

TD Toronto Jazz Festival (Bloor-Yorkville)

Date: January 25, 2017
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Manager, Right-of-Way Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Toronto Centre-Rosedale - Ward 27

SUMMARY

This report is to seek authority to temporarily close Hazelton Avenue between Yorkville Avenue and Scollard Street, from Monday June 26, 2017 to Monday July 3, 2017 to facilitate the "TD Toronto Jazz Festival" street event hosted by Toronto Downtown Jazz and amend the necessary traffic regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Manager, Right-of-Way Management, Toronto & East York District, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council approve the closure of Hazelton Avenue between Yorkville Avenue and Scollard Street, from Monday June 26, 2017 to Monday July 3, 2017 to facilitate the "TD Toronto Jazz Festival" street event;
2. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize the General Manager of Transportation Services to temporarily close a portion of a highway as required for the duration of the event and amend the necessary traffic regulations; and
3. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize and direct the appropriate City Officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction in Council of any Bills that may be required.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The event organizers will be responsible for the full costs associated with the "TD Toronto Jazz Festival" street event. There are no direct budgetary implications to the City.

DECISION HISTORY

The TD Toronto Downtown Jazz Festival has been in operation for 30 years. Staging of the event has historically taken place at Nathan Philipps Square and did not require closures of any roadways. The event is now being proposed to take place in the Bloor-Yorkville area and will require the closure of Hazelton Avenue for eight days, which requires specific Council approval.

COMMENTS

In 2017, Toronto Downtown Jazz will relocate their annual, TD Toronto Jazz Festival from Nathan Phillips Square to the Bloor-Yorkville area. The Bloor-Yorkville Business Improvement Area, Greater Yorkville Residents Association in conjunction with the Ward Councillor, Kristyn Wong-Tam, Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 27, fully support the event taking place in the Bloor-Yorkville area which takes place from Friday June 23, 2017 to Monday July 3, 2017.

The event area is located on Hazelton Avenue from the south side of the Hazelton Avenue/Scollard Street intersection to Yorkville Avenue. This section of Hazelton Avenue will be closed for the duration of the event lasting eight days to accommodate the event.

As the closure of Hazelton Avenue for eight days exceeds the four day maximum closure period delegated to staff, as defined in Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use Of, this closure requires specific Council approval.

The event activities on Hazelton Avenue are scheduled from Monday June 26, 2017 to Monday July 3, 2017. Toronto Downtown Jazz, Bloor-Yorkville BIA and the Greater Yorkville Residents Association have developed a Traffic Management Plan, in consultation with City staff, which addresses traffic movement and related signing. In addition, documentation submitted also addresses temporary loading/delivery zones, garbage collection points, street maintenance and emergency vehicle considerations.

Staff are in the process of reviewing the Transportation Plan and will continue to liaise with representatives of Toronto Downtown Jazz and the Bloor-Yorkville BIA, Toronto Transit Commission and Emergency Services, as required, to ensure all of the transportation management plans and strategies of this event are carried out in a comprehensive manner. In terms of community liaison, the Ward Councillor and BIA have held meetings with their members, Solid Waste Management, TTC and Transportations Services which have not revealed any significant problems with the proposed event.

The General Manager of Transportation Services requires the ability to authorize the temporary closing of Hazelton Avenue for the duration of the event and amend the necessary traffic regulations to facilitate the event and maintain safe and efficient traffic movement.

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SIGNATURE

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