Heavy Truck Prohibition – Mill Street

Date: January 19, 2016

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District

Wards: Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 28

Reference Number: Ts2016037te.top.doc

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Mill Street, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services is requesting approval to implement a heavy truck prohibition on Mill Street, between Parliament Street and Cherry Street. The introduction of this regulation is intended to reduce the heavy truck usage of Mill Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District recommends that:

1. City Council approve the prohibition of heavy trucks on Mill Street, between Parliament Street and Cherry Street.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with the necessary signage installation are included within the Transportation Services 2016 Interim Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District, investigated a request from area residents to introduce a heavy truck prohibition on Mill Street to reduce cut-through heavy truck traffic.

COMMENTS

Mill Street, between Parliament Street and Cherry Street, is a local roadway that operates two-way traffic on pavement width varying between 9.2 and 9.8 metres and a posted speed limit of 40 km/h.
This street was formerly comprised of commercial and industrial land uses, but is now mainly residential, with numerous condominiums. TTC service on Mill Street is provided by the 172 Cherry Street bus.

Residents of this section of Mill Street have indicated significant numbers of heavy trucks are using this roadway as a cut-through between Parliament Street and Cherry Street, rather than utilizing Eastern Avenue and Front Street East, located to the north. As a result, residents indicated that the noise produced by these vehicles throughout the evening and overnight periods are disruptive and interfere with sleeping.

Under a "No Heavy Trucks" restriction, heavy vehicles may use a street prohibited for their use if the operator of the vehicle has a specific destination on the street to make a pick-up/delivery or has no alternative route but to use that street to access another street to make a pick-up/delivery. As such, the proposed introduction of a "No Heavy Trucks" restriction on the subject section of Mill Street may lead to a reduction in the number of heavy trucks that are using the roadway as a cut-through, without negatively impacting the heavy truck operators that have a legitimate reason to be using the roadway.

Councillor Pam McConnell has been advised of the recommendation in this report.

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SIGNATURE

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