

Road Alteration and Parking Amendments – Queen Street West

Date: February 2, 2021

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: General Manager, Economic Development and Culture

Wards: Spadina-Fort York

SUMMARY

The Queen Street West BIA is currently implementing the second phase of its Streetscape Master Plan to provide a vibrant and welcoming destination for visitors and for people living and working in the area. Phase two includes the creation of expanded public space for pedestrians through the creation of a public bike parking. Two existing parking spaces are proposed to be permanently removed to facilitate the new installation. All work will comply with the City of Toronto's guidelines and be constructed as part of a bundled project with TTC and Toronto Water enhancements that is planned on Queen Street West, from Bay Street to Shaw Avenue. As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Queen Street West, City Council approval of this report is required to remove the parking spaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, recommends that:

1. City Council rescind the existing stopping prohibition in effect from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the north side of Queen Street West, between Bathurst Street and a point 168.7 metres west of Bay Street.
2. City Council prohibit stopping in effect from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the north side of Queen Street West, between Bathurst Street and a point 77 metres east of Spadina Avenue.
3. City Council prohibit stopping in effect from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the north side of Queen Street West, between a point 181 metres east of Spadina Avenue and a point 168.7 metres west of Bay Street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The removal of two (2) on-street parking spaces proposed by this report would reduce Toronto Parking Authority (TPA)'s annual gross revenue by approximately \$14,000, based on 2019 revenues.

All costs related to construction of the proposed curb extension and installation of bike parking, approximately \$15,000, will be borne by the Queen Street West Business Improvement Area (BIA) and Economic Development and Culture – Cost Share Program. These costs can be accommodated in the 2021 EDC Council Approved Capital Budget – BIA Equal Share Funding project. Queen Street West Business Improvement Area will be responsible for the maintenance cost of the bike parking.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

In 2014, a Streetscape Master Plan for Queen Street West was completed by the BIA. The Master Plan identified potential improvements to the streetscape to provide a vibrant and welcoming destination for visitors and for people living and working in the area. The Master Plan's goal was to propose improvements that could accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. In 2017, the BIA constructed phase one of the improvements to include two parkettes and installed new street trees and public art, from Spadina Avenue to Bathurst Street. Phase two includes the creation of expanded public space for pedestrians through the creation of a public bike parking. Two existing parking spaces are proposed to be permanently removed to facilitate the new installation. Further improvements include public art and custom site furnishings. All work will comply with the City of Toronto's guidelines and be constructed as part of a bundled project with TTC and Toronto Water enhancements that is planned on Queen Street West, from Bay Street to Shaw Avenue.

The proposed narrowing is shown in Appendix A that is attached to this report. This narrowing will provide opportunities to enhance the pedestrian environment, improve the public realm, increase bike parking and create a unique identity for the Queen Street West BIA. It will not affect the movement of Emergency Services vehicles.

Queen Street is designated a Major Arterial road with one eastbound and one westbound travel lane, with a lane of on-street parking on both sides. The proposed design will maintain existing vehicular operations with no change to lane width, improve

pedestrian infrastructure, and maintain a straight roadway alignment. This proposal results in a reduction of two parking spaces and does not result in a reduction of vehicular travel lanes. There are no capital works scheduled for this road through 2021.

As the project proponent, the Queen Street West BIA is supportive of the recommendations contained within this staff report. The Queen Street West BIA has consulted with the community, stakeholders, Ward Councillors' offices, and adjacent landowners as part of their proposal to the City. Staff from Transportation Services, Toronto Parking Authority and TTC have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

The BIA will enter into a maintenance agreement with the City containing terms and conditions deemed by the General Manager of Transportation Services to be relevant and in accordance with any requirements set out in Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use Of, deemed by the General Manager of Transportation Services to be applicable.

Councillor Joe Cressy has been advised of the recommendation of this staff report.

CONTACT

Mike Major, Manager, BIA Office, Economic Development and Culture, 416-392-0623, Mike.Major@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Patrick Tobin
Acting General Manager
Economic Development and Culture

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - Schematic Site Plan

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