

Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors Playoff Season – Closure of Bremner Boulevard

Date: February 26, 2019
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Manager, Right of Way Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Spadina-Fort York - Ward 10

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 to be inconsistent with City policy or by-laws.

Transportation Services is requesting approval to temporarily close and amend the necessary traffic regulations on Bremner Blvd between Lake Shore Blvd W to a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York St respectively, from Friday April 5, 2019 to Saturday June 15, 2019 to facilitate the Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area for the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2019 playoff season.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Authorize the General Manager of Transportation Services to temporarily close Bremner Blvd between Lake Shore Blvd W to a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York St respectively, from Friday April 5, 2019 to Saturday June 15, 2019 or the date the last team is eliminated, to facilitate Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area during the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2019 playoff season and to amend the necessary traffic regulations; and
2. Authorize and direct the appropriate City Officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction of any Bills that may be required.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The permit costs for the 2019 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season viewing area total approximately \$48,700 if the road closure is maintained for the full duration being requested (April 5 to June 15, 2019). The event organizers will be responsible for the full costs associated with the 2019 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season viewing area. There are no direct budgetary implications to the City.

DECISION HISTORY

This report represents a new initiative.

COMMENTS

The General Manager of Transportation Services requires authority to temporarily close to vehicular traffic any highway or portion of a highway beyond four consecutive days for social, recreational, community, athletic or cinematographic purposes in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 937-3, Temporary Closing of Highways. Approval to temporarily close a portion of Bremner Blvd for 72 days is a delegated authority to Toronto and East York Community Council.

Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment (MLSE) will be hosting viewing parties on Bremner Blvd outside of Scotiabank Arena's Gate 6 during the 2019 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season. MLSE has hosted viewing parties in this area for a number of years during home opener and playoff events previously. The requested temporary road closure is located on a portion of Bremner Blvd between Lake Shore Blvd and a point east of the parking garages servicing the buildings at 15 and 25 York St. The road closure area will be maintained for the full duration of the playoffs with barricades installed at either end. The viewing area consists of four large viewing screens and other small activations and programming, all located along the perimeter of this portion of Bremner Blvd. in order to maintain emergency access on the roadway.

Both teams are guaranteed to advance to the first round of the playoffs, which will run from April 10-25, 2019. If any of the teams advance to the last round, the latest date the playoff season and road closure could extend is June 15, 2019. We recommend the portion of Bremner Blvd between Lake Shore Blvd W and a point east of the parking garages at 15 and 25 York St reopen if the last team is eliminated prior to June 15, 2019.

MLSE plans to close the north half of Bremner Blvd between a point west of the parking garage at 25 York St to York St on viewing party days only. Access to the parking garages servicing the buildings at 15 and 25 York St will be maintained at all times. In previous playoff seasons, Bremner Blvd between Lake Shore Blvd W and York St was closed and reopened almost daily for these events, which is labour intensive given frequency and amount of infrastructure.

The traffic management plan has been reviewed by various City divisions and area stakeholders impacted by the road closure. No significant issues have been identified with the proposed event road closure. City staff will continue to liaise internally and with area stakeholders as required, to ensure all of the traffic management measures for this event are carried out in a comprehensive manner.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Road Closure Site Plan

ATTACHMENT 1: ROAD CLOSURE SITE PLAN

