and Culture, and the General Manager, Transportation Services, recommend that:**

1. City Council approve the closure of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway, eastbound lanes only, from the Humber River to the Don Valley Parkway, including all ramps, and the Don Valley Parkway, northbound lanes only from the F.G. Gardiner Expressway to Eglinton Avenue East, including all ramps, on the Sundays of July 10, 2016, July 23, 2017 and July 22, 2018 from 2:00 a.m. to

12:00 p.m. (noon), for the 2016, 2017 and 2018 “Toronto Triathlon Festival” events respectively.

2. City Council prohibit other road closures due to events or film permits on arterial roads bounded by Highway No. 401, Warden Avenue, Lake Ontario, Humber River, Queen Street/The Queensway, and Yonge Street, because they will be required to accommodate overflow traffic from the expressway closures on the day of the 2016, 2017 and 2018 “Toronto Triathlon Festival” event.

## **Financial Impact**

Event organizers will be responsible for the full costs associated with the 2016, 2017 & 2018 Toronto Triathlon Festival and there are no direct budgetary implications to the City.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

On October 24, 2011, City Council adopted a report from the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee titled "F. G. Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway Closure - "Ironman 5150" Event 2012 and Framework to Assess Applications to Close Expressways for Private Events "

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.PW8.2>

Subsequent approvals for the event were adopted by council for 2013 to 2015.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2013/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-54735.pdf>

## **COMMENTS**

The TTF has proven to be a successful signature event with the City of Toronto, with a corresponding growth in popularity and economic benefit since its inception in 2012.

Since 2012, City staff and related stakeholders have reported that the TTF has operated effectively and has generated minimal public concern regarding the operation of the festival and its related road closures.

## **2016 AND BEYOND**

The 2016 TTF will be held on Sunday, July 10, 2016, utilizing the same route as 2015, with the potential addition of a curb lane closure on Lakeshore Boulevard East from Windermere Avenue to Ontario Place for the run portion of the triathlon. Should this closure be deemed necessary, it will be enacted by the General Manager, Transportation Services pursuant to his existing authority under Municipal Code Chapter 937.

The governing body of the sport, Triathlon Canada has awarded the TTF the Canadian National Championships (Sprint and Olympic Distances) designation. This designation will continue to enhance the festival's profile across Canada and internationally, while assisting in growing the event participation numbers up to 2000.

In addition, the 2014 TTF was the official test event for the 2015 Pan Am Games and will be groomed to host an International Triathlon Union sanctioned race as part of a future event. This race would then become part of an ongoing international series that produces Olympic level athletes.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Michael H. Williams, General Manager  
Economic Development and Culture

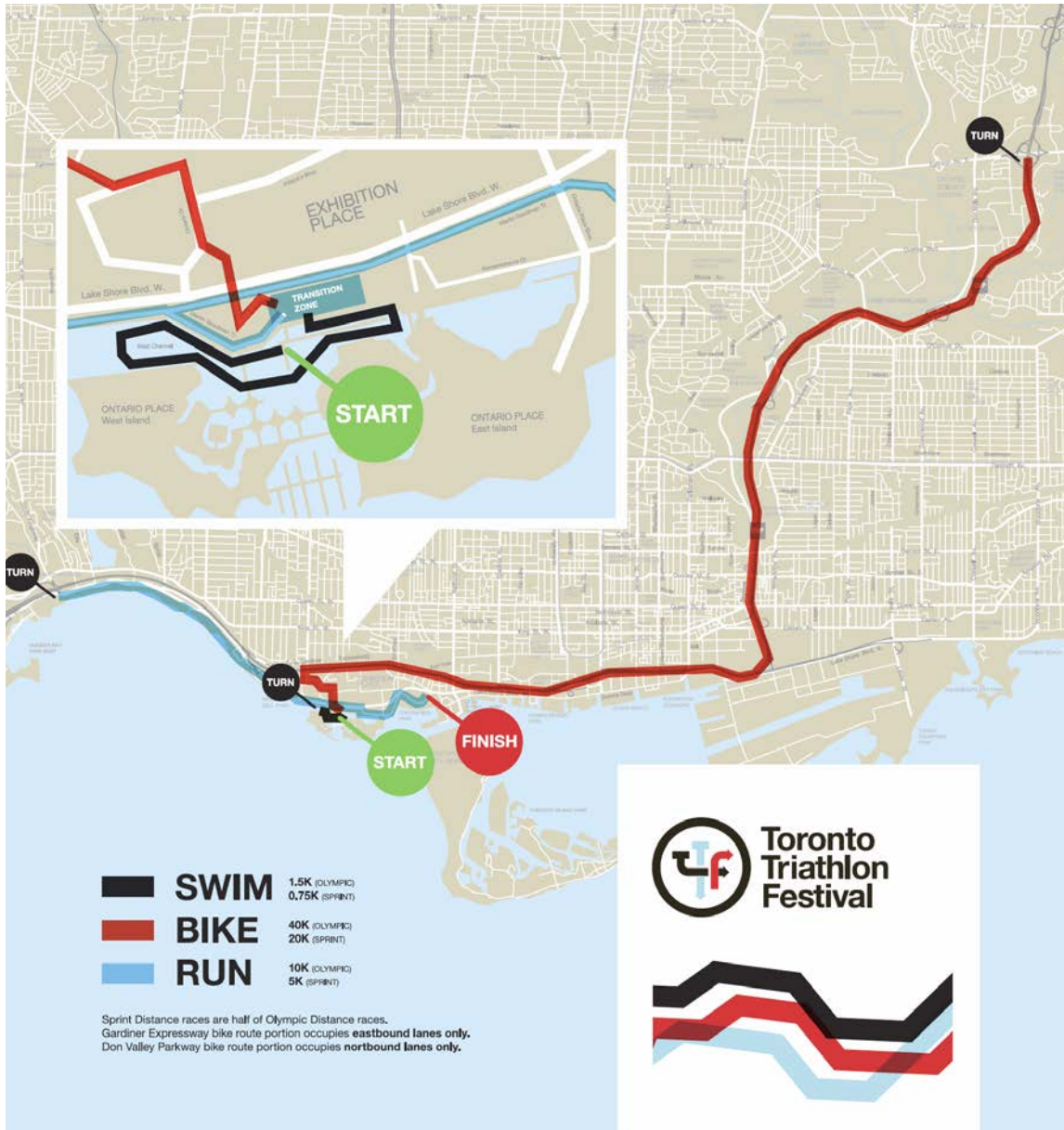
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Stephen Buckley, General Manager  
Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 –Triathlon Route Map

## Attachment 1 –Triathlon Route Map



### OLYMPIC DISTANCE COURSE