



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

**Traffic Regulation – Dundas Street West and
Roncesvalles Avenue**

Date:	July 25, 2016
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards:	Parkdale-High Park, Ward 14
Reference Number:	Ts2016148te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to amend the traffic regulation at the intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue. The proposed improvements at intersection will provide longer storage length and better guidance to southbound motorists and will enhance safety for all users. These changes will result in the loss of about three on-street parking spaces. The proposed extension of stopping prohibitions are required to maintain a safe and efficient traffic operation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District recommends that:

1. City Council amend the "No Stopping, Anytime" regulation on the west side of Dundas Street West, between Boustead Avenue and a point 73.4 metres north, to operate between Boustead Avenue and a point 91.6 metres north.
2. City Council amend 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), to operate between a point 51.4 metres north of Boustead Avenue and a point 40.2 metres further north.

3. City Council amend 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, to operate between a point 51.4 metres north of Boustead Avenue and a point 40.2 metres further north.

Financial Impact

All costs associated with installation of signs and pavement markings are included within the Transportation Services 2016 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In response to requests from Councillor Gord Perks office and the public, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District reviewed the operation of the intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue and identified a few improvements to enhance the safety and efficiency of the intersection.

COMMENTS

Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue intersects in a 'Y-type' intersection controlled by traffic signals, which operates in three phases. Northbound right-turn and westbound left-turn movements are prohibited at this intersection at all times. Pedestrian crosswalks are located on the south and east legs of the intersection. Pedestrian crossings on the north intersection leg are prohibited.

Dundas Street West is a four-lane, minor arterial roadway with a daily, two-way traffic volume of about 18,500 vehicles and speed limit of 50 km/hr. Transit service on Dundas Street West is provided by "505-Dundas" streetcars, which operates on a shared right-of-way with general traffic. Transit stops for both directions are located on the east side of Roncesvalles Avenue.

Roncesvalles Avenue is a two-lane, minor arterial roadway with a daily, two-way traffic volume of about 7,200 vehicles and speed limit of 50 km/hr. Transit service on Roncesvalles Avenue is provided by "504-King" streetcars, which operates on a shared right-of-way with general traffic. Transit stops for both directions are located on the south side of Dundas Street West.

The following parking regulations are in operation on the west/south side of Dundas Street West, between Bloor Street West and Sorauren Avenue:

- "No Stopping, anytime", between Boustead Avenue and a point 73.4 metres north of Boustead Avenue;
- "No Stopping", 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, except public holiday, between a point 75 metres west of Annette Street and Sorauren Avenue;
- "No Parking, anytime", between a point 120 metres east of Ritchie Avenue and a point eight metres further east;

- "No Parking", 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holiday, between Bloor Street West and a point 120 metres east of Ritchie Avenue and between a point 128 metres east of Ritchie Avenue and Sorauren Avenue;
- "Pay Parking", 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri., and 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Sat., between Bloor Street West and Boustead Avenue; and
- "Accessible Loading Zone", between a point 39.8 metres west of Ritchie Avenue and a point 10 metres further west.

Collisions statistics were reviewed in two parts; before (July 31, 2013) and after the implementation of designated southbound left and through lanes at the north approach of the intersection. Collision statistics provided by the Toronto Police Service for the five – year period ending July 31, 2013 disclosed that 38 collisions were reported at the intersection of Dundas Street West and Roncesvalles Avenue. Of these 38 collisions, 20 collisions were related to southbound motorists (eight were a rear-end type, seven were a sideswipe type, two were an angle type, two related to parking and one involved a pedestrian).

Collision statistics between August 1, 2013 and December 31, 2016, disclosed that 16 collisions were reported at this intersection. Of these 16 collisions, eight collisions were related to southbound motorists, of which seven were rear-end collisions. One of the eight collisions involved a bicycle. The bicycle was rear-ended in the left turn lane, while waiting for the green light. The comparison of collision data for the above-noted periods, indicates that rear-end collisions increased significantly, while sideswipe collisions have not occurred after the implementation of lane designations at the north intersection leg.

The following is a summary of the potential concerns and conflicts at this intersection between motorists, cyclists and pedestrians:

- The existing curb-side regulatory signs for southbound motorists on Dundas Street West are not visible from a distance, especially when vehicles are parked in the curb lane outside the peak hours;
- There is insufficient storage length in the southbound curb lane due to parked vehicles;
- Southbound motorists often enter Roncesvalles Avenue from the centre lane, conflicting with cyclists/motorists proceeding through the intersection from the curb lane of Dundas Street West. This activity often occurred in the off peak period, when the left turning volumes are low and the curb side parking regulation is in effect;
- Southbound motorists and cyclists make left turns from the curb lane, which potentially conflicts with TTC streetcars proceeding through the intersection from the centre lane. Again, this activity often occurred in the off peak-hours; and

- Pedestrians crossing Roncesvalles Avenue often fail to push the pedestrian push buttons and cross on a "Don't Walk" signal display. To safely cross the south leg of Roncesvalles Avenue, pedestrians must activate the pedestrian signal with the pushbuttons.

Based on the field observation, collision history, and recent changes in operation at this intersection, the following modifications will address the above-noted potential safety conflicts (generally as shown on attached Drawing No. 421G-2197, dated July 2016):

- To provide an adequate storage length and proper discharge for southbound traffic entering Roncesvalles Avenue, the current "No Stopping, Anytime" regulation should be extended an additional 18.2 metres further north. This would result in the loss of three curbside parking spaces;
- In conjunction with the above-noted parking changes, the length of the exclusive southbound left-turn and straight-through lanes should also be extended by 18.2 metres to the north; and
- Signage and pavement markings will be installed to direct southbound motorists on Dundas Street West and pedestrians crossing at Roncesvalles Avenue, south of Dundas Street West.

Councillor Gord Perks has been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

Ann S. Khan, P. Eng.
Manager, Traffic Operations
Toronto and East York District
Transportation Services
Telephone: (416) 397-5021
Fax: (416) 392-1920
E-mail: akhan5@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Dave Twaddle
Acting Director, Transportation Services
Toronto and East York District

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing No. 421G-2197, dated July 2016

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