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

Transportation Services is requesting approval from City Council to remove and modify the streetcar loading platforms on College Street where it intersects with Bathurst Street and Bay Street. These changes are required to accommodate the TTC’s new low-floor streetcars and will result in changes to the existing traffic regulations in the vicinity of these intersections.

Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District recommends that:

1. City Council approve the alteration of College Street, east and west of Bathurst Street, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G-2019, dated January 2016, attached to the January 14, 2016 report entitled "Streetcar Loading Platforms – College Street", from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

2. City Council approve the amendment of the safety zones on College Street on the northeast and southwest corners of the intersection with Bathurst Street to the northeast corner, coincident with the removal of the eastbound streetcar loading platform.
3. City Council approve the alteration of College Street, east and west of Bay Street, generally as shown on Drawing No. 421G-2018, dated January 2016, attached to the January 14, 2016 report entitled "Streetcar Loading Platforms – College Street", from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

4. City Council approve the rescission of the safety zones on College Street on the northeast and southwest corners of the intersection with Bay Street, coincident with the removal of the eastbound and westbound streetcar loading platforms.

Financial Impact
The costs for removing and modifying the streetcar loading platforms on College Street at Bathurst Street and at Bay Street, as well as the minor signage and pavement marking adjustments, are estimated to be about $1.5 million (excluding HST). This amount will be divided between the Toronto Transit Commission (about $1.2 million), Transportation Services (about $155,000) and Toronto Water (about $125,000).

ISSUE BACKGROUND
The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) have begun receiving their new low-floor streetcars. To accommodate these streetcars, they will be removing and/or modifying their streetcar loading platforms at the intersections of College Street at Bathurst Street and at Bay Street. The proposed changes will also require some amendments to the traffic regulations in the vicinity of these intersections.

COMMENTS
College Street is an east-west major arterial road. It has a regulatory speed limit of 50 km/h and a daily two-way traffic volume of about 16,000 vehicles. It generally consists of two lanes in each direction. TTC service on College Street is provided by the '506 Carlton' streetcar, which operates in the median lanes in a shared right-of-way with general traffic.

Streetcar loading platforms are currently provided for the near-side transit stops at the intersections of Bathurst Street and Bay Street. Additionally, in the City of Toronto, streetcar platforms are by-lawed as safety zones. The current platforms will generally be unable to accommodate the TTC's new low-floor streetcars and be fully accessible. Therefore, the following modifications will be required:

- removal of the eastbound streetcar platform on College Street at Bathurst Street;
- reconstruction of the westbound streetcar platform on College Street at Bathurst Street;
- removal of the eastbound and westbound streetcar platforms on College Street at Bay Street; and
- rescission of the safety zones at the three locations where the streetcar platforms are being removed.
The construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2016.

Councillors Mike Layton, Joe Cressy and Kristyn Wong-Tam have been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

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SIGNATURE

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS