



REPORT FOR ACTION

F.G Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway Closure - Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario - 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart" Event

Date: January 4th, 2017
To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From: General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards: Wards 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40

SUMMARY

This report seeks City Council's authority to close the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario's "Ride for Heart" event for 2017 and 2018. The proposed route and times for the 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart" will remain the same as in 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the closure of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway, from the Humber River to the Don Valley Parkway, including all ramps, and the Don Valley Parkway, from the F.G. Gardiner Expressway to York Mills Road, including all ramps, on the Sundays of, June 4, 2017 and June 3, 2018 from 2:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., for the 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart" event.
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, as they will be required to accommodate overflow traffic from the expressway closures resulting from the 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart" event.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The event organizers will be responsible for the costs associated with the 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart" event.

Total Permit Fees, including Expressway closure costs in relation to the events, will be \$49,091 for both years (\$24,545 per event).

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on May 6, 2014, City Council approved the closure of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway, including all ramps, for the Sundays of, June 1, 2014, May 31, 2015 and June 5, 2016 from 2:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., for the 2014, 2015 and 2016 "Ride for Heart" event. Additionally, Council prohibited road closures due to events or film permits on surrounding arterial roads in order to accommodate overflow traffic. The Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.PW30.4>

COMMENTS

The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario "Ride for Heart" is held annually to raise money for Heart and Stroke research. In the past, portions of Lake Shore Boulevard, F.G. Gardiner Expressway, and all of the Don Valley Parkway have been closed. In 2016, the Ride for Heart added a new 5K, 10K run and a 5K walk with 4,500 participants within the closure times on the Gardiner. 2017 will be the 30th consecutive year that the event is being staged and it is expected to be the largest to date, involving some 14,000 cyclists and up to 7,000 runners/walkers who are expected to raise an estimated \$6,000,000 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario.

The proposed route and times for the 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart" will remain the same as 2016:

1. F.G. Gardiner Expressway (both directions) from the Humber River to the Don Valley Parkway;
2. The Don Valley Parkway (both directions), from the F.G. Gardiner Expressway to York Mills Road; and
3. The westbound north curb lane of Lake Shore Boulevard West from Ontario Drive to Jameson Avenue.

The advantages of/benefits to using the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and Exhibition Place for this event and maintaining Lake Shore Boulevard West open in 2016 were that all downtown venues had unobstructed accessibility. The use of the expressways, will

again, provide adequate access/egress to Exhibition Place (hosts of the event) and Ontario Place.

Vehicles travelling eastbound on the F.G. Gardiner Expressway will be diverted to Lake Shore Boulevard West near the Humber River and continue eastbound unobstructed through the entire event area, once again, dramatically minimizing any potential traffic congestion.

The proposal has TTC's approval and will permit all bus and streetcar routes to operate normally.

The applicant has agreed to, and is responsible for, extensive public notification and bearing the costs associated with the installation and removal of advance and event-day traffic signing, barricades, security, and policing services as deemed necessary by the General Manager, Transportation Services. Increased advance advisory signing has reduced the number of complaints on the day of the event.

Furthermore, in order to minimize potential congestion on parallel routes, staff will withhold the issuance of any further permits on the days of the 2017 and 2018 "Ride for Heart".

A copy of the "Ride for Heart" event route map for 2017 and 2018 is shown on Appendix 'A'.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - 2017 and 2018 Ride for Heart Route Map