TORONTO

Barbara Gray
General Manager

City Hall **Transportation Services Division** **Tel:** 416 392-8431
100 Queen Street West   **Fax:** 416 696-3743
24 Floor, East Tower   Barbara.Gray@toronto.ca
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

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City Clerk's Office
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Response to Administrative Inquiry
Re: Transportation Services, Cycling Infrastructure & Programs – Open Data

Councillor Paul Ainslie submitted an Administrative Inquiry under Municipal Code S27-61 to seek information regarding Transportation Services, Cycling Infrastructure & Programs open data sets.

1. When will Transportation Services regularly release more comprehensive datasets and update them on a regular basis?

Currently, Transportation Services regularly updates 18 datasets on the City of Toronto's Open Data catalogue. They are as follows:

- Bicycle Counts - Historical, Screenline, Intersection
- Bicycle Counts - Screenline
- Bicycle Parking - Bike Stations (Indoor)
- Bicycle Parking - High Capacity (Outdoor)
- Bicycle Post and Ring Locations
- Bicycle Shops
- Bikeways
- E-Bike Survey Responses
- Multi-Use Trail Entrances
- On-Street Permit Parking Area Maps
- Red Light Cameras
- Residential Front Yard Parking
- Sidewalk Inventory
- Signalized Intersection Traffic and Pedestrian Volume
- Traffic Cameras
- Traffic Signals Graphical
- Traffic Signals Tabular
- Utility Cut Permits

Data informs decision making, evaluation and performance reporting. Given the costs associated with reliable data collection and management, Transportation Services invests in data that informs our strategic projects and initiatives and allows us to identify locations where safety related improvements are necessary, evaluate alternatives, report on the performance of a new

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improvement, and identify operational changes that may be needed. Currently, the datasets Transportation Services' publishes to the Open Data catalogue are a result of key initiatives such as the Congestion Management Plan, Vision Zero Road Safety Plan, and Ten Year Cycling Plan.

Transportation Services continually works to identify new data sources that could be uploaded to the Open Data portal. For instance, in 2014 an internal survey was conducted to provide staff greater information about open data and to help identify the data that could be more easily added to the Open Data portal. The goal over time is to offer all data allowable by law through the Open Data portal, however, the release of each dataset is determined by the frequency of requests, staff resources, costs associated with release, and an analysis of privacy issues.

As part of the King Street Pilot project, Transportation Services is assembling a number of data sets that will be monitored and updated regularly. This data will be displayed on a specially developed dashboard posted to the City's website. Transportation Services will also investigate making this available through the Open Data catalogue, in parallel to the regular dashboard releases. The potential data sets that can be shared regularly include:

- streetcar travel times,
- streetcar ridership
- car travel times on Dundas, Queen, Richmond, Adelaide, King, Wellington & Front (from Bluetooth readers), and
- multi-modal (pedestrian, bicycle, car, truck) traffic counts at various locations around the pilot.

A few other datasets will be collected less frequently, but could also be made available later in pilot including collisions, parking surveys, and opinion surveys.

2. When will Transportation Services provide a detailed list of the soon to be released open datasets, with the date for release?

Transportation Services will work closely with the Geospatial Competency Centre to ensure the posting of the King Street Pilot project is made available on the Open Data catalogue as soon as feasible.

The Open Data team at the Geospatial Competency Centre is responsible for actioning requests from users specifically through mail, Twitter and in-person contacts. The team also works with divisional staff to determine what data may be released in a given year. This is an on-going and

iterative process dependent upon having the technology in place that supports open data releases, and staff resources to facilitate and conduct privacy determinations.

Moving forward, Transportation Services remains committed to working with the Councillor to identify possible additions to the Open Data catalogue and determine when these could come online.

Yours truly,

Barbara Gray
General Manger, Transportation Services