Road Alteration - Leslie Street

Date: October 24, 2017  
To: Toronto and East York Community Council  
From: Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District  
Wards: Ward 30, Toronto-Danforth

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Community Council has delegated authority to make a final decision, provided that it is not amended so that it varies with City policy or by-laws.

Transportation Services staff have reviewed the need for installing traffic islands and additional traffic calming measures on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East, to address residents' concerns regarding vehicle speeds and traffic travelling in the wrong direction. Our assessment indicates that the implementation of traffic islands is possible, and that no immediate negative impacts are anticipated.

Transportation Services does not recommend the installation of any additional traffic calming measures on Leslie Street, between Dundas Street East and Queen Street East, as the existing speed humps are operating well and have effectively reduced vehicles speeds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council recommend the installation of a traffic island on the west side of Leslie Street, south of Dundas Street, generally as shown on the attached Drawing No. 421G-2717, dated October 2017

2. Toronto and East York Community Council recommend the installation of a traffic island on the west side of Leslie Street, north of the first laneway north Queen Street East, generally as shown on the attached Drawing No. 421G-2718, dated October 2017.

3. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit standing at all times on the east side of Leslie Street between Queen Street East and a point 44 metres north.
FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost for installing two traffic islands on Leslie Street, between Dundas Street East and Queen Street East, is $4,000.00. All costs associated with the installation of traffic islands and necessary signage installation are included within the Transportation Services 2017 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting on June 13, 2017, adopted item TE25.129, requesting Transportation Services to:

1. Review the feasibility of a series of mid-block curb extensions including tactile paving measures between the existing speed humps for the west side of Leslie Street between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East.

2. Requested Transportation Services to improve signage at Leslie and Dundas Street to ensure cars do not travel the wrong way down Leslie Street and to report to ward councillor when complete.

3. Review the feasibility for a bump-out on the west side of Leslie, at the laneway north of Queen Street East to slow traffic as it enters the residential area.

4. Review the feasibility of a bump out, on the west side of Leslie Street, just south of Dundas Street East, with 'No Entry' signage to further discourage drivers from going the wrong way on Leslie Street.

5. Review the feasibility of installing more speed humps on Leslie Street between the existing humps to further slow traffic.


COMMENTS

Transportation Services is requesting approval to install two modular traffic islands on the west side of Leslie Street, south of Dundas Street and on the west side of Leslie Street, north of the first laneway north of Queen Street East. The installation of traffic islands will enhance one-way operation and increase driver awareness upon entering and travelling the wrong way on Leslie Street. In conjunction with this installation, standing will be prohibited at all times on the east side of Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and the first laneway north of Queen Street East to ensure adequate road width and maintain unobstructed two-way traffic flow. This parking amendment will also provide vehicles with adequate turning radius exiting the laneway located on the west side of Leslie Street, north of Queen Street East.
Existing Conditions
Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East, is a local roadway with a posted speed limit of 30 km/h. Leslie Street operates two-way from Queen Street East to a point 39.6 metres north of Queen Street East, and operates one-way northbound between a point 39.6 metres north of Queen Street East and Dundas Street East. The pavement width is about 7.4 metres and sidewalks are provided on both sides. Leslie Street is signal-controlled at its intersection with Queen Street East and at its intersection with Dundas Street East. The following parking regulations are currently in effect on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East.

East Side
- Permit parking from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily.
- Parking is prohibited between a point 47.5 metres south of Dundas Street East and a point 53 metres further south, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except during the months of July and August and except on public holidays.
- Parking is permitted for a maximum period of 10 minutes, between a point 47.5 metres south of Dundas Street East and a point 53 metres further south, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except during the months of July and August and except on public holidays.

West Side
- Parking is prohibited, all times.

There is no TTC service provided on Leslie Street.

A review of Toronto Police Service collision records for a three-year period ending December 31, 2016 disclosed that one collision occurred on the section of Leslie Street, between Dundas Street East and Queen Street East. This collision did not involve a pedestrian or cyclist, and was not attributed to speeding.

Transportation Services staff have reviewed the feasibility of implementing the requested changes to Leslie Street, between Dundas Street East and Queen Street East. The results of the investigation are outlined below.

Signage
A site visit was conducted by Transportation Services staff to investigate the existing conditions on Leslie Street, and to review existing signage as it pertains to preventing motorists travelling the wrong way.

Signage is installed advising northbound motorists that a one-way street begins on Leslie Street at the first laneway north of Queen Street East. A one-way sign is also advising motorists exiting the laneway that Leslie Street operates one-way northbound. These signs are clearly visible and in good repair.
At the intersection of Leslie Street and Dundas Street East, there are signs posted advising motorists that Leslie Street operates one-way northbound. Specifically, southbound turn prohibition signs and one-way signs are installed facing eastbound and westbound traffic on Dundas Street East at Leslie Street. In addition, there are "Do Not Enter" signs installed at the southeast and southwest corners of this intersection to further enhance that Leslie Street operates northbound.

The "Do Not Enter" sign on the southwest corner of Dundas Street East and Leslie Street is bent but visible. The turn prohibition and one-way signs on the southeast corner of Dundas Street East and Leslie Street, facing eastbound traffic, are currently obstructed by a newly installed hydro pole. Transportation Services staff has arranged to replace and relocate the above mentioned signs.

**Traffic Islands**
Transportation Services conducted a mid-block traffic volume study on this section of Leslie Street over a three-day mid-week period in August 2017. This study indicated that there are some vehicles traveling southbound in the wrong direction on Leslie Street between Dundas Street East and Queen Street East (refer to Table 1.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Daily Average Southbound Vehicle Volume</th>
<th>Daily Average Northbound Vehicle Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Street, 25 m south of Dundas Street East</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Street, first laneway north of Queen Street East</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2,103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this regard, the installation of traffic islands on Leslie Street can be used to enhance the one-way operation and increase driver expectation upon entering and travelling the wrong way on a one-way roadway. Transportation Services recommends implementing a traffic island on the west side of Leslie Street, north of Queen Street East, and another one just south of Dundas Street East, generally as shown on the attached Drawing No. 421G-2717 and 421G-2718, dated October 2017.

In conjunction with the island installation, immediately north of the first laneway north of Queen Street East, standing will need to be prohibited at all times on the east side of Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and a point 44 metres north. This parking amendment will deter vehicles from parking within this segment of Leslie Street, and ensuring that adequate road width for a two-way operation is maintained. This parking amendment will also provide adequate turning radius for vehicles exiting the laneway north of Queen Street East wishing to travel northbound on Leslie Street. One on-street parking space will be removed with the implementation of this parking proposal.
Permit Parking staff has indicated that sufficient parking spaces exist within the surrounding area and on Leslie Street. Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East falls within Permit Parking Area 8D. This area is currently at 82% capacity (1,840 available spaces vs. 1,514 permits issued), and Leslie Street East, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East is currently at 57 percent capacity (51 available spaces vs. 29 permits issued) on record. The loss of one parking space will not have a significant impact on the availability of on-street parking within this section of Leslie Street.

The traffic island proposed on the west side of Leslie Street, south of Dundas Street East, will provide eastbound and westbound motorists on Dundas Street East with an enhanced visual indication that Leslie Street is one-way.

**Mid-block Traffic Island**
Of note, the installation of a traffic island is not feasible within the two-way section of Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and the first lane north of Queen Street East. The limited road width along this section of roadway cannot safely accommodate unobstructed two-way traffic flow if a traffic island was installed.

**Fire Services Comments**
Fire Services was consulted to ensure that the design and layout of any traffic island does not negatively impact their operations. Comments have not yet been received from Toronto Fire Services.

**Additional Traffic Calming Measures**
Toronto and East York Community Council approved the implementation of speed humps on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Gerrard Street East on September 10, 2007, and the installation was completed on November 30, 2007. Currently, there are four speed humps installed on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East.

A speed study conducted prior to the installation of the speed humps on Leslie Street in 2006 indicated that the 85th percentile speed, or operating speed, was 47 km/h. Operating speed is the speed at which 85 percent of vehicles travel at or below. Transportation Services conducted a three day speed study on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East in August 2017. The results of the speed studies are illustrated in Table 2 below.
Table 2: Operating Speed on Leslie Street

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speed 2017</th>
<th>2006 (Before Installation of Speed Humps)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Street, at the first Laneway north of Queen Street East</td>
<td>35 km/h</td>
<td>47 km/h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Street, 25 metres south of Dundas Street East</td>
<td>34 km/h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The current operating speed on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East is approximately 35 km/h. This is a significant reduction compared to the 47 km/h operating speed that was recorded on Leslie Street prior to the installation of speed humps. Based on the speed study results indicated in Table 2, the current configuration of speed humps on this section of Leslie Street are effectively reducing vehicular speeds. In this regard, Transportation Services does not recommend additional speed humps on Leslie Street, between Queen Street East and Dundas Street East or the installation of curb extensions.
Councillor Paula Fletcher has been advised of the recommendation of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Dave Twaddle, C.E.T.  
Acting Director, Transportation Services  
Toronto and East York District

ATTACHMENTS

Drawing No. 421G-2717, dated October 2017  
Drawing No. 421G-2718, dated October 2017  
Drawing No. 421G-2731, dated October 2017

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LESLEY ST AND QUEEN ST E: PROPOSED PARKING AMENDMENTS

O.P.

LEGEND

PROPOSED NO STANDING ANYTIME
PROPOSED PARKING BY PERMIT ONLY AT ALL TIMES 12:01AM-7AM
EXISTING NO PARKING ANYTIME
EXISTING PARKING BY PERMIT ONLY AT ALL TIMES 12:01AM-7AM TO BE RESCINDED

NOTE:
INFORMATION ON THIS PLAN IS BASED ON OFFICE RECORDS AND IS SUBJECT TO FIELD VERIFICATION.
ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE.

DWG. NO. 421G-2731 OCTOBER, 2017 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TORONTO & EAST YORK DISTRICT